Don't stay in the dark about changes to PipelineMT/RaiderNet, D2L, more

The eclipse has come and gone—don’t stay in the dark about several significant tech changes at MTSU.

The content of several key University webpages, and the procedures for logging in to them, have all changed since last spring—all related to a major upgrade to PipelineMT.

The RaiderNet identity for pages on PipelineMT was phased out as of Sept. 16, 2017. Related to this, the credentials you use to log in to PipelineMT, D2L, and SSC Campus, among others, have changed to be the same credentials you use for your MTMail account.

D2L and SSC Campus were changed in July and you should have received emails explaining this.

In the months leading up to Sept. 16, any other systems that use PipelineMT credentials were also changed.

Emails were sent to affected parties and a summary is at mtsu.edu/projects/pipelinemtupgrade.php.

PIPELINEMT/RAIDERNET CHANGES
PipelineMT is a portal that gives students single sign-on, secure access to their personal MTSU data.

Prior to Sept. 16, that information had only been available after clicking on the RaiderNet tab on PipelineMT.

The RaiderNet name was replaced on Sept. 16 with new webpages throughout PipelineMT that offer the same services and information.

PipelineMT is available from any computer (on or off campus) with an internet connection. You can access PipelineMT at mtsu.edu/pipelinetm or by clicking on the PipelineMT link on the MTSU home page.

If you forget your password or need a new password assigned, visit mtsu.edu/passwords.php or call the ITD Help Desk at 615-898-5345.

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Pokémon Go gamers subject of doctoral study

Have you ever told someone that your love for video games could have positive physical and academic benefits, only to face skepticism and even ridicule?

Take heart—Three MTSU doctoral students are seeking scientific proof.

Tyler Langford, one of the group, said they are wrapping up a nearly year-long study on whether Pokémon Go could improve physical activity.

“This game required players to walk around outdoors to play . . . Therefore, this game may have the potential to improve health outcomes if played regularly,” Langford said. “After playing the game ourselves, we became curious about the amount of increased physical activity among players, if any.”

The research project is required prior to their dissertation. The students received approval nearly a year ago and began collecting data immediately. They have now completed data collection and are analyzing it and writing their report.

Study volunteers had their level of physical activity measured using valid devices rather than subjective questionnaires.

“Participants were required to wear a physical activity monitor on their arm for seven days while continuing with their normal daily routine. We provided no intervention and avoided interference with their daily activities to truly assess normal behavior between players and non-players,” he said.

“Our physical activity monitor accurately estimated total energy expenditure differences between individuals who play and do not play Pokémon Go.”

A secondary interest was to assess factors that motivate people to play.

“For example, POGO offers an opportunity for individuals to replace potentially sedentary time (i.e., watching TV, playing games in home, etc.) with time spent ambulating while playing POGO. Hopefully, more games will be developed that promote physical activity among the population in such an enticing way.”

Anyone interested in similar future studies can email twl2q@mtmail.mtsu.edu.
Log-in changes, continued from page 1

**DESIRE2LEARN (D2L) CHANGES**

Important changes took place July 25 regarding your MTSU D2L username and password.

The web address for D2L on the MTSU webpage Quick Links and in PipelineMT was changed. For those who use the direct elearn log-in for D2L or bookmark that direct log-in, you will need to use this address instead:

https://elearn.mtsu.edu/d2l/lp/auth/saml/login

The credentials you use to log in to D2L were also changed. Sample credentials are shown below. Please make note of these changes.

- Username: xyz2a@mtmail.mtsu.edu
- Password: (use your MTMail password)

After the Sept. 16, 2017 switchover, PipelineMT no longer has an icon for D2L. But the MTSU webpage Quick Links section will continue to have a link for D2L.

**SSC CAMPUS SYSTEM CHANGES**

Another important change took place on July 31 for anyone who uses MTSU's SSC Campus system.

The credentials you use to log in to SSC Campus were changed. Sample student credentials are shown below. Please make note of these changes.

- Username: xyz2a@mtmail.mtsu.edu
- Password: (use your MTMail password)

As part of this change, the SSC Campus button on the PipelineMT login page changed to Schedule an Advising Appointment.

The button will still take you to the SSC Campus log-in page and can be used by students and advisors/faculty/staff.

