Network Major Projects — Ed Anderson (SCS)

U.S. 50 Fiber Project — Ed Anderson (SCS)
This project is now completed. Fiber is “lit” and operational and running bits to Ely.

Reno/Las Vegas Capacity Upgrade — Ed Anderson (SCS)
This project has also been completed. It is now operational, and we have a gigabit North/South connection. Our existing OC3’s will be made into the backup. We still need to get some cards to put the 2 OC3’s together to make it an OC6. We will disconnect the DS3 that we’ve been using as the backup.

Reno-Carson Fiber Project — Ed Anderson (SCS)
The fiber was pulled into Carson City, and they were working on the Carson City metro loop. The fiber contractor, AFS, had completed a lot of the underground construction and were installing the overhead pull portions of the route when they were stopped by ATT. ATT protested and filed complaints about the permits that the power company had given AFS to install fiber and put a stop-hold on the project. The work will hopefully be starting again soon. Much of the work has already been done, and we’re still hoping to have it up and running before the end of the year.

Super Computing Conference 2007 Backbone Upgrades — Ed Anderson (SCS)
Because of this convention, we have an opportunity to increase our interconnection capacity capability from 4, 1-gigabit wavelengths to a series of up to 15 to 17 10-gigabit wavelengths. We secured the funding to do this and buy the equipment necessary to make that capability available to us once the conference is over.

The convention is coming up and there is a lot of activity surrounding it. They’re building fiber into the convention center and doing a lot of work locally. On the 16th of September, there is going to be an outage. Our northern connection will be down while they make implementations to support the convention and give us our increased capacity. The outage will be from about 6:00am to 2:00pm on a Sunday. All traffic will be routed out of the South. There won’t be any interruptions, but we won’t have total redundancy for those 4 to 6 hours.

Winnemucca Fiber Distribution — Ed Anderson (SCS)
All of the work associated with the project has now been completed to the NDOT facility in Winnemucca. Fiber’s been pulled from GBC. The Humboldt County School District is pulling fiber back to the distribution point as well. The only
work left to be done now is to splice into the main I80 cable. They are working with Level 3 to schedule a date for when that splice will be done. When that happens, we will turn down the T-1’s we have going to Winnemucca which should lead to a cost savings.

**Redundant Firewall Project** – Ed Anderson (SCS)
SCS is installing CISCO 6500 series switches with firewall capability to provide redundant firewalls North and South. The equipment is here and is being bench-tested. Reno’s will be completed first on October 14th, and Las Vegas’ will be completed before the end of the calendar year. We are staggering the work to avoid major outages several weekends in a row.

**UNSOM Co-location/Network Assessment** – Ed Anderson (SCS)
UNR has made an agreement to allow UNSOM to migrate out from behind UNR’s firewall and connect as part of a collocation effort directly into SCS’ data center. UNSOM has also asked SCS to do a network assessment for them. They would like to have their firewalls operational by the end of September.

**Information and Application Services Update** – Dodie Bryant (SCS)

**GBC/WNC WebCT** – We are supporting GBC and Western on WebCT, and they made it through their first week of classes. They said they had fewer complaints, but the complaints they did have were bigger than they expected.

**Systems Support Services** – Pam Burns (SCS)

**Start of Classes**
On Monday we completed 3.5 million transactions. We activated Capacity On Demand for the duration of the peak registration periods. All institutions started on the same day, and we heard no complaints.

**WNC Lotus Notes**
Part of our staff has been working on bringing up the WNC Lotus Notes servers. The platforms are there. The network pieces are there. We have a small number of users migrated over for Western from their Fallon mail to WNC Notes.

**System Security Update**

**Security Interest Group Activities** – Jana Dunn (SCS)
Upcoming Security Interest Group activities:

**September 21st**
9:15 – 11:00
Lyle Pritchett and Brad Martin, DRI *Improving Perimeter Security with a Checkpoint Firewall*
Clint Ulrich, Agriculture Ext. *Deploying Wireless at 17 Small, Remote Sites*
Paul Mudgett, SCS Policy Update

October is National Cybersecurity Month

For November, we will probably have a webinar with Microsoft, topic and date TBD.

Client Services – Susan Bunyan (SCS)

UNIX Password Calls
With the first week of classes, we had a large number of UNIX password calls. Over 40% of our calls were for UNIX passwords.

WNC Lotus Notes
We are getting close to completing the implementation phase for Notes. We are starting on the migration of their users and dealing with issues surrounding people learning a new mail system.

Systems Software Update – Susan Bunyan (SCS)

We’ve been paying a lot of bills, so the institutions should start receiving invoices for Sass, Autodesk, McAfee, Symantec, Veronics, Deep Freeze, etc. We are working on putting out an RFP for the upcoming renewal of the Microsoft Select program. Insight (formerly Software Spectrum) will bid, CDWG will bid as well as GOV Connection. If you have others who would like to bid, let us know.

For the System-wide Software Committee meeting, CDWG (one of our resellers) will be here for the September meeting, a Symantec representative will be here for our October meeting, and our new Microsoft representative will be here in November. We will be gearing up for the campus agreement to be due in February.

Operational Events/ Issues

UNR Power Outage – Jim McKinney (UNR)
The power outage was caused by a bad splice. The splice failed right at the entry point on campus, which caused a fire and burned the switch out. It was a switch that blew, not a transformer. We were down almost 3 days. 35 buildings, the whole south grid, were out. A couple of the buildings were able to be spliced into the north grid and were up the following day. Power was restored on Saturday night.

We have 2 server rooms on the south grid, and one on the north grid. The south server rooms switched over to diesel generator as designed from Thursday noon to Saturday night. The north server room generator was also started as a precaution.
We did a campus announcement through email and through the phone system. A voicemail was sent out to 4300 mailboxes.

We were closed Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. Some classes were held on Saturday, and by Monday it was back to normal.

**Other Issues**

Jim McKinney introduced a new employee. Bert Vilseck joins them from West Virginia University where he had 15 years of experience. Bert’s wife also recently took a position at the medical school. Bert has been with UNR since mid July and is the primary backup with networking and switch gear. (Bvilseck@unr.edu)