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March 2020
McMaster Connectivity Newsletter
For the IT community, by the IT community.

McMaster IT News

Thank you from the AVP & CTO

In her latest blog posts, AVP & CTO Gayleen Gray shares her thanks for your hard work and dedication in transitioning many of the university's activities online. In case you missed it, you can read Gayleen's insights on our collective successes and "gratitude as an immune booster" via the CTO website.

AVP & CTO Updates

McMaster IT Virtual Coffee Chat: April 1st

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1, 2020
10:00 A.M - 11:00 A.M.

MCMASTER IT VIRTUAL COFFEE CHAT

GRAB YOUR FAVOURITE MUG & JOIN US FOR A COFFEE/TEA SOCIAL.

This gathering is a celebration of our collective work to transition the university online.

Let's connect!

The entire IT community truly banded together to help our students, faculty, and staff transition to an online environment. Thank you for your hard work over the past few weeks and your creativity and collaboration as you solve challenges in the weeks ahead. Please join IT colleagues for an **online coffee chat via Microsoft Teams** to celebrate our successes and create a virtual space to share ideas and feedback. **Session will run from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**
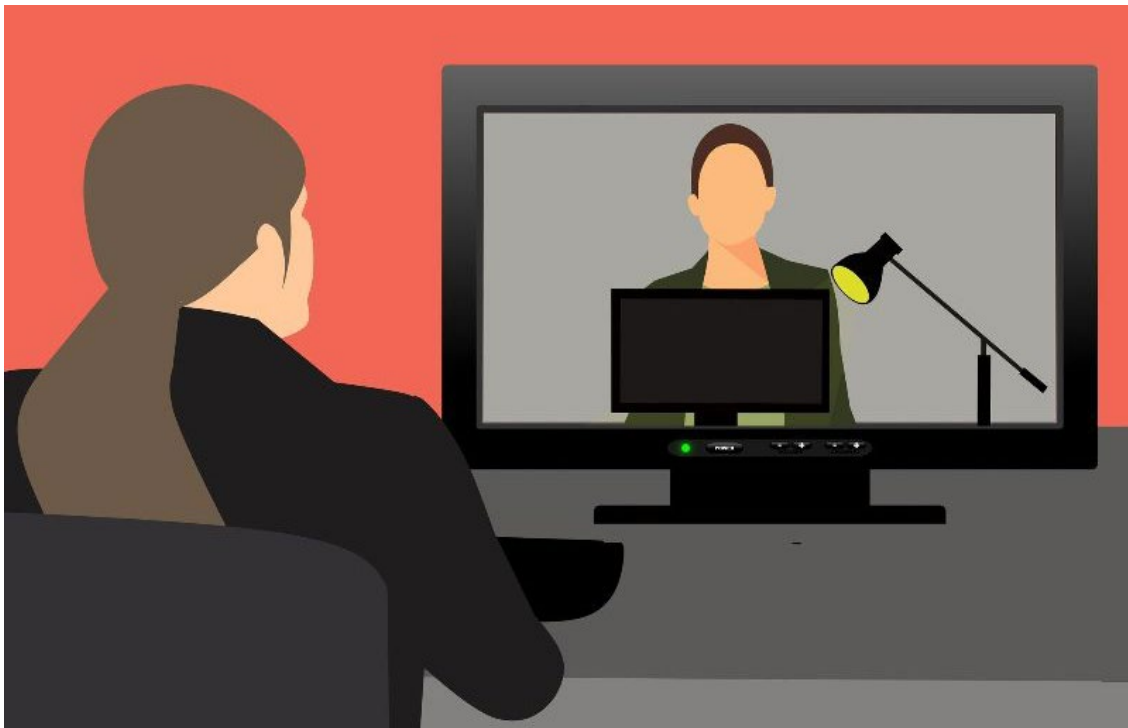
IT Continuity Tools & Services

As many of the university's activities transitioned online over the past two weeks, the IT community quickly prepared a range of resources to support McMaster students, staff, and faculty.

- [IT tools and services supported by University Technology Services (UTS)](#)
- [The MacPherson Institute's page on instructional continuity resources](#)
- [Faculty of Engineering's Virtual Teaching Resources](#)

There are likely many more resources not captured here — please feel free to share them with the Office of the AVP & CTO so this work can be amplified. Email tawsm1@mcmaster.ca (Mary Taws, Acting Manager, Communication & Culture) with this information.

Cyber Security Resources for Working Remotely

We all have a role to play in keeping information secure at McMaster. Your responsibilities as a member of the extended IT Security team are to **Identify, Report,** and **Delete.** From information on "zoom bombing" to instructions on how to report a phishing scam, this is a one-stop cyber security resource for the McMaster community as many activities move online. Please feel free to share

this with your colleagues and departments to help protect McMaster's online environment.

Access Resources

Web and Video Conferencing Tips for the McMaster Community

There are several McMaster-supported services that allow you to virtually connect for a meeting, a seminar, or team collaboration. With so many options, it can be challenging to decide which platform is right for you. This article provides resources and quick tips to master the art of videoconferencing, as well as a breakdown of the advantages and potential use cases for each McMaster-provided video conferencing service.

View Tips

Temporary Work from Home Services

Adobe Creative Cloud Temporarily Available to ALL Students

The Adobe Creative Cloud is temporarily available to McMaster students. This service includes programs such as Photoshop, InDesign, and Premiere Pro. A big thank you to John Bell, Maxwell vanOverdijk, and the Faculty of Humanities team for working with Adobe to make this temporary service possible!

Virtual UTS Labs

This virtual desktop service allows users to access UTS Student Labs anywhere there is internet connectivity. At this time, the Virtual Desktop service (VMware Horizon Client) has a capacity for 330 simultaneous users to access licensed software, such as Autodesk Inventor, ASPEN and more! This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. More information available here.

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