Employee ID Number Conversion

Most current employees took the opportunity over the fall semester to replace their Social Security number-based ID number and to get a Hokie Passport with the new number. These changes are reflected in the steady downward graph below. Earlier this month, the Banner General Team converted the remaining ID numbers of current employees from SSNs to university numbers. The conversion is reflected in the sharp drop to zero at the end of the graph.

Security Corner

Prize-winning video clips promoting security awareness are available at http://www.educause.edu/SecurityVideoContest. The EDUCAUSE/Internet2 Computer and Network Security Task Force and the National Cyber Security Alliance announced winners of the computer security awareness video contest. Submissions were developed by college students for college students. Winners were selected for creativity, content and quality of information, overall effectiveness of the delivery, and technical quality.
VT STARS in the News

VT STARS was featured in the university’s online news headlines for its sponsorship of “Family Technology Awareness Week” at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville. [http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/story.php?relyear=2006&itemno=77](http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/story.php?relyear=2006&itemno=77)

Eighth through tenth-grade students and their parents engaged in problem-based learning using software and technology—MatLab, LabView, Inventor, 3D Viz, iLife ’06, Free Civ and X-Plane flight simulation. Workshops were co-sponsored by SCALE-UP, the Southside Community Advocates for Learning Excellence-United for Progress. Participants included members from The Boys & Girls Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and Southside middle and high school students.

Primary funding for the VT STARS Family Technology Week was provided by the Jessie Ball duPont Fund through its support of e-Mentoring and the Graduate School’s initiative for Citizen Scholar Engagement. Several graduate students and 20 Materials Science students traveled to Danville on a Saturday to interact with attendees and share their motivation for their current academic degrees.

The week culminated with a Virginia Tech College Opportunities Pathways information session and luncheon. With Vice Provost David Ford, Assistant Provost Karen Sanders, and Assistant Director of Admissions Yalana Bryant, Virginia Tech Professors Michael Gregg, Wayne Scales, Michael Saffle, Rich Oderwald, and Research Associates Peter Sforza and Pat Donovan traveled to Danville to give presentations.

Institute research faculty members Steve Southward, Barry Flinn, Ron Moffett and Rodney Brown also gave presentations and demonstrated technology related to their research projects. Nancy Combs with IALR gave a presentation focused on how future success, careers, earnings and lifestyle is directly tied to one’s level of education during an interactive review of the True Life Chart™.

[http://www.vtstars.vt.edu/](http://www.vtstars.vt.edu/)

Digital Libraries

The National Science Digital Library is the National Science Foundation’s online library of resources for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and research ([www.nsdl.org](http://www.nsdl.org)). As a digital library, it is an organized collection of web-accessible resources. One component of the NSDL is CITIDEL—a part of the science, math, engineering, and technology Education collection, created through a consortium of Hofstra, the College of New Jersey, Penn State, Villanova, and Virginia Tech. The collection serves the computing education community at all levels, including computer science, information systems, information science, software engineering, computer engineering, and related fields. Ed Fox, Professor of Computer Science and Faculty Advisor for the Information Technology organization, leads Virginia Tech’s efforts with CITIDEL. ([www.citidel.org](http://www.citidel.org))