SalukiTECHNews

IT Personnel Assist in ISAT Cyber Security Day for Competition and Recruitment

Information Technology personnel participated in Cyber Security Day on Saturday, February 23, 2013. The day was sponsored by the SIU School of Information Systems and Applied Technologies (ISAT).

The day involved a statewide cyber security competition at which the SIU Security Dawgs bested the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, DePaul University and other colleges and universities for the State of Illinois Cyber Security Championship.

As winners, the Security Dawgs advance to a ten-state Midwest playoff, to be followed by a United States championship match.

Numerous volunteers assisted in the competition and helped to recruit area high school and junior college students, who were invited to attend related security activities during the competition. Student workers Byron Canahui (Network Engineering), Cole Garton (Information Security), Tim Weibler (recently of Network Engineering), Ryan Austin (Network Engineering) and Dorie Abrams (Network Engineering) were among the volunteers.

Also volunteering: Leonard Goodsell (temporary Extra Help, LAN Services) and Information Security Operations Specialist Kevin Reuter, who played the part of an attacker during the recruitment activities.

Featured speakers for recruitment included Dr. Chet Langin, SIU Information Security Officer, and Aaron Ragusa, State Farm Security Analyst, formerly a student worker for Network Engineering.

IT personnel participating in ISAT Cyber Security Day. Above, the Security Dawgs, 2013 Illinois State Champion Team, from left, (back row): Alex Radcliff (student worker, Network Engineering), Mateusz Skubisz (student worker, Network Engineering), Travis Cooper (student worker, Information Security), Tom Imboden (ISAT Asst. Prof. and team advisor), Larry Elliott (student worker, Network Engineering) and Zach Moore. Front row: Gary Clark (intern, Network Engineering), Calen Barker (student worker, Network Engineering) and Bryan Arnold.

IT support volunteers participating in ISAT Cyber Security Day. Above, from left (back row): Aaron Ragusa (State Farm, former student worker, Network Engineering), Leonard Goodsell (temporary extra help, LAN Services), Byron Canahui (student worker, Network Engineering), Dr. Chet Langin (Information Security Officer), Kevin Reuter (Information Security Operations Specialist), Cole Garton (student worker, Information Security) and Tim Weibler (former student worker, Network Engineering). Front row: Ryan Austin (student worker, Network Engineering), Imani Hudson and Dorie Abrams (student worker, Network Engineering).

Upcoming Information Technology Service Outages

Saturday May 18, 2013
6 to 10 p.m.
The following services will be unavailable due to Data Center and system maintenance. It is anticipated that each service will be unavailable for two hours, but if problems arise the entire four-hour window will be utilized.
o   Salukinet.siu.edu
o   Banner production systems
o   Campus SMTP Server

Saturday, May 25, 2013
10 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.
The following major services will be unavailable due to Data Center floor reorganization to prepare for the installation of new air conditioning units in the primary Data Center.
o   VMware cluster
All service and servers located in the VMware cluster will be affected. This includes Exchange 2010, Identity Management, Campus printing services, dial-up and department servers.
o   All AIS services
o   Primary Campus Authentication server
Any campus service which relies on the primary campus authentication server, will be affected.
o   Identity Management (netid. siu.edu) – password management, self-service, account creation.
o   Eforms.siu.edu
o   Listserv
o   Campus SMTP Server (6 p.m.)

More details are available via the ITAlert-L@siu.edu listserv list. Please subscribe to the list if you wish to receive these, and future, notifications.

SIU Moving E-mail Services to Microsoft

Approximately four years ago, SIU began utilizing Google Mail for its organizational email solution, supporting students as well as faculty and staff.

Recently, the University has identified that Google's cloud-based archiving and data storage solutions no longer support the required data discoverability and litigation-management needs for faculty and staff.

Additional user-effectiveness, technology platform integration and future technology cost savings are other benefits of this project's solution, including:

1. Integrated calendaring to support more collaborative and mature organizational communication

2. Integration of Microsoft tools, including Lync, VOIP and instant messaging. In addition to more robust communication tools for the campus, the VOIP, especially, will provide significant cost savings to infrastructure technology

3. Email archiving standardization. Details on the timeline of the implementation, training and release will be noted in future announcements in *SalukiTech News*.

New Password Policy Uses Passphrases

On January 22, the password policies changed for Network ID and Active Directory passwords. These new policies should make it easier to manage and remember your password. You do not need to change your password now -- these changes will go into effect the next time that you do change your password.

Password expiration will be extended from 120 days to 365 days. The minimum requirements for mixed case, numbers and special characters will be removed. The removal of these requirements will allow for the easier use of a "passphrase," or sequences of words, rather than a hard to remember and hard to type random password string. Even with the removal of these minimum requirements, the overall strength of passwords will be increased by setting the minimum length to 16 characters. Phrases should be easy to remember and easy to type, and should be sufficiently random as to make their guessing unlikely. One way to do this would be to randomly select a word from a dictionary and then build a phrase using that word. For example, using the word "turnip," a possible passphrase might be "Turnipsarebitter!" or "Turnips are bitter!". Spaces in passphrases will be allowed, depending on your preference. Passphrases built on personal information, such as "mydogsnameisfido," should be avoided.

If you are in a position where you access sensitive information as part of your job, you should be especially careful in your passphrase selection, and should be sure to include special characters and mixed cases in your passphrase.

For instructions to use SIU's wireless services, log on to http://wireless.siu.edu/.