

Two join IT staff

Scott Holgate joined IT's Network & Telecommunication Services team in April as a network infrastructure design engineer. Scott comes from Sacramento, Calif. where he held positions as a senior technology engineer for a consulting firm working on health care technology design, and as telecommunications director for the Jackson Rancheria Casino.



Scott Holgate



Dick Lewan

Dick Lewan recently joined the emerging technologies team in IT's Enterprise Information Systems group. Dick is a Java programmer who will be supporting new technologies in EIS. He spent the last six years in Bozeman where he did software development for the Stillwater Mining Company and Zoot Enterprises. Dick is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin.

Next Tech Partners

The next Tech Partners meeting will be June 2 at 1:30 p.m. in UC 326. If you have agenda items, send them to italk@umontana.edu, or call Lorrie DeYott at 243-2525.

IT orientation for new UM employees coming in fall

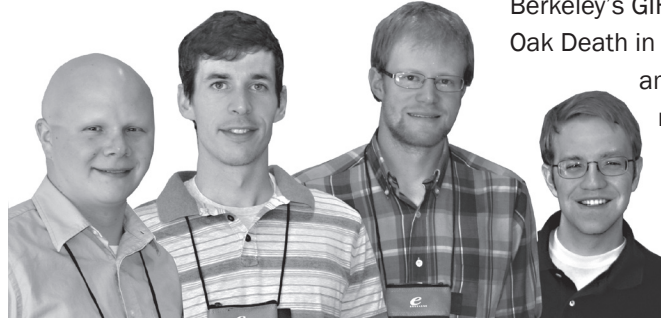
Beginning in August, IT will be offering a two-hour course to introduce new employees to campus systems and IT policies and procedures. The course will be offered monthly. The technology orientation is being designed with the assistance of IT and administrative support staff from across campus.

Developing a reputation

IT staff present at Educause conference

UM web developers Jamie Robertson and Nick Shontz skipped out of an afternoon of sessions at last month's Educause Western Regional Conference in San Francisco. They had a train to catch to the other side of the bay.

Robertson and Shontz—developers of UM's new campus map (map.umt.edu)—were the invited guests of



Nick Shontz Jon Adams Jamie Robertson Tom Fite

Academic planning application garners excellence award

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researchers at the University of California—Berkeley's Geospatial Innovation Facility (gif.berkeley.edu). Berkeley's GIF lab is mapping Sudden Oak Death in the forests of California, among other innovative mapping projects. Robertson and Shontz shared technical details about how they built UM's GIS map.

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updates

CMS or bust by July 1

IT's Web Technology Services will not support *Dreamweaver* and *Contribute* as web content management solutions after July 1. Departments that use IT's web services should plan to transition to the new Cascade Content Management System (CMS).

The IT web team provides a variety of design templates and works with departments to move existing sites into the CMS.

You can request a move to the CMS by going to www.umt.edu/webservices.

For more information

Mike Matthews, web manager
243-2555

Network access charge to remain the same

UM's network access charge increased from \$4 per port to \$6 last year, and a plan had been approved to bump it to \$8 beginning July 1, 2009. The good news for UM departments is that the second rate increase won't happen.

To help campus units deal with flat or shrinking operational budgets, IT has agreed to freeze the network access charge at \$6 per port per month through fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

The IT Bits newsletter is published monthly by the Information Technology Office.

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And the Hugi goes to . . .

UM's Academic Planner web application has been awarded a *Hugi Excellence Award* by the Northwest Academic Computing Consortium (NWACC).

The academic planning tool, programmed by IT web developers Jon Adams and Tom Fite, provides an intuitive interface for students to plan course schedules and share them with academic advisers. The application was released in beta this spring, with students in the Davidson Honors College putting it to the test. New UM students attending orientations beginning in June will be the first to use the application in full production.

Loey Knapp, ACIO for Technology Support Services, said the project has received support and guidance from several UM offices, including the Registrar's Office, Enrollment Services, the Office of Student Success, Extended Learning Services and the Davidson Honors College.

The Hugi awards are named for former University of Oregon Chief Technology Officer Joanne R. Hugi. UM's recognition was in the category of business processes and systems.

Developing a reputation

(continued from front)

"We're doing more with our base map, and we're doing it all with open source tools, which they're not," Shontz said.

"They're thinking about doing a lot of what we're doing, so they were impressed," Robertson added. "They liked our content management system for the map."

Robertson and Shontz also presented a session at the Educause conference titled *Interactive, Extendable Campus Map and GIS*, while fellow web developers Tom Fite and Jon Adams presented *The Planning Pickle: A Portal Perspective*, a session on UM's new academic planning tool that was released in beta this spring.

Fite and Adams weren't the only presenters talking about academic planning at the conference. Developers from the Orange County Community College District shared their approach to online academic planning. The two groups found inspiration in each other's projects.

"They looked at the academic planner project from a different direction," Fite said. "So we got a different perspective. They have a big focus on preparing students to transfer to other colleges, so their planner was integrated with other schools."



Loey Knapp, Assistant CIO for IT's Technology Support Services, shares information about UM's home-grown emergency notification system during a poster session at the Educause Western Regional Conference.

"One thing we liked is that they had an easy way to import a student's planned schedule into their registration system," Adams added.

UM Web Manager Mike Matthews and Assistant CIO for Technology Support Services Loey Knapp collaborated on a poster session at the conference titled *Building a Fault-Tolerant Emergency Notification System Using Existing System Assets*. The poster sessions provided opportunity for more informal conversation.

Knapp also served on the planning committee for the Western Regional Conference, which drew about 235 higher education IT professionals from several Western states.