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## Wesleyan University Information Technology Services

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Dear Colleagues:

Congratulations to one and all for pulling together to graduate another fantastic Wesleyan class who we know will go out and change our world for the better! As we celebrate, let's slide into summer with our last *News from the CIO* of the semester (**our 40th edition!**), featuring:

- Workday GoLive is in **31 days!**
- Countdown to Lyris Shutdown
- Using Google Groups to create and manage email lists
- Exploring AI - new tools to know about
- Report from the Educause Cybersecurity and Privacy Professionals Conference
- Enterprise Systems Support for Workday GoLive

Off we go...

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### **Workday GoLive is in 31 days!**

Here is what you need to know... on July 1st, all Wesleyan employees will access their HR, Finance, and Payroll information via Workday.

Information about every aspect of the project can be found on the [project website linked in WesPortal](#).

On July 1st, there will be an additional link in WesPortal that will take you directly to Workday via Single Sign-on.

Please check your email for a more detailed message about the Workday rollout, including training opportunities, important deadlines, and acknowledgements of the individuals who have worked so tirelessly on your behalf to make this project a

Finance, Payroll, Human Resources, and ITS have given over the past year. As we replace our PeopleSoft system that we customized over the past 25 years, there are bound to be some changes that will take some getting used to. So, when you notice some of the improved workflow in the system, please thank [someone on the team...](#) and if you lament the loss of your favorite PeopleSoft idiosyncrasy, feel free to contact me directly. Thanks!

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### **Countdown to Lyris Shutdown**

In December we wrote about the retirement of Lyris and plans to replace it. The project is on schedule and Lyris will no longer work after June 30, 2024. During the past several months, there have been information sessions as well as targeted planning meetings with stakeholders across campus. Lyris is being replaced with two solutions which already exist in our environment: Salesforce Marketing Cloud (SFMC) and Google Groups. Please see the article below for information on Google Groups. Salesforce Marketing Cloud (SFMC) has limits to the number of users and will be restricted to large community communications. The folks who will use SFMC have been notified and training is occurring during May and June. There may still be those not aware of the Lyris change or how it may impact them. This [recording](#) of the Lyris information session may answer questions. Please contact Erik Quimby if you have been using Lyris and have not yet made arrangements to use another solution.


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### **Using Google Groups to create and manage email lists**

Google Groups is Wesleyan's solution to manage email lists, allowing you to send emails to and collaborate with groups of people using a single email address.

All Wesleyan Faculty, Staff, and Students can sign into Google Groups with

their Wesleyan SSO credentials. Simply select  Google Drive while

signed into WesPortal, then select the Google Apps "waffle" menu  at the top right, and scroll down to locate Google Groups.

and by viewing a [recorded Google Groups Instructional Session from 5/7/2024](#) .  
Please skip to minute 3:45 to begin.

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### **Exploring AI - new tools to know about!**

Another month, and another new generative AI update! In early May, OpenAI released a new version of its flagship generative AI tool, Chat-GPT 4o. You can read more about it, as well as licensing information, [here](#). Additionally, Microsoft's Copilot also became part of our institutional license. More information, including on how to access it, is available [here](#).

Please be advised, the generative AI tool landscape, including the tools and platforms we have a license for, continues to be ever shifting. While we encourage everyone to increase their familiarity with them, experimentation should not be done without an awareness of the ethical, social, and privacy implications of engaging with generative AI tools. A great place to start is with the [Libraries' guide to ChatGPT and other Generative AI](#).

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## **Conference**

Every year Educause, the umbrella organization for IT professionals in higher education, hosts their Cybersecurity and Privacy Professionals Conference (CPPC). At this year's CPPC, the overarching theme was generative AI (genAI). While you might think that the focus was on how to leverage generative AI for performing cybersecurity tasks, sessions that discussed genAI focused more on ensuring that appropriate cybersecurity and privacy protections were in place for genAI tools, such as our own Rachel Schnepfer's preconference seminar "Unintentionally Malicious Insiders: Managing Risk in the Age of Generative AI". Distilling many of the talks down, the core takeaway that I got from the CPPC conference is to ensure that we understand whether a given genAI tool is using input it receives to further refine its model so we can ensure that we are not creating cybersecurity risks for Wesleyan or privacy risks for the Wesleyan community. For information on how to use genAI tools at Wesleyan, head over to our Knowledge Base and search for "AI".

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## **Enterprise Systems Support for Workday GoLive**

The entire enterprise systems team has been working hard for the last 12 months in support of the Workday implementation. Thank you to all the offices that have supported us in this effort. The data team, comprised of our HR/Financial analyst programmers, was responsible for extracting, cleaning, validating, and loading millions of rows of data from three different databases into the Workday system. They had to ensure that the data is accurate, consistent, and compliant with the Workday standards and requirements. The data team has successfully completed over 50 separate data imports, covering various domains such as employee information, organizational structure, compensation, benefits, payroll, supplier information, and more. The data team has also fixed errors and discrepancies in the existing data set, improving the data quality and integrity.

The integrations team, comprised of our Student Systems analyst programmers and the Advancement Systems programmer analysts, was responsible for developing, testing, and deploying 75 distinct integrations that will connect the Workday system to our external partners and systems. The integrations team had to ensure that the integrations are secure, reliable, and scalable. The integrations team has worked with various stakeholders, such as banks, the

All the while, the team had to ensure that existing applications will continue to work and develop changes to numerous web applications and WesPortal to ensure that components that exist outside of Workday that used to rely on PeopleSoft will continue to function.

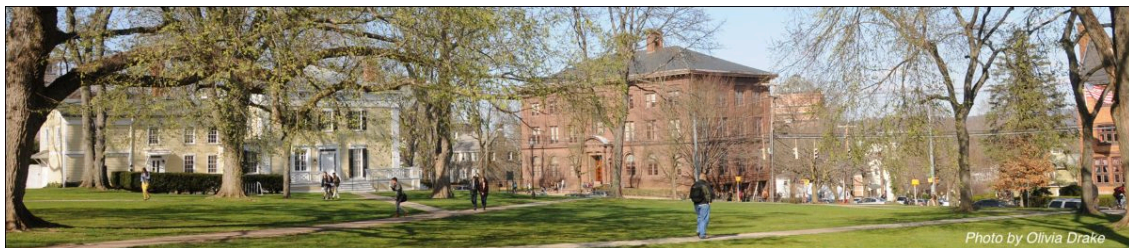
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Finally, as a reward for reading this far, here is your Random Seasonal Lyric... This month, I tip my hat to colleagues Nicole Stanton and Mike Whaley for their efforts is negotiating a smooth conclusion to the student protests on campus this spring. In that spirit, here is a snippet of "[We Can Work it Out](#)", written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, for the 1965 album Rubber Soul by the Beatles:

*Try to see it my way,  
Do I have to keep on talking till I can't go on?  
While you see it your way,  
Run the risk of knowing that our love may soon be gone.  
We can work it out,  
We can work it out...*

Until next time, please be in touch if you want more information on any of the above or if you have suggestions for future topics, and thanks for reading!

Dave Baird  
VP for IT & CIO



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