

UAB IT Strategic Planning

Dr. Doug Rigney
September 15, 2011



Key Findings

*UAB Research
Survey*

December 2010

Technology-Related Issues

- Inconsistent IT support across campus
- Aging hardware
- Staying current with software
- Difficulty budgeting and paying for IT needs
- Access to data storage and data backup
- Mac support

Needs

- Supported storage and backups
- More software agreements
 - Adobe
 - Endnote
 - Matlab
- Mobile applications
- Faster network

Needs Assessment – Key Findings

- Customers view IT as a single organization (not 35 independent teams from across the university), so services seem fragmented, redundant or uncoordinated.
- Customers are unaware of many services offered by UAB IT.
- Researchers want more secure storage and centralized backups.
- The research community prefers UAB email for communication.

UAB IT Strategic Plan

UAB IT Vision

To be the trusted technology partner for the UAB community, and be a recognized IT leader.

UAB IT Mission

To deliver robust solutions that are customer-focused, efficient, innovative and secure, enabling the university community to achieve UAB's mission.

UAB IT Core Values



Partner:

- With researchers, faculty, students, administrators and academic units to provide innovative IT solutions.

Promote:

- Awareness of IT technology, tools, and services available to the UAB community.

Guiding Principles

Protect:

- Electronic information systems and develop data management strategies in collaboration with stakeholders.

Provide:

- Technology, tools, support and infrastructure that align with the needs of the communities we serve.

UAB IT Goals



Empowering Research and Scholarship

UAB IT GOAL

Enable research and scholarship eminence through innovative, shared technological advances made available to researchers.

Empowering Research and Scholarship

UAB IT OBJECTIVES

1. Cultivate an e-research community.
2. Establish a sustainable funding and management structure for research computing Cyberinfrastructure and services.
3. Enhance existing IT services to align with the needs of the research community.
4. Protect and secure electronic information and IT systems.

Cultivate an e-research community

- Form an institute to support research computing.
- Establish a governance structure (leadership council) to oversee shared assets and solutions.
- Enable the sharing of research computing resources, network and applications by participating in external clouds or grids.

Establish a sustainable funding and management structure for research computing Cyber-infrastructure and services

- Support campus research computing needs by seeking external funding for infrastructure (e.g., shared instrumentation grants).
- Identify ways to leverage resources in existing IT services, collegiate IT groups and faculty labs.
- Partner with researchers and administrators to develop sustainable funding models.

Enhance existing IT services to align with the needs of the research community.

- Promote awareness of IT services and tools for researchers.
- Address the specialized training needs of researchers.
- Enhance the UAB network to include the deployment of IPv6, DNS-SEC and ubiquitous 100Mb connectivity.
- Pilot a condor cluster.
- Expand the electronic researcher notebook (toolkit).
- Explore the SOX research private cloud storage and backup solution.

Protect and secure electronic information and IT systems.

- Formalize an information security plan for the research community.
- Create a research data management plan and framework designed to protect research data to support bio-information while promoting research collaboration and data sharing.
- Develop best practices and standards for information security (onsite and hosted).
- Expand business continuity planning and disaster recovery preparedness.

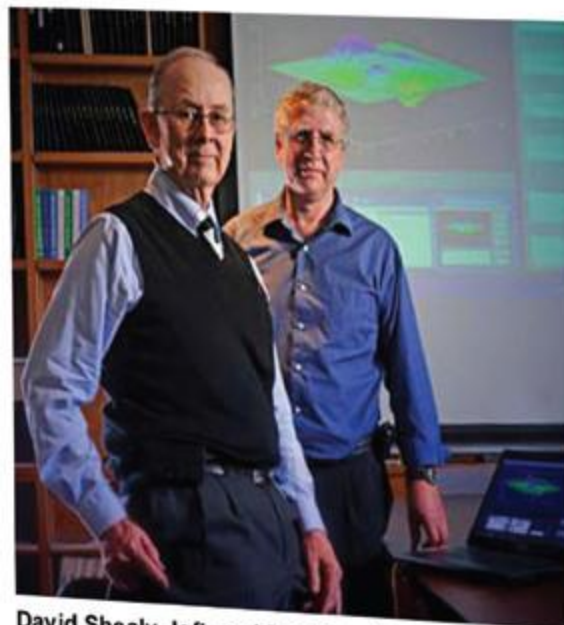
Monday, March 07, 2011

UAB Reporter

Mathworks site license to boost UAB's research power

By Tyler Greer

David Shealy, Ph.D., is a scientist. And he's a scientist who loves his research — whether it involves last beam shaping, geometrical optics, grid computing or optical design.



David Shealy, left, and Paul Gamlin were among several faculty members to lead the charge in UAB acquiring a campuswide Mathworks® software license.

employee affiliated with UAB to use MATLAB and Simulink software on university-owned computers.

In 2009, Shealy, chair of the Department of Physics, began looking at the number of licenses of Mathworks® software purchased by UAB investigators. Mathworks is a high-level language, interactive environment that enables researchers to perform computationally intensive tasks faster than with traditional programming languages such as C, C++ and Fortran.

He realized a universitywide site license would cost less than individual licenses combined and provide all the toolkits the software offers to every faculty and staff member.

So the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, the schools of Medicine, Optometry, Public Health and Engineering and the College of Arts & Sciences pooled their resources to buy the large, generally usable software tool in January. The purchase, which totaled a little more than \$50,000, makes UAB the first university in Alabama to implement a Mathworks Total Academic Headcount (TAH) license, which enables every



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Integrated Research Administration Portal (IRAP)

- A partnership between the Offices of the Vice President for Information Technology and the Vice President of Research and Economic Development.
- March 2010 - Phase I
 - Conflict of Interest, Proposal Tracking and GENIUS modules.
 - GENIUS allows receipt of daily updates regarding funding opportunities.
- Will support electronic submission of funding applications and compliance forms and allow data sharing among the Research Administration offices.