Network Major Projects – Ed Anderson (SCS)

**Winnemucca Fiber Project** – Ed Anderson (SCS)
The final splice into the I80 corridor fiber was finally completed this month. The work of moving some equipment into the NDOT building and getting the fiber connected over to GBC that has already been pulled will be happening soon. The last major hurdle was completed, so we will be very shortly using fiber to bring back the traffic from Winnemucca for not only GBC but also the school district, which had some fiber run locally that is also coming back to the distribution point. We will let you know when we are actually carrying some bits there.

**Super Computing Conference 2007** – Ed Anderson (SCS)
The Super Computing Conference will be running November 10th through the 16th. Greg Ebner and other SCS people have been working on getting all the cross-connects at 200 S. Virginia completed and all of the services that have been requisitioned for the conference provisioned. The fiber has finally been completed into the convention center itself as well as all the wiring and local area networking within the convention center. It is expected that there will be 6,000-8,000 attendees. It is a very big deal and I encourage you to take a look.

**Reno-Carson Fiber Project** – Ed Anderson (SCS)
This project has been stalled because of permit issues between AT&T and the power company. There was a dispute about who owned the space and which poles needed to be changed out. The same vendor that is doing this project was also involved with bringing fiber into the convention center, so while the permit issues were being resolved, they shifted their efforts to that. Now that the work for the conference is pretty much complete, the work will shift back to the Carson Fiber Project. The poles that need to be changed out and removed have been identified so work is now moving forward again. We were hoping to have this work completed by the end of the year, though it may be the first part of January now.

**Redundant Firewall Projects** – Ed Anderson (SCS)
There were two projects, one in the south and one in the north. The northern project was completed successfully this month. There was a major outage associated with it to get it installed and that went as planned. A similar outage and amount of work is going to be required for the southern end. We have tentatively scheduled that for the first week of January during break time to lessen the impact.
**Reno Second Optical Node** – Ed Anderson (SCS)
This was originally scheduled to take place about a month ago, but we delayed it because of the impact it would have on UNR. Our plan is to schedule this over the winter break when it will have less of an impact and also give UNR time to provide and alternate network path that could possibly mitigate the effects of the outage. SCS will work with UNR to schedule a time that will work best for them.

**Applications / Systems Update** – Dodie Bryant (SCS)

Nothing major has been taking place over the last month, just maintenance and status quo. There will be a Darwin upgrade this weekend that should be relatively painless.

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

We’ve been doing maintenance. We’re making sure that everything is on board for the start of registration for spring. Web processing of documents like HR Contracts is now being done through a java based servlet so you should see an improvement in the speed documents are processed.

**Security** – Jana Dunn (SCS)

The Security Interest Group had a good meeting, a webinar, last Friday with Barbara Chung from Microsoft’s Chief Security Advisor for Education. She spoke on Vista Security. A summary of the webinar will be sent out later this week, and we also have a pdf of her slides.

**Systems Software** – Robert Prior (SCS)

The Adobe contract is in process and as soon as it is executed the campuses will be able to tell their facility how to buy Adobe products from the student program. This is a pilot program just starting.

The Microsoft selection bid process is done and Asap was selected as our reseller. As soon as that contract is signed, we’ll update the campuses on technical and purchasing information.

**Client Services** – Robert Prior (SCS)

Yesterday, our second new hire started. This is the second employee for Las Vegas Technical Services. We are now finally fully staffed for that type of support again. SCS was able to get both of our first choices for each slot.
Operational Issues/Events

**UNR Security Breach** – Jim McKinney/Jeff Wolff (UNR)
A thumb drive that had student information on it was lost by a faculty member. The information was originally encrypted, but was unencrypted to allow a power point presentation to be added to the thumb drive to give to someone at UNLV. The students were notified by snail mail and signed up for Equifax. UNR put together a hot line that is manned by someone at UNR from 7:00am to 8:00pm. Most calls have been from parents. We don’t think that the information on the thumb drive has been used yet.

**UNLV Power Outage** – Don Diener (UNLV)
Although the paper reported that the source of the power outage was a transformer, UNLV still really doesn’t know what caused the outage. The power went out at about 8:30pm and was back on at about 10:30pm. SCS stayed up during that time and hosts a lot of UNLV’s major systems, so we didn’t lose things like WebCT. It was a very brief outage of any of our major systems. The UNLV web server was down for awhile. It took us a while to get the network on campus back up. Everything was basically running again by 2:00am.

Other Issues

**Core Upgrade on Hold** – Jim McKinney/Jeff Wolff (UNR)
With the budget issues, we have put the core upgrade on hold. It won’t be taking place at winter closure as planned. We’d like to make some minor investments to be able to bring a second existing spare foundry we have on line.

**CISCO Maintenance Contract Bill** – Ed Anderson (SCS)
The management and maintenance of the CISCO contract is becoming really onerous. The maintenance contract bill from CISCO for SCS nearly doubled this year from what it was last year. Their billing mechanism has changed from an annual bill to monthly increases by individual elements. Tracking this has become very difficult. If you buy a piece of equipment in March, it goes off maintenance in March of the following year, but they don’t notify you of it. When you go to pay the bill in July, they tell you that it’s been off maintenance for over 90 days and will require inspection before it can go on maintenance again, and they charge $500 per each element to inspect it. Each individual card now has its own maintenance requirement.