



October 2025

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It's Time for Our Annual Cybersecurity Showdown!

To celebrate National Cybersecurity Awareness Month, ITS is kicking off its annual challenge, Cyberween (formerly known as the Cyber Bowl), to bring awareness and education to cybersecurity threats.

FSU will compete against 11 other Florida universities, including rivals UF and UCF.

The school with the highest percentage of game entries from students and employees will be crowned Cyber Security Champion.

The online Cyberween game is designed to test students' and employees' defense against cyberthreats. Players enter a virtual haunted house and take on five cybersecurity scenarios, ranging from phishing emails to fraudulent logins, to help their school bring home the cybersecurity championship.

FSU will give away two \$500 student scholarships and one pair of tickets to a randomly selected faculty or staff participant for the FSU vs Virginia Tech football game at Doak Campbell Stadium on November 15th.

Visit its.fsu.edu/cyberween from Oct. 20-31 to participate and help us secure the cybersecurity crown!

Participate Today

ITS News

Exadata Database Migration

As part of our ongoing efforts to enhance system performance, reliability and scalability, we are migrating our Exadata database platform throughout the coming weeks. This change affects applications and systems currently connecting to enterprise databases. You'll experience a more seamless experience across applications, faster response times and improved reliability.

ITS Alignment

Information Technology Services (ITS) has been working in close partnership with IT resources across campus departments as part of our IT services optimization efforts. We have been conducting comprehensive technology assessments, covering topics such as infrastructure, servers, endpoint devices, security, staffing and management. As we gain a clear understanding of your department's current IT landscape, we are providing key recommendations, working collaboratively to develop strategies for improved IT service delivery.

We sincerely thank everyone who has contributed their time, expertise and effort throughout this process. Your collaboration with ITS reinforces our shared commitment to advance FSU's academic and research mission.

Next steps include continued dialogue around assessment findings, working together to support risk reduction, system enhancements and IT optimization.

Zoom Phone Project Update

We are thrilled to share a Zoom Project update with all ITS staff. To date, more

than 4,000 phone lines and 1,000+ users have been successfully migrated to Zoom Phone. Additional progress includes:

- 33 analogue gateways installed
- 11 auto receptionists configured
- 46 shared lines established
- 29 physical phones deployed

Our team has met individually with over 50 departments to better understand their telephony needs, and we're preparing for another major migration scheduled for November 4. Stay tuned!

RightFax Expansion Modernizes Secure Faxing Across Campus

ITS partnered with departments to transition legacy analog lines to the enterprise RightFax platform, improving security, reliability and remote accessibility while reducing departmental costs and reliance on physical hardware. Campuswide discovery interviews helped the team verify line ownership, validate document types and confirm security/compliance requirements. These sessions positioned us for a smooth transition to a secure, fully digital faxing experience. The service now offers a web client to send/retrieve faxes from anywhere, disaster-recovery readiness, email notifications on receipt and a searchable fax history/audit trail. To date, 125 analog lines have been ported to the centralized service, with additional new departments onboarding next.

AWS Research Day 2025

FSU students and faculty recently joined AWS experts here on campus for **AWS Research Day**. Participants received hands-on instruction on leveraging powerful tools to support academic research, increase productivity, and enhance instructional strategies.

AWS empowers researchers and academic institutions with scalable, secure, solutions that drive innovation with data storage, high-performance computing and advanced analytics. Topics included how to leverage AWS tools to improve data processing, collaboration across institutions, and reproducibility of results. AWS research tools help FSU advance scientific discovery and streamline grant-funded projects.

Google Day 2025

As part of the Google for Education initiative, FSU offers free, secure Google tools that transform the way our students learn, and our faculty teaches.

Nearly 1500 FSU students and faculty attended **Google Day** on September 24 where Google experts provided hands-on instruction on leveraging powerful AI tools, such as **Gemini** and **NotebookLM**, to support research, increase productivity, and enhance instructional strategies. These tools streamline course management, enhance student engagement, and simplify administrative tasks,

while students benefit from secure, easy access to resources, real-time feedback, and tools that foster creativity and critical thinking.

ITS wins CSO Award for Third-Party Risk Management Program

FSU ITS recently had the privilege of winning a CSO award for our third-party risk management program. The program was designed for ITS to identify and mitigate any risks associated with external vendors and partners. This ensures that university data is protected, and third-party vendors are in compliance with FSU standards. FSU IT managers **Keith Bennett** and **Jeremy Anderson** created the software by identifying critical data elements and designing a tool based on FSU's set third-party vendor management standard. Keep up the great work, **Bill Hunkapiller** and the Information and Security Office!

