



CNS /Update Newsletter Feature

iPhone: The Next Big Thing

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Telephone Changes

The University of Florida is moving toward the next big thing as it relates to telephones. It's called *IPhone*.

What is *IPhone*?

IPhone is a VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) system used for transporting voice via the Internet, intranet or data links to the Internet. The data network involved might be the Internet itself, or a corporate intranet, or managed networks used by local or long distance carriers and ISPs. Who runs the network doesn't matter -- what does is the fact that you're taking voice (i.e., analog information) and encoding it digitally, converting it into packets, and then using a data network to move those packets along the most efficient path to their destination, where they get reassembled and delivered in the format they started in: voice.

Where is *IPhone*?

The university is now beginning to leverage its network to provide *IPhone* services to faculty and staff. The first full implementations of *IPhone* services were provided in the Health Professions/Nursing/Pharmacy (HPNP) Complex Building and Rinker Hall. Since that time, *IPhone* has been installed in the New Accounting Building (Gerson Hall), Constans Theatre, and the new Orthopedics building. In fact, in all new construction projects on campus, *IPhone* will be the phone system installed.

Why *IPhone*?

This move to *IPhone* is allowing the university to save money while providing better service. By leveraging the investments made in the campus data network, the university will be able to reduce the cost required to maintain separate phone and data systems. With *IPhone*, they are the same thing. All voice communications travel over the same network that data communications travel and in the same fashion.

Currently, UF is looking into the benefits of deploying *IPhone* campus wide. This would allow the university to reduce the required services of public access carriers such as Bell South, thereby saving a substantial amount of money. Further, service requests for changes and additions to service will be easier, faster, and more economical since the work will be performed by UF workers. In the future, *IPhone* will be able to provide local calls to people around the world. Soon, you could dial a UF number and a phone will ring in Germany.

For More Information on *IPhone*

For more information on VoIP, see http://net-services.ufl.edu/provided_services/voip and <http://www.it.ufl.edu/telecom/I-Phone2.htm>. [<http://www.it.ufl.edu/telecom/I-Phone2.htm>]

Your Comments are Welcome

We welcome your comments and suggestions on this and all CNS documentation. Please send your comments to:

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