

Thomas K. Hearn, Jr.

President

August 20, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Reynolda Campus Faculty and Staff

RE: Replacement of Administrative Software systems

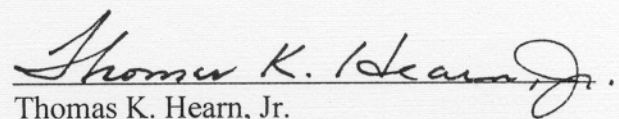
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As many of you may know, Wake Forest University conducted a major analysis of the University's administrative computing needs during the past year. This review was necessitated by the obsolescence of the Hewlett Packard mini-computers upon which our administrative software operates. Following a detailed examination, a cross-campus project team concluded that Wake Forest should proceed with a replacement strategy centered around the SCT Banner software suite and the Open Source Linux Operating System. Though necessitated by the impending obsolescence of our computing systems, this project offers Wake Forest a unique opportunity to become more effective in delivering services to our community of students, faculty, staff, parents, and alumni.

The success of this program, which has been named Link, will depend upon the commitment, creativity, and cooperation of staff and faculty throughout the University. This will also mean change for many of us. This change is not an end in itself but is necessary to ensure that the University delivers outstanding services in the most fiscally responsible manner, thus allowing Wake Forest to sustain its tradition of offering a premier educational experience at a superior value.

Faculty, staff, and students who are interested in learning about this initiative are invited to attend a campus-wide briefing to launch Program Link on Monday, September 15, 2003, from 2-3 p.m. in Pugh Auditorium. Questions concerning the program may be directed to the Information Systems Help Desk at [help@wfu.edu](mailto:help@wfu.edu) for routing to an appropriate member of the Link team.

Link's success ultimately depends significantly on the willingness of all of us to adopt new processes and routines in place of familiar ones, when this is necessary for the benefit of the University and its constituents. I am confident that the Wake Forest community consists of individuals who have both the capacity and the dedication to execute such a mission.

  
Thomas K. Hearn, Jr.