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CITations #123

CITations

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CITations is a report featuring information technology-related news of interest to UNC-Chapel Hill faculty members, graduate instructors and the staff who support them. *CITations*, published twice a month, is an electronic service of the Center for Instructional Technology.

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CONSIDINE HEADS INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON SMART BUILDING STANDARDS

In May 2004, Toby Considine, Technology Officer, UNC-Chapel Hill Facilities Services, became the chair of the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS) standards committee for the development of the open building information exchange (oBIX) XML standard. OASIS is a not-for-profit, global consortium that drives the development, convergence, and adoption of e-business standards. The oBIX committee is defining the web services standard (or adherence to protocols) that enables communications between building mechanical and electrical systems and between enterprise applications.

How will these protocols affect our campus operations? Here are some examples:

- -- Mechanics and engineers could monitor building equipment performance and use the resulting information for billing, maintenance scheduling, and expansion planning.
- -- Researchers in areas such as Laboratory Animal Medicine could have direct access to environmental information that could become a part of their routine data collection.
- -- Some types of lab equipment could be set up to automatically request maintenance when needed.
- -- The protocols could make possible initiatives such as "green" and "intelligent" office buildings and dorms with systems that are more energy efficient and cost effective.

You can contact Considine if you would like more details on how these protocols may be used in embedded systems at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Toby Considine, Facilities Services and OASIS oBIX Chair

Email: toby.considine@fac.unc.edu

For more background information on oBIX and OASIS, see the following references:

Interview with Toby Considine

http://www.automatedbuildings.com/news/jun04/interviews/considine.htm

OASIS website

http://www.oasis-open.org/

oBIX website

http://www.obix.org/

and

http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tc home.php?wg abbrev=obix

oBIX Statement of Purpose

http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/obix/charter.php

LISTSERVER UPGRADE

On Friday, July 23, the campus listserver (listserv.unc.edu) will be upgraded. This upgrade will be minor in comparison to the change made last September, but will provide a few new features and reorganization of some of the tools used by individual list administrators. The listserver front page (http://mail.unc.edu/lists) will have some additional functions and a minor rearrangement of existing tools. A synopsis of the changes (including screenshots) is available at http://mail.unc.edu/lists/upgrade/.

If you have questions about this upgrade, contact the IT Response Center:

Web: https://www.unc.edu/ar-bin/websub/index.pl

Tel: 962-HELP Email: help@unc.edu

Faculty and staff who are maintaining lists for courses or departments and who need on-site consultation on listservs can contact the ITS Center for Instructional Technology at 962-9287 or tl@unc.edu to schedule an appointment.

JUNE 2004 ISSUE OF CIT INFOBITS

CIT Infobits is an electronic service of ITS/CIT. Each month the CIT's Information Resources Consultant monitors and selects from a number of information and instructional technology sources that come to her attention and provides brief notes for electronic dissemination to educators. To subscribe link to http://mail.unc.edu/lists/read/subscribe? name=infobits.

Articles in the June 2004 issue (http://www.unc.edu/cit/infobits/bitjun04.html) include:

The Educated Blogger
What Happened to E-learning?
Study of Online Teaching Workload
The Age of Google
2003 Campus Desktop Computing Survey
Accessible Distance Education Blog

All back issues of CIT Infobits are available on the Web at http://www.unc.edu/cit/infobits/index.html.

LISTSERV TIP: PREVENTING VIRUS POSTINGS

Many listserv addresses get bombarded with spam, some of which contains viruses. Fortunately, most of these messages are deleted by the listserv system before anyone on the mailing list receives them.

However, if someone with an infected system has the list address and one or more listmembers' addresses stored in their system's contact list, the virus could send email to the list that appears to be from a member, even from the list owner. This could fool the listserv system into treating the message as legitimate and releasing it to the list.

To protect a list from this type of attack set moderation on for everyone, including the list owner. This ensures that every message is checked before it goes out to the list. Here's how:

- 1. Log into your list as list administrator and click on the Utilities tab.
- 2. Drill down through the menu tree as follows: Utilities > List Settings > Email Posting Settings and Moderation > Approval
- 3. Next, set the following permissions:
- -- Is list moderated: moderated all messages must be approved
- -- Approve # for number moderated: always needs approval
- -- Release moderated messages: Approval is always required

This locks down all outgoing messages until the list owner approves their release.

For more computing assistance, contact the Information Technology Response Center, Undergraduate Library.

Walk-in Hrs: 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Submit a help request on the Web: https://www.unc.edu/ar-bin/websub/index.pl

Tel: 962-HELP -- 24 hours/7 days a week

Email: help@unc.edu

ITRC website: http://www.unc.edu/atn/itrc/

CITations Tips Archive

The ITRC, CBT, and Listserv tips published in *CITations* are archived on the Web, so you can locate tips without having to search through all the back issues. The tips archive is at http://www.unc.edu/cit/citations/tips.html.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stay informed about technology conferences with the CIT's "Education Technology and Computer-Related Conferences" at http://www.unc.edu/cit/guides/irg-37.html and "Calendar of World-Wide Educational Technology-Related Conferences, Seminars, and Other Events." The calendar is at http://confcal.unc.edu:8086/.

2004 CITATIONS PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

January 9 & 23
February 6 & 20
March 5 & 19
April 2 & 16
May 7 & 21
June 11 & 25
July 9 & 23
August 13 & 27
September 10 & 24
October 8 & 22
November 5 & 19
December 3 & 17

CITations welcomes announcements from all UNC-Chapel Hill campus organizations involved in instructional and research technology. To have an announcement considered for publication in CITations, send email to Carolyn Kotlas, kotlas@email.unc.edu, or call 962-9287. The deadline for submissions is 11:00 a.m. the day before the publication date.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE OR UNSUBSCRIBE TO CITATIONS

CITations is published twice a month by the Center for Instructional Technology. Back issues are available on the CIT website at http://www.unc.edu/cit/citations/.

For more information about the CIT, see our Website at http://www.unc.edu/cit/ or contact our office at 962-6042.

To subscribe to CITations, link to http://mail.unc.edu/lists/read/subscribe?name=citations.

To unsubscribe to *CITations*, send email to <u>listserv@unc.edu</u> with the following message: unsubscribe citations

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