



BITS AND BYTES

Volume 3, No 2 | May 2011

A Newsletter from the UCHC Information Technology Department

Inside this issue:

Banner Fair—Farewell to FRS and HRS

JDH Introduces Patient E-cards

Large File Transfers? Try FT Direct!

Announcing New Research Data Capture Tool: REDCap

UMG Meaningful Use Incentives: The Race is On!

Personal Cellular Phones Donated

Governor Uses BMC Production Studio

Library's EFTS System Supports Libraries Worldwide

Banner Fair: Farewell to FRS and HRS

A Banner and HuskyBuy Fair has been scheduled for May 10th in the Onyiuke Dining room. This event will be an opportunity to learn more about several of the new Banner, Budget and HuskyBuy applications that will retire FRS, HRS, Travel Authorization and Assignment Authorization systems in time for the new fiscal year (7/1/11). Over the last few months significant testing, training development, go-live prep and communications have been the focus of the entire project team. Training information will be disseminated this month.

Please join us on May 10 between 11AM and 1PM for retirement cake, Banner-HuskyBuy information, free gifts and live demonstrations of several of these new products.



For more information on the Banner Project, go to the Banner Project website: <http://banner.uchc.edu>

JDH Introduces Patient E-cards

Families and friends can now send their thoughts and best wishes with an eCard to patients at JDH from anywhere in the world via the Health Center's web site. Working with the Office of Communications and Volunteer Services, the BMC team created an internet site, accessible from the Patient Services site, to allow users to select from various color photos and add their own custom text messages to their cards. Cards are printed at the main Volunteer Desk for delivery each day. We are currently getting several messages a day and patients clearly love getting the cheery cards. See <http://ecard.uchc.edu>

For more information, please contact Bill Hengstenberg at x2416.



Large File Transfers? Try FTDirect!

FTDirect is a newly installed product that assists with large file transfers to and from UCHC. FTDirect provides a way to securely bypass the size limitations of email attachments without losing the simple, easy to use interface. FTDirect can be used through a web interface, or as a plug-in to your Outlook e-mail client. FTDirect also scans for viruses, encrypts data transmissions, and can optionally provide notifications when a package is successfully downloaded by the recipient.

If you feel FTDirect could help you or the people you support, contact the Help Desk at x4400 for installation and usage guides.



Announcing New Research Data Capture Tool: REDCap

IT Research Informatics has acquired and installed an electronic data capture (EDC) tool called Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap). REDCap is a secure, web-based database designed exclusively to support data capture for research studies. It provides an intuitive interface for data entry and validation, audit trails for tracking data manipulation, automated export procedures for seamless data downloads to common statistical packages (SPSS, SAS, Stata, R), procedures for importing data from external sources, and advanced features, such as branching logic and calculated fields. In addition, REDCap has a module for designing and serving web-based surveys (similar to SurveyMonkey.com).

For more information, please contact Khamis Abu-Hasaballah at x8141.

UMG Meaningful Use Incentives: The Race is On!

2011 was off to a quick start as a "triathlon" began to install NextGen Meaningful Use (MU) software upgrades in time for 2011 EP incentive readiness!

Leg 1: In three months the team has tested 4 version code releases, which included a complete rewrite of the Orders Module and retesting of all interfaces. These were installed the weekend of 4/30 – 5/1 as the "application race" was completed.

Leg 2: Template upgrades for meaningful use are now in progress. There are a total of 6 patch releases which will bring the system current with screen changes needed to support MU measures. Analysis is well underway, and once this has been installed, the team will pass the baton to the final runners.

Leg 3: Providers already live on NextGen will need to be trained on MU measures and how they work in the system to ensure they capture the data required to qualify for MU reporting for the last 90 days of the calendar year 2011.

A MU Committee with multi-department representation meets monthly to update status and discuss issues. As the implementation team races to complete software implementation, many other staff members are involved in working through policies and procedures for processes that may require modification and education. The requirements seem daunting at times, but we are well on our way and on target to demonstrate our commitment to providing quality care and achieving MU incentives!



For more information, please contact Kathy Noel at x6257.

Personal Cellular Phones Donated

The IT Department recently collected old cellular phones for The Charitable Recycling Foundation. Bert Romeo, Project Manager, spearheaded the collection effort by contacting the Cell Phone Bank directly and posting collection boxes in prominent locations within the department.

In total, employees donated 28 personal cell phones that were no longer being used that have been turned over to the organization who distributes them to victims of domestic violence through partner agencies nationwide.

For more information, please contact Bert Romeo at x8054.



Governor Uses BMC Production Studio

Did you know that several Connecticut state agencies use the state-of-the-art multimedia production services available in UCHC's Bio-medical Communications department?

Recently, Governor Malloy came to UCHC to tape a video presentation. Other agencies, including the State Attorney General, State Treasurer, Public Health, Social Services, and Environmental Protection have made use of our sophisticated capabilities. The Office of Policy and Management has commented that this is a "win-win" for all, as our charges are typically less than outside production companies, the funds stay within the state system so there is little impact on the overall state budget, and the billing process is very simple—just a State Transfer Invoice, so no complicated contracts and bidding. The additional funds coming into BMC from outside UCHC help to subsidize the department allowing us to provide higher quality services to the Health Center community with less impact on the UCHC budget. It also gives the production crew a chance to do something different and work with a diverse scope of clients around the state.

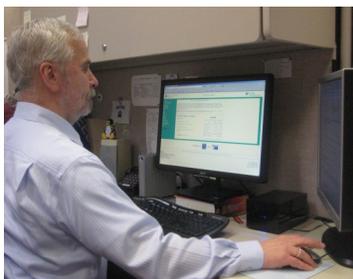
For more information, please contact Bill Hengstenberg at x2416.



The BMC production crew working with Governor Malloy on his budget preview message.

Library's EFTS System Supports Libraries Worldwide

With funding from the National Library of Medicine, the LM Stowe Library has created and manages a program called Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS). This program allows health sciences libraries to process payments for articles they "borrow" from each other without having to generate costly invoices and checks for each article. The UCHC Library alone processes 13,000-15,000 inter-library loan (ILL) transactions per year. At present approximately 1,400 libraries worldwide rely on EFTS to process and pay their ILL transactions.



Steve Bazinet

Members include the National Library of Medicine, the CDC, Johns Hopkins, Yale, Harvard, UCLA, McMaster University in Canada, the University of Guam and the Karolinska Institutet, Sweden, just to name a few.

With the help of application developer Steve Bazinet, the aging system has been upgraded to a three-tier architecture that provides a robust system that is fast, secure, easy for our member to use, easy to maintain and allows for enhancements that are crucial to our members.

For more information, please contact Evelyn Morgen at x3323.



ABOUT BITS AND BYTES

BITS AND BYTES is distributed periodically by the Information Technology Department. Submit suggestions to the email address below.

Editor: Tara Rousseau
 Phone: 860-679-4255
 Address: 16 Munson Rd., Farmington, CT 06030
 Email: rousseau@uchc.edu

We're on the Web!

<http://itweb.uchc.edu/>