The original engineering college ‘virtual lab’ (VLAB1), introduced in 2013 consists of available computers (20 available by day, 50 by night) for student use. These computers do not reside in a physical lab space, but are accessible anywhere (on or off campus) by using remote connection software.

VLAB 2 is an additional 20 systems available as a scheduled resource for a special event or project, or can be used to expand the existing bank of available ‘virtual lab’ machines. VLAB2 may be scheduled for use with online courses.

The following are listed as “probably computer intensive” in the academic catalogue, and therefore may benefit from having the VLAB2 available:

- ME 478 DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF MECHATRONIC SYSTEMS
- MSE 464 COMPUTATIONAL MATERIALS SCIENCE
- MSE 465 APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICA FOR MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
- ME 478 DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF MECHATRONIC SYSTEMS
- CE 284 CIVIL ENGINEERING COMPUTATIONAL METHODS
- CE 402 COMPUTATIONAL TECHNIQUES
- MSE 464 COMPUTATIONAL MATERIALS SCIENCE
- MSE 465 APPLICATIONS OF MATHEMATICA FOR MATERIALS SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Stay tuned for more information about this additional college of engineering computing resource.
The Computer Science department will move into the new downtown location (projected date is August 1st). The COEN IT Services team will be focused on ensuring a smooth transition.

Ben Peterson, CS Systems Engineer, will then move to the new building in order to support CS staff and faculty.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- 7/11: last day to submit computer lab changes
- 8/15: faculty back
- 8/15 – 8/21: COEN Computer Labs Closed for Maintenance
- 8/16: summer session grades due
- 8/22: fall session begins

**Microsoft Office Software for Faculty/Staff Personal Computers**

Microsoft Office 365 is available for free to Boise State faculty and staff for personally-owned computers.

Under the Microsoft Office Student Advantage program, actively-employed faculty and staff may download and install Office on up to five personal computers at no charge.

Traditional versions of Microsoft Office software featuring additional applications or services are also available at a modest cost to faculty and staff.

Details about these Microsoft Office offerings, along with download information, are available on the University's Office of Information Technology’s website at https://oit.boisestate.edu/software/microsoft-office/
FAST MALWARE FACTS

There are 1 million new malware threats daily


MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LABS

http://coen.boisestate.edu/its/welcome/computer_labs/

COEN P-CARD PILOT

The COEN P-Card pilot increased card limits for cardholders, making it simpler to process transactions up to $2,999 (the monthly limit has not changed). Software purchases may be purchased on a P-card, but may still require Legal’s review if the vendor requires Boise State to sign a Software Level Agreement.

This pilot does not change organizational rules and regulations regarding computer purchases, which still need to be issued to OIT Purchasing by organizationally approved staff. Computers may not be purchased on p-cards.

Computer peripherals such as keyboards and mice may be purchased by p-card holders using the OfficeMax contract. Other parts and peripherals are allowed for purchase on approved websites such as Amazon or NewEgg.

For assistance with questions about IT purchasing matters, contact coenits@cs.boisestate.edu.

Are YOU Ready for Windows 10?

Windows 10 is available to faculty, staff, or students for installation on laptops and desktops. It’s currently running on all-in-one systems in MEC201 and MEC301 conference rooms.

Computer Labs: Did You Know?

Engineering has a variety of department specific and open to all engineering student Windows labs, including remotely available lab solutions (VLAB).

Consoles have an available Windows Box and a Linux console for various purposes.

Desktops with dual boot Windows and Linux functionality are in the MEC 103 computer lab.
Need Software in Engineering Computer Labs?

If additional software is required for inclusion on engineering lab systems for the fall 2016 semester, the COEN IT Services department would like to hear from you (and have the software) by **July 11th**.

SolidWorks, LabVIEW, Mathematica and Matlab are just a few of the applications already on the list for inclusion and updating for fall.

For more information about software currently available in COEN Computer labs, please visit [https://coen.boisestate.edu/its/coen-windows-labs-software/](https://coen.boisestate.edu/its/coen-windows-labs-software/)

### NEW Systems in the ENGR 238 Lab (arriving fall 2016)

The 33 four-year old desktops in the ENGR 238 computer lab will be upgraded to HP engineering-grade Z240 Tower workstations, configured with these hardware specifications:

- **i5 Processor**
- **16GB of RAM**
- **500GB solid state drives**
- **1GB NVidia NVS 310 graphics cards**

Other fall 2016 computer lab improvements:

- New keyboards/mice in ENGR 238 & ENGR 212
- New 500GB solid state drives in MEC103
COEN IT SERVICES STAFFING CHANGES

David Carattini:
New Systems Administrator joined COEN IT Services in February 2016 from Micron, where he was an HCL Information Technology support contractor.

Marty Lukes:
After 18 years of IT service to Mathematics, Computer Science and the College of Engineering, Senior Systems Engineer Marty Lukes retires at the end of June.

KESTREL (High Performance Computer Cluster) Facts:
Total number of jobs completed in the last 6 months: 10,620
Total number of Kestrel User Accounts: 66

Departments Using the Cluster:
- Biology
- Computer Science
- Civil Engineering
- Chemistry
- Geosciences
- Geophysics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Micron School of Material Science
- Physics

Average CPU Utilization: 48.95%
Average GPU Utilization: 65.71%
The Offices of Institutional Compliance and Ethics and General Counsel have directed the Offices of Communications & Marketing and Information Technology to facilitate a University initiative ensuring all Boise State WordPress websites meet WCAG 2.0 Level AA accessibility standards.

These standards will not limit the types of content or messaging placed on your websites; rather, they will ensure that content delivery methods are in compliance with relevant current accessibility standards.

The University requires all website administrators to attend website accessibility training sessions.

These 90-minute sessions will review general accessibility standards, and discuss using the Siteimprove tool to identify and remediate accessibility issues on your sites.

Browse to https://oit.boisestate.edu/accessibility to register for a training session. If you have extenuating circumstances which prohibit you from attending one of the training sessions, please contact Annie Kerrick, Director of ADA/504 Compliance to arrange training.

The goal of this web accessibility initiative is to ensure that all people can effectively access and use current and future web-based content hosted by the University.

Please look for further communications regarding trainings, standards, and support in the coming months.
Back Up Your PC’s Data!

Local hard drive files (computer’s c:\ location) are not automatically backed up.

Important documents should be saved to a COEN network server (L: U: or W: drives are backed up nightly), GoogleDocs (unlimited space