

OIT - UA & UAF IT Consolidation***ON THE MERGE...*****Upcoming Events:**

December 26 - 27
University Holiday

December 28 - 30
University Offices Closed

January 2 - 3
University Holiday

Questions about the IT Consolidation?

Contact Lori Merdes:
450-8387 or
lori@alaska.edu

OIT Reveals Mission Statement:

The University of Alaska Office of Information Technology is a strategic service organization providing technology tools, expertise, and planning to facilitate the University of Alaska's mission.

After months of consideration and communication with OIT staff and management, faculty and administration, CITO Steve Smith has released OIT's Mission Statement. As in OIT's day to day operations, the mission statement's initial emphasis is on service. OIT is a service organization. OIT exists to serve and empower the University community, facilitating the University's mission of educating Alaskans. Only after emphasizing service, does OIT's mission statement address service *methods*.

OIT is a support organization, with increased emphasis on accountability and stability, focus on developing common software/hardware standards to increase efficiencies in operations, investment in converged technologies (cost containment), and reduction of duplicative services and technologies.

OIT... Empowering the University

Learn about OIT's new logo on page 2 of *On The Merge...*

Opportunity wastes no time with those who are unprepared.

- George Clason -

OIT Announces Reporting Structure Change to Community

Following is Steve Smith's formal announcement to the President's and Chancellor's staffs regarding OIT's reporting structure change:

December 9, 2005

Effective December 12, 2005, as part of the consolidation of UAF and Statewide information technology departments, the UAF Division of Computing & Communications, Center for Academic Technology and Telephone Utilities and UA Statewide Information Technology Services

formally become the consolidated Office of Information Technology (OIT).

December 12 does not indicate completion of transition for IT services. Rather, it marks the beginning of formal changes in reporting structure and a new IT organization, better suited to meeting the needs of the UAF, Statewide and the UA system. Be confident that OIT takes seriously its charge to continually manage this consolidation with minimal end user impact, and a focus on service-first.

The university community will see transition to improved services over the coming months. Individual OIT staff tasking will temporarily overlap as necessary, ensuring a smooth transition and minimizing end user disruption. Some service changes will be immediate while others will segue in stages.

As always, input from end users is critical. If you have questions concerning this consolidation, please contact Lori Merdes at: 907-450-8387 or lori.merdes@alaska.edu.

OIT's Long Awaited Logo is Finalized

Earlier this year, OIT announced the search for a logo to represent its newly combined organization. The logo needed to be unique, memorable and reflective of OIT's depth and breadth. Steve Smith offered an Alaska Airlines' complimentary saver mileage ticket to the creative individual who designed a logo that would pass these stringent qualifications.

UAF and Statewide staff from main campus and remote sites submitted a fantastic collection of logo designs. (see: http://www.alaska.edu/itmerger/updates/index_docs/LogoSubmissions.pdf).

OIT staff then voted to determine the "Top 5" (see: http://www.alaska.edu/itmerger/updates/index_docs/Top5.pdf) and forwarded the selected finalists to University Relations offices at UAF and SW for final selection approval. With the necessary University Relations approvals now accomplished, OIT is ready to reveal its final selection, and name the airline ticket winner.

Congratulations to Kate Wattum, of the Statewide Public Affairs Office for her submission of the artwork that OIT has adopted as its new logo.

Watch for the new logo's arrival on OIT web sites, stationary, business cards and shirts.

OIT Establishes Internal Review Process, Increasing Employee Satisfaction Options

OIT employees received individual letters on Friday, December 9 confirming initial staffing assignments and reporting structures. Employees were further assured that current job classification, salary and benefits would remain unchanged pending responsibility assessments.

What's next for OIT? Working closely with the Statewide Office of Human Resources (SWOHR), OIT management and staff will review and revise position descriptions, ensuring the descriptions accurately reflect new department and individual responsibilities, and submitting accurate position descriptions to SWOHR for review. Compensation adjustments, when appropriate, will be retroactive to the date a revised position description is submitted to SWOHR.

Employees with concerns regarding newly assigned responsibilities, or other transition impacts, are encouraged to work directly with supervisors, managers and directors to resolve their concerns.

Those unable to resolve concerns within the department are encouraged to utilize the OIT's Internal Review Committee: Bill Gregory, Richard Machida, Lori Merdes, Lacy Mitchell, Rory O'Neill, Michelle Rizk, and Fred Smits to address concerns. Internal review guidelines, designed to ensure all concerns are considered fairly and appropriately, accompany your copy of *On The Merge...*

Concerns regarding initial assignments must be initiated by OIT employees no later than January 30, 2006.



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Learn more about the OIT Consolidation at: <http://www.alaska.edu/itmerger>