CENIC UPDATE

CENIC consists of the CalREN DC, or Digital California section, which is the commodity Internet, that links all California State and University of California universities as well as CA community colleges; the CalREN HPR, the High-Performance Research link to University of California research institutions, Cal Tech, Stanford, University of Southern California and NPS; and the CalREN XD, a no-restriction portion primarily used by the southern ring of California's higher education institutions. Current CENIC connections comprise a 1 gig circuit that provides connectivity to the CENIC backbone from NPS through California State University-Monterey Bay (CSUMB) and fiber from the city of Monterey. As of October 2, 2006, a redundancy path and failover capacity have been activated on the 2-strand, 28-mile path of the circuit, with 1 gig as the current ceiling. In thirty days, the circuit is expected to expand to the Monterey County IT site (MCIT), the center of operations, a hardened facility housing staff on nearly a 24/7 basis.

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS GROUP (BSG) UPDATE

At the request of the Registrar, staff from the BSG helped to develop the Academic Policy Manual, at: http://www.nps.edu/Academics/AcademicCouncilPolicyManual.html, and the main Academic Catalog web page, designed in collaboration with Jonathon Reedy from the Dudley Knox Library, found at: http://www.nps.edu/Admissions/Catalog/
The latter revision consists of a flash animation that rotates an image of a VIP every seven seconds and includes a portion of a testimonial about NPS made by that VIP. The user can click on a link ("click here to view more") to see more of the quotation.

September 26th marked the launch of the new Dudley Knox Library website, the result of a successful collaboration between ITACS and the Library. Plans for continued campus-wide implementation are being discussed now.

A new page that provides details of phishing has been added to the ITACS 'Hot Topics' drop-down box on the intranet page, and can be found at: http://intranet.nps.navy.mil/ITACS.htm.

The Spam page now provides a link to the Barracuda Daily Spam Report which can be found at: http://intranet.nps.navy.mil/ITACS/Spam.htm

BSG designed the new Navy Ball website at: https://www.nps.edu/NavyBall/Index.asp

WIRELESS UPDATE

NPS is coordinating the replacement of the existing heterogeneous wireless network with a Mesh Dynamics wireless network and a Bradford Networks compliance verification appliance. This new wireless network will consist of 12 outdoor wireless access points that will provide 100% coverage on campus. The Bradford compliance verification appliance will allow for varied levels of access to our wireless network, including guest access. It will also greatly simplify the process of setting up a wireless connection at NPS. The project has begun implementation and should be completed by the end of this calendar year.

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

The Graduating Student Survey (formerly the Exit Survey), asks students about their experience at NPS, and is distributed to every student in the month before his/her graduation. The surveys are used to collect information for WASC and for program improvements at NPS. The first administration of the survey was just completed, and the data are currently being reviewed. A summary report will be available next month.

The NPS institutional proposal was submitted to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges on October 15, 2006. The proposal was the result of

the NPS Steering Committee, chaired by **Dr. Rob Dell** and **Dr. Julie Filizetti,** and is posted on the intranet site under WASC Accreditation (left column).

DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN (DRP)

ITACS management has recognized the significance of producing and maintaining a Disaster Recovery Plan in order to prepare and address how services provided by the IT department will continue in the event of a severe disruption or disaster. A Disaster Recovery Planning Team has been formed, and will be the primary resource for the development of the DRP. The group is currently working to identify, collect, and organize information and tools for disaster recovery planning and documentation. The overall objectives of the ITACS Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP) are to protect resources and employees, to safeguard vital records, and to ensure that ITACS can provide service in the event of a severe disruption to normal operations.

REPORT FROM THE TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE CENTER (TAC)

From October 1 through October 30, the Technology Assistance Center (TAC) received a total of 2,725 requests for assistance, 2,153 of which were resolved by the Tier 1/Tier 2 areas. 572 of the remaining calls were answered by other ITACS departments/groups.

COPIER CONTRACT

On September 30, 2006, Xerox was awarded the 5-year copier contract at NPS, in which Xerox will replace the 79 current copiers on campus with multi-function devices. The new machines will copy at a rate of 38 pages per minute, as opposed to the rate of 16-20 pages per minute on current copiers, and will copy to files, email, print, etc. A reduction in paper usage is expected with the new devices. Included in the contract is an on-site technical person; all toner will be supplied by Xerox.

A 40-day plan has been developed for installation of all 79 machines and training of NPS personnel. Coordination with and support from the Technology Assistance Center, Network Operations Center and the Telephone Office will be necessary for 25 of the devices. The machines will be installed by department and by building, with arrival dates scheduled on Tuesdays and Thursdays. At the completion of every building, Xerox will conduct a formal training for users of the machines. Completion of the installation is expected in late November.

INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE

The NPS lifecycle network upgrade is likely to be funded by special infrastructure funding provided by Congress. Plans include moving to 10 gigabit technology, necessary fiber replacement, moving to single mode fiber, and replacing the telephone switch. This is a critical initiative that responds to increasing requirements for high-speed and advanced networking by NPS faculty and students. ITACS has enlisted the assistance of Information Sciences **Professor Bergman** and his class to assess customer requirements in the development of the statement of work for this upgrade.

PARTNERSHIPS AND OUTREACH

NPS was well-represented at the EDUCAUSE Conference in Dallas, Texas, from October 9 – 12, 2006. **Mr. Joe LoPiccolo, Mr. Jon Russell, and Mr. J. P. Pierson** gave a presentation focusing on new technologies and innovation at NPS, and will provide a summary report and a full briefing of the EDUCAUSE Conference to both the IT Task Force and the ITACS staff on November 8th at 10 A.M. in Ingersoll Hall, Room 122.

Discussions have begun among CSUMB CIO **Dr. Gil Gonzalez**, Monterey County CIO **Mr. Virgil Schwab**, NPS CIO **Dr. Christine Cermak,** NPS

Director of Operations **Mr. Hank Hankins** and Assistant City Manager **Mr. Fred Cohn,** concerning a Regional Infrastructure Planning initiative. On the developing agenda are areas of common interest which might be worked cooperatively. Two meetings took place in October.

Mr. Alan Richmond, NPS Director of Marketing, and **Dr. Christine Cermak** met with **Colonel Martis**, Garrison Commander at DLI-POM regarding possible collaborations on marketing initiatives on behalf of the local DoD community. Of particular interest are publications and television programming on the public access channels.

Discussions with Microsoft are underway regarding a possible consortial contract which could extend institutional services to our educational partners.

On October 26, NPS Foundation President **Mr. Bill Warner**, NPS Foundation Director **RADM Merrill Ruck (ret)**, and NPS CIO **Dr. Christine Cermak,** met with Foundry Networks President, **Mr. Bobby Johnson**, and four other Foundry Networks executives. Topics discussed ranged from next generation networks to building education/industry partnerships.