A. Networking

1. Significant improvements have been made to the campus data network. We have continued to make progress in expanding Wi-Fi in public spaces and residential halls. Additionally:
   a. Campus bandwidth was increased from 2 gigabits to 5 gigabits and a residential network reconfiguration was performed in response to student feedback.
   b. Wireless access points in residential suites are being re-positioned to provide maximum coverage and signal reliability. New access points have been installed in Fine Arts, Library, Javits, Gym, Stadium, Marine Sciences, Life Sciences and South P Lot’s Wolfie Hut.
   c. A new wireless configuration assistant, WolfieNet-Get-Connected, was implemented to help students properly configure the settings on their laptop computer, mobile device or tablet for a quicker and easier connection to the University’s main wireless network, WolfieNet-Secure.
      i. WolfieNet-Get-Connected only needs to be selected the first time a student attempts to connect to campus Wi-Fi. After that, students should regularly connect to WolfieNet-Secure for everyday wireless access.
   d. Suite areas in Mount, Gershwin and Whitman residential halls were wired for cable television.
   e. Wireless Guest Access is being refreshed to make it easier for visitors to access the Internet for browsing and e-mail without excessive overhead.

2. Lecture Hall 1 and Lecture Hall 2 on the second level of the Health Sciences Center were renovated to provide ethernet data ports at each seat in both halls to accommodate testing and other academic use.

3. Network switches in Marine Sciences were upgraded to 1 gigabit capacity and in-building wiring rehabilitation and wireless expansion is currently being planned.

4. The Psychology A building is undergoing extensive rehabilitation for both wired and wireless connections that are expected to be completed by January, 2012.
B. Software

1. In September, students will be able access software and applications previously only available from a SINC site using SINC site computers.
   a. The new Virtual SINC Site is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, from students’ personal computers via a Web browser. The service offers 75 software titles including Adobe CS5, Amos, ArcGIS, EndNote, Maple, MathType, Microsoft Office 2010, RAMAS, SPSS, and Mathematica. The virtual SINC Site is available to users of both Windows and Macintosh operating systems.
2. Stony Brook upgraded its SharePoint servers to SharePoint 2010 and students will notice a new user interface on their My Site pages. Additionally, a new login page was created for team site users. New functionality to view and edit documents directly in the Web browser is provided to site administrators who activate the new Office Web Apps feature.
3. Students may now download EndNote X5 for Windows from Softweb. EndNote X5 for Mac is expected to be released later this semester, and we will let you know when this is available. The latest version of this bibliographic software tool includes the ability to add and transfer file attachments to the Web, view and annotate PDF files, update a reference automatically, and cite while you write.

C. Teaching and Learning

1. Stony Brook’s popular lecture capture software, SBCapture, was recently upgraded to provide students with a more dynamic EchoSystem player. Students will now have the ability to bookmark sections of a lecture and start discussions using lecture collaboration tools. Additionally, students may now control playback via devices like an iPad.
2. Students who are enrolled in courses that utilize the Classroom Response System (a.k.a. clickers), can purchase clickers through Turning Technologies using school code “4sbu” or through the campus bookstore. Prices are expected to be lower through the website and students will be eligible for a $15 rebate during both the fall and spring semesters. There will be no registration fee and the bookstore will buy the clickers back from students at the end of each semester.
3. A new Collaborative Learning Area (CoLA) is finishing construction in the Physics Building and is expected to open later this fall.
4. The Fine Arts E-Media SINC Site was given a total overhaul this summer. All computers have been replaced with 2010 Mac Pros with 1080p resolution for high definition editing and brand-new MIDI keyboards. A high-definition projector was also installed and increased storage was added to the student Dropbox.
5. A new online course evaluation system will be implemented during the fall 2011 semester, replacing the formerly-used Scantron forms. There will be two course evaluation periods during the semester, including an early course assessment.
6. Two graduate courses were developed for Teaching Assistants in partnership with the Department of Technology & Society (EST 680, EST 681 Teaching, Learning and Technology I & II). These provide credit to TAs improving their teaching skills through The Faculty Center.

D. Help Desk

1. The Division of Information Technology has consolidated its Help Desks for all IT-related telephony, networking, account (usernames and passwords) and desktop systems support. Client Support is now the single point of contact on West Campus. Please contact Client Support at 2-9800 or via e-mail at supportteam@stonybrook.edu if you need IT assistance. Located on the fifth floor of the Melville Library, the Client Support Walk-in Center is open Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

E. Safety and Security

1. The Division of Information Technology worked closely with the Office of Emergency Management to recently implement SB Guardian, a mobile solution to provide enhanced communication mechanisms along with numerous features to increase student safety. Please ensure your information in the SOLAR System for SB Alert is up-to-date and visit SB Guardian before returning to campus.
2. The Division of Information Technology completed fiber upgrades in residential halls that will enable new annunciator capabilities via in-building fire alarm systems.

F. New Features in the SOLAR System

1. Students can now access textbook information in SOLAR during the registration process.
2. Mid-term grades can be viewed and tracked in SOLAR.
3. A one-step process in SOLAR now allows students to inactivate Campus Cash and Meal Plans at the same time.

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I would also ask as part of your preparation for your return to campus that you please review the University’s Use of Information Technology (P109) Policy.

Finally, please also be sure that when using an ethernet cable to connect to the campus network, you register your computer. You may review the guidelines for this requirement at our computer registration page before arriving on campus. Members of the Division of Information Technology will be available during opening weekend to assist students with computer registration and wireless connectivity on Sunday, Aug. 28, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. in both the SAC Traditions Lounge and in Client Support on the fifth floor of the Melville Library.