The MTSU webpage Quick Links section also has a link labeled Schedule an Advising Appointment. And for a short time, we'll have a link labeled as SSC Campus on Quick Links as well. Both will take you to the SSC Campus login page.

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**ITD Help Desk: More than just a name**

If you have questions or encounter any problems related to ongoing changes to PipelineMT, Desire2Learn (D2L), or the SSC Campus system, contact the ITD Help Desk.

It is located in KUC 320 and can be reached at 615-898-5345 or by email at help@mtsu.edu.

The ITD Help Desk website is mtsu.edu/help/index.php.

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**Tech Xpress**

Makerspace String Race II

The first Makerspace String Race was held Aug. 8 on the second floor of the Walker Library. For highlights click here. A second String Race will be held this fall. For information on that and on Makerspace, visit library.mtsu.edu/makerspace.php.
Be a "Good Wi-Fi Citizen": Here are some do's and don'ts

It may not be obvious at first but what you do when you're in residence halls or classrooms, or walking around the MTSU campus, CAN affect Wi-Fi performance for those around you.

Setting up your own wireless hotspot or router will create connectivity issues for others—so cooperation and good etiquette is necessary for everyone to get the connection they need!

This is what being a good Wi-Fi citizen is all about.

Choose Your Connection Wisely

- SSID RESNETMT is the wireless network for on-campus housing residents.
- SSID WLANMTSU should be used in all academic buildings and other venues like athletics and the Student Union. There is an option for visitors without university credentials to connect as a guest user for 24-hour internet-only access in all locations excluding housing.
- Wired Connections have benefits: Wired connections in your dorm room are best for game consoles, DVRs, and TVs. Using a wired connection can allow game consoles to connect with the necessary ports, providing a better experience.

Stop Sending Mixed Signals

Because Wi-Fi networks use a range of radio frequencies that are unregulated and available for public use, many electronic devices and appliances exist which may cause interference and degrade the performance of the Wi-Fi Network.

Do not use personal Wi-Fi routers or hotspots

Personal Wi-Fi (wireless) routers (or rogue access points) significantly and negatively impact the campus Wi-Fi environment. They cause the campus Wi-Fi environment to deteriorate and in some cases can make Wi-Fi unusable by all.

If you have a situation that you believe requires a personal access point, please contact the Help Desk at 898-5345 or email help@mtsu.edu so we can assist you.

Unexpected Wi-Fi interferences

Wi-Fi signals can be negatively affected by a surprising number of household devices. Microwave ovens, cordless phones, wireless audio speakers, wireless clocks, projectors, cameras, and gaming console controllers use the same spectrum as the campus Wi-Fi network and can cause the signal to deteriorate. (see graphic below for details).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Device</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Suggested Solution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microwave Ovens</td>
<td>Very</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Keep microwaves away from computers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Routers</td>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>Very Long</td>
<td>Do not use your own router.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apple Time Capsules (Use only for data backup)</td>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>Very Long</td>
<td>Disable wireless, connect via Ethernet cable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Media Players (Apple TV, Roku, Chromecast, etc.)</td>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>Long</td>
<td>Disable device’s wireless, connect via cables.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Speakers</td>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Use wired speakers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wireless Gaming Controllers</td>
<td>Severe</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Keep devices powered off when not in use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bluetooth Devices</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Keep devices powered off when not in use.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certain Computer Displays</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Short</td>
<td>Power off monitor when not in use.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Fall 2017
Maybe you’re an incoming freshman who wants to master the software you’ll be using in that Animation or Recording Industry Class . . .

Or maybe you’re a senior looking to brush up on your job interview skills . . .

Or maybe you’re a little bored and still dream of being a video game designer?

Regardless of the reason, you’ve got a digital tutor ready to help you anytime and anywhere.

This is the second academic year the University is offering a valuable learning resource—access to the website Lynda.com.

The campus-wide Lynda.com subscription is a tremendous benefit for the University’s nearly 23,000 students.

With thousands of training videos, Lynda.com is designed to help anyone learn business, software, technology, and creative skills to achieve personal and professional goals.

Tutorials are available for writing, publishing, graphic design, animation, and audio/video programs; career fields like marketing, filmmaking, game creation, IT security, and web design; and even job skills such as time management and project coordination.

