



SSN to ID Conversion

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Virginia Tech is one of many institutions that used Social Security numbers (SSNs) as ID numbers. Recently, the university has moved away from SSNs to protect the information privacy of students, employees, and other affiliates. Since mid-2003, entering students and new employees have been assigned a VT ID number. Beginning this spring, remaining employees will be instructed on how to get a new ID number: Visit the Hokie Passport Office, where the staff will make the change in the Banner system, and then issue a new Hokie Passport card. The voluntary program will continue throughout the spring and summer. Later in the fall, work will begin to complete the change to ID numbers. See http://www.hokiepassport.vt.edu/HPO_FAQ.htm

Former employees, former students, alumni, individual vendors, donors, and others with identifiers in the enterprise system who have SSNs-as-IDs are being changed by the Banner General Support Team. April saw a major effort, changing batches of “inactive” individuals each weekend. Over 600,000 rows of ID data changed.

The purpose of the ID change is to decrease the visibility of Social Security numbers. Visibility decreases by removing them from the Hokie Passport cards, a move that also complies with a state mandate. Further, SSNs will not display when individuals’ records are looked up within the Banner system, except for those limited purposes that require the SSN. However, workers processing transactions who may only have an SSN for a student or employee will still be able to look up information by the SSN. Only the ID number is displayed in the information that is returned.

The Enterprise Directory and the Data Warehouse are replicating the changes as the ID field is changed, so that all university enterprise systems will be in compliance with the effort to hold SSNs more securely. A new university policy is nearing final approval that will set the standards for treating this data element. Additional procedural advice will be issued by the offices that need the SSN for processing (for example, payroll and IRS reporting).

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Banner General Support Team

Key to the development and implementation of changes to convert to Virginia Tech ID numbers is the Banner General Support Team. The manager of the team is Victor Bagley. Other members are Linda Hedrick, Ron Marlowe, Linda McIver, and Rick Murray.

The General Support Team creates and tests changes to the general modules of the enterprise system. One critical area is the ability of students and employees to maintain their biographical information via the Hokie Spa. The team also troubleshoots issues that arise from the self-service modules.

The group also has responsibilities for the General systems within Banner, and the data parameters for the General Person area. For example, every two months, a new data set is received from the United States Post Office on currently valid zip codes. The General Support Team sees to the addition of any new zip codes. Similarly, the team tracks changes to geographic codes and abbreviations and area codes for phones.

Service Recognition

IT employees are recognized for years of service at Virginia Tech.

40 years of service:	Calvin Terry	Printing Services
35 years of service:	Becky Brim	Information Warehouse & Access
	Wayne Donald	IT Security
	Alexis Johnson	University Mail Services
	Lois Walters	Printing Services
30 years of service:	Nola Elliott	Communications Network Services
	John Nichols	Communications Network Services
	Jerry Robertson	AIS—Student
25 years of service:	Peggy Crawford	Virginia Tech Operations Center
	Pamela Croy	AIS—Alumni Development
	Ted Farmer	Communications Network Services
	Frank Galligan	e-Provisioning Group
	Cathy Gorman	Learning Technologies
	Lee Anne Hoppe	AIS—HRIS
	Ron Marlowe	AIS—General Support
	Jeshua Pacifici	Learning Technologies
	William Ranck	Systems Support
	Sandra Reynolds	University Mail Services
	Widget Shannon.	AIS—Student
20 years of service:	Wendy Biggs	AIS—Finance
	Bill Blevins	Communications Network Services
	Barry Browning	Learning Technologies
	Stephen Chiles	Communications Network Services
	Jeffrey Crowder	Communications Network Services
	Jeffrey Dalton	Video Broadcast Services
	Henry Floyd	Communications Network Services
	Charlie Gills	Virginia Tech Operations Center
	Hunter Hancock	Communications Network Services
	Mark Hoppe	AIS—Finance
	Ronald Jarrell	Systems Support
	Brian E. Jones	Communications Network Services
	John Lawson	Communications Network Services
	Barry Linkous	Communications Network Services
	Sarah McCroskey	Information Technology Acquisitions
	Vicky Moore	Information Technology Acquisitions
	Robert Nicholson	Communications Network Services
	Barbara Robinson	Learning Technologies
	William Sydor	Systems Support
	Thresa Vinardi	Learning Technologies
15 years of service:	Joseph Agnew	Communications Network Services
	Allen Campbell	AIS—HRIS
	Mary Compton	Learning Technologies
	Susan Fisher	Communications Network Services
	Steve Greenfield	Research and Cluster Computing
	Valdis Kletnieks	Systems Support
	Jennifer Mengel	AIS—Student
	James Powell	Internet Application Development
	Tim Rhodes	Systems Support
	Wilma Simpkins	Centralized Mail
10 years of service:	Eric Brown	Communications Network Services
	Dan Cook	Communications Network Services
	Donna Jones	Communications Network Services
	Debbie Minnick	AIS—Student
	Paul Tressel	Video Broadcast Services
	Charles Tyree	Printing Services

Information Technology at Virginia Tech

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Top-Ten IT Issues, 2005 Educause's Annual List

1. Funding IT
2. Security and Identity Management
3. Administrative Information Systems
4. Strategic Planning
5. Infrastructure Management
6. Faculty Development, Support, and Training
7. E-learning/Distributed Teaching and Learning
8. Governance, Organization, and
9. Enterprise-Level Portals
10. Web Services

<http://www.educause.edu/irl/library/pdf/erm0530.pdf>