Important year-end information

Graduating students: save your data
Remember that your network account will be deleted on July 30th, ten weeks after graduation. We have extended this grace period to allow our graduates time to transfer College email addresses, web sites, and stored data to new service providers.

Alumni accounts available
Alumni accounts are available to graduates of the College, but these accounts are of a very limited nature. An alumni account will allow you to log into a computer in the academic computing labs in Search Hall, so that you can use the web for job searching and prepare résumés and cover letters. Alumni accounts do not provide email, dial-up access, home directories, or personal web sites. If you are interested in obtaining an alumni account, contact the Alumni Office at x2710 or send e-mail to alumni@philacol.edu.

Collect your voicemail messages
As of May 7th, all residential student voicemail boxes will be deleted from the College system. Make sure that you retrieve all your messages before then. If you are leaving campus earlier, you may wish to change your outbound message to inform callers of a new number.

Academic computing lab schedule
READING DAYS
The labs are open extended hours for the end of semester. During the weekends of April 24-25 and May 1-2, hours will be 9am-5pm Saturdays and 9am-11pm Sundays. Gutman Library will also offer extended hours on Saturday mornings.

SEMMESTER BREAK & MEMORIAL DAY
Fri. May 7 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sat. May 8 - Sun. May 9 CLOSED
Mon. May 10 - Fri. May 14 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Sat. May 15 - Sun. May 16 CLOSED
Sat. May 29 - Mon. May 31 CLOSED

SUMMER I & II SESSIONS
Monday May 17 through Friday June 25 and Monday June 28 through Monday August 9
Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM - 11:00PM
Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Saturday NOON - 5:00 PM
Sunday NOON - 5:00 PM

SEMMESTER BREAK & JULY 4TH HOLIDAY
Sat. June 26 - Sun. June 27 CLOSED
Sat. July 3 - Mon. July 5 CLOSED
Returning students

BRING CABLES NEXT YEAR

As college life grows more and more dependent on technology, equipment needs change. Back in the old days, residential students may have shared one pay-phone down the hall. Nowadays, most students furnish their rooms on campus with telephones, televisions, and computers.

From now on, you must bring appropriate cables for all these devices. A modular phone cable, a “co-axial” cable for your TV, and a “cat 5” data cable for your computer (to connect your fast ethernet card to the College network). The College will not longer supply any of these connector cables.

ACCESSING EMAIL OVER THE SUMMER

No matter where you go this summer, if you have Internet access you can easily access your College email account from the web. Outlook Web Access allows you to point any modern web browser (e.g., Internet Explorer or Netscape Navigator) at http://www.philacol.edu/exchange, then log on to your email. At the yellow screen, type your username (“smith2”); then in the pop-up box, type your username with domain name (“student smith2”) and regular password.

IMPORTANT: CHANGE PASSWORD

Before leaving campus this summer, change your password so that it doesn’t expire inconveniently. Also, avoid delays and frustrations in September by remembering your password over the summer!

Virus alerts

The entire nation heard about the “Melissa” virus, which received phenomenal press coverage. Of course, there are many other dangerous computer viruses floating around the Internet, on floppy disks, and possibly even your hard drive. Here’s some recent information on some of the newest and most prevalent:

“X97M/PAPA” is an Internet “worm” which uses Excel 97 (or Excel 2000) to replicate itself. As with so many of the current viruses, “Papa” can infect your PC only if you open the Excel document received as an attachment to an email message. The email message that accompanies Papa is entitled “Fwd: Workbook from all.net and Fred Cohen.” If you see this message, delete it.

“Happy 99” is another worm spread via email, usually as a program attachment called happy99.exe. If you run the program, you’ll see a graphic of exploding fireworks, while your system files are altered in the background.

The “CIH virus” or “Chernobyl,” has the capability to destroy your data or disable your computer. “It will leave your PC dead,” says Vincent Gullotto, manager of an emergency virus team for Network Associates. “It’s a fast infector and it spreads itself until its payload date.” The “payload date” (April 26 and possibly other dates in the future) is the date the virus drops its “bomb,” disabling the computer’s flash BIOS, which feeds startup instructions to a PC. In addition, the CIH virus can corrupt data stored on the hard drive. Experts say the best protection against CIH is to run an updated antivirus program and to avoid opening any unexpected email attachments.

The Office of Information Technology is committed to combating computer viruses on campus. If you suspect a virus on your office machine, or if you are unsure that your anti-virus software is up to date, please contact our front desk at x2645 to request an anti-virus update.

For more information on computer viruses, check out the Alert Labs site from Network Associates, Inc. at http://www.avertlabs.com or Symantec’s AntiVirus Research Center at http://www.symantec.com/avcenter.

Check date for Memorial Day!

If you’ve installed holidays into your Outlook calendar, you may have Memorial Day incorrectly listed as May 24, 1999. Of course, the correct date is May 31st, as Microsoft admits! Double-click on the holiday listing on the 24th and edit the date to 5/31 to correct this bug.

Telecom updates

Student voicemail boxes will be deleted

See story on page 1.

Ten-digit dialing

As we alerted you last summer, the Public Utility Commission approved a new area code dialing system to deal with the problem of usable phone numbers in the region. The new program requires all users in our region to dial an area code before all phone numbers, although a preceding “1” will not be necessary for calls within the following area codes. The new codes that will be mingled in with existing codes are:

- 215 area will add 267 for new numbers
- 610 area will add 484 for new numbers

You may have one area code while your next-door neighbor has another.

As of June 5, you must dial an area code, even for numbers in the same area as your own.

Remember this means that if you use any dial-up Internet Service Provider (ISP), including the College, you will have to reconfigure your dialing software to dial the area code, even for local calls. See the OIT Telecom web page for more info at http://www.philacol.edu/oit/telecomm.htm.

Channel 13 campus info

Students in campus residences have been wowed recently by the weekly updates to the College information channel. Switch to channel 13 for team schedules, student group news, and glossy billboards for concert, shows, and activities on campus. All this exciting information backed by the dulcet tones of WTEX, Textile Radio! To see your announcement on channel 13, contact Tim Butler in Student Life at butlert@philacol.edu.

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