Some faculty members have been making tutorials part of their curriculum or recommending certain ones to help students be better prepared for assignments so classroom time is not spent teaching how to use basic programs.

But students also can use Lynda.com for learning any new personal or professional development skills—or just for fun.

Lynda.com access for MTSU students

Log in at myapps.microsoft.com. You will see the Microsoft Azure sign-in page. Students: If you are already an Office 365 user, you can access Lynda.com from portal.office.com/myapps.

Student startup: Under Work/School Microsoft Account credentials, enter your MTMail email address. (For example: If your MTMail email user name is zzz3z, you would sign in as zzz3z@mtmail.mtsu.edu). Type in your MTMail password.

Click the Sign-in button. *If you are prompted to choose a Work, School, or Personal account, then choose Work or School.

After the sign-in is complete, you should be taken to the Applications portal. From here you can click on Lynda.com and automatically be signed in to use the website.

Find these instructions and more, including tutorials, at mtsu.edu/lynda. Learn to use Lynda.com at this link.

Some Lynda.com Playlists

Following were the top Lynda.com tutorials being viewed at MTSU as of July 2017:

- Tableau 10 Essential Training
- Excel 2013 Pivot Tables
- Excel 2013 Essential Training
- Learning CentOS Linux
- Excel 2016 Essential Training

Below are some other popular tutorials on campus:

- Rigging for Animation
- Facebook Advertising Fundamentals
- iMovie 10.1.1 Essential Training
- PowerPoint 2016 Essential Training
- Twitter Essential Training
- Audio Recording Techniques
- Web Design Fundamentals
Microsoft Imagine Academy available

As a MS Imagine Academy member institution, MTSU is able to provide students access to Microsoft’s Imagine academy: a collection of learning resources and self-paced tutorials.

The materials are categorized into Productivity, Computer Science, and IT Infrastructure materials where users can search a catalog of more than 250 tutorials for self-directed learning.

Tutorials include:
- Productivity
- Office 2010/2013/2016, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Publisher, Access, OneNote, SharePoint
- Computer Science
- Software Development, Web Development, Microsoft.NET, Gaming, HTML5, Software Testing
- IT Infrastructure
- Windows, Windows Server, Networking, Database Fundamentals and Security

Student users can explore the catalog of courses and view self-paced tutorials on a wide variety of topics; upon completion of a tutorial, users can print a Completion Certificate to document their learning. Click on Learner Access on the left.

In addition, faculty members can create a collection of tutorials, send a Learning Plan to their students, and follow the progress as students complete the learning.

Or professors can download materials from the "Microsoft Official Academic Curriculum (MOAC)" and incorporate those materials into their classes.

For more information visit mtsu.edu/msitacad/.

Student Technology Assistant (STA) program

ITD’s Student Technology Assistant (STA) program is a classic win-win situation for all involved.

It gives students an opportunity to earn and learn while providing the first line of assistance to computer lab users, repairing equipment, and diagnosing tech problems.

The mission of the STA program is:
- To serve as a special opportunity for students to develop professional-level skills using information technology
- To help participating labs become student-centered, technology-based learning environments where students, faculty, and staff can use the latest computer technology available.

The STA program offers online training at three levels of expertise: Level I—beginning; Level II—a Microsoft certification; Level III—an advanced Microsoft certification.

Pay ranges depend on the lab and level of training completed:
- Adaptive Technology Center Level I (encouraged to complete Level II and Level III). Pay is $8–$11.
- Computer Science Lab Level II (encouraged to complete Level III). Pay is $8–$11.
- Help Desk—Level III. Pay is $8–$11.
- Library Level I (encouraged to complete Level II). Pay is $8–$9.
- University Lab Level II (encouraged to complete Level III). Pay is $8–$11.

All STA participants must complete the training level required of the lab at which they work by specific dates in order to remain employed. Students who would like to participate in the STA program will need to complete an application and skill level assessment.

To apply visit mtsu.edu/sta/. Be sure to click on the Submit button when you have completed each process.

Student Technology Handbook available online

A digital version of the Technology Handbook for students is now available on the ITD website.

Go to mtsu.edu/itd/publications.php.