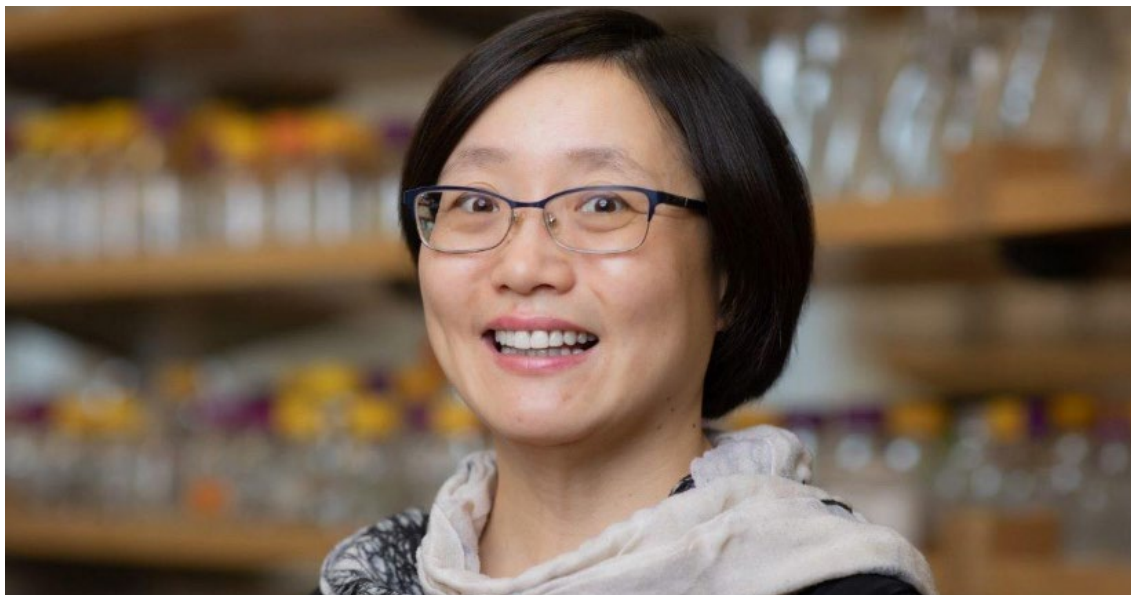
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Whether it is an event your team is planning, an award your employee received or a project update, we want to hear from you. Submit today for your chance to be featured in next month's edition of *PursuITS*!

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@FSU



FSU Scientist Dr. Yan-Yan Hu Develops Advanced Energy Storage Technologies

Dr. Yan-Yan Hu is a full professor at Florida State University's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Her research specializes in advanced energy storage technologies and protein-protein interactions. FSU's **Research Computing Center** enables Dr. Hu to model materials, evaluate their stability and links structural characteristics to functional properties.

FSU Testing Center Featured in New FSU Ad

In July, FSU University Marketing contacted the Testing Center with the opportunity to star in their newest marketing ad. The Testing Center was thrilled to participate in the commercial, which now airs both locally and nationwide, including during Florida State football games. The video highlights just how excited and supportive we are of our students off the field as our students on the field. This successful project sets the stage for even stronger collaboration between ITS and University Marketing as we show the world what we have to offer.

[Watch Here](#)

We Are IT



We Are IT | Meet Blaine Fasone!

Meet **Blaine Fasone**! As an ERP analyst I, **Blaine Fasone** supports the Office of Student Finance's enterprise applications. When's he not at work, you can find him browsing Reddit, learning about astronomy and exploring everything that Tallahassee has to offer.

Meet Blaine

Happy Anniversary!

Happy work anniversary to all the ITS employees celebrating milestone anniversaries with FSU this month.

40 Years

Lewis Thurston

20 Years

Sarah Mahler
Rose Cook
Geoffrey Burda

15 Years

Kiara Sullivan
Jan Condon

10 Years

James Shaw

5 Years

Paul Tullo
Clifford Stokes
Katrina Haseman
Adeluis Silva

1 Year

Rian Jackson
Alison LaTorre
India Bryant
Arianna Bekas
Nina Kostic

Shout Outs

Max Carraway Nominations

Florida State University annually recognizes USPS and A&P employees with the Max Carraway Employee of the Year Award. ITS' very own **Arthur Cooper**, **David Plichta**, **Rachel Stys** and **Nicholas Villane** have had the privilege of being nominated for the Max Carraway Employee of the Year Award for their hard work and determination in the workplace. Congratulations **Arthur**, **David**, **Rachel** and **Nicholas** on your nomination, ITS wishes you all luck!

FSU Opens New Campus in West Palm Beach

On September 16, FSU celebrated the grand opening of its newest location at The Press building in West Palm Beach, Florida. FSU alumnus Ben Macfarland donated a 2,900 square foot commercial space, dedicated to exploring innovation and

collaboration at FSU. As part of this expansion, **Giovanni Lopez and the ITS Networking Team** set up the networking at FSU's newest campus. Congratulations on a job well done!



"Working for FSU has been a pleasure, my biggest career challenge to date. The impacts I've made via Technology and Games goes beyond anything I would have imagined. It only takes a creative spark or idea to ignite the passion and commitment that embodies the staff, faculty and students to achieve amazing things here! I look forward to my newest adventure leading FSU's Garnet Gaming Lounge and Esports. I am thankful for the FSU partners and communities that made it possible."

Matt Nelson, eSports Program Manager

Count IT

16,262

Qualtrics surveys created in FY2025

Join IT

Join our team! [Browse IT job openings at FSU.](#)



[Assistant Athletic Director- Information Technology](#)
[Director, Research Technology](#)
[IT Support Services Manager](#)
[InfraOps Reliability Administrator](#)

Calendar



**Garnet and Gold
Tailgate**
10/11



**ITS Intern Coffee
Hour**
10/15



**Cyberween
Begins**
10/20



FSU
**INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

Questions?

We are here to help. Contact the ITS Service Desk at 850-644-4357 or its.fsu.edu/help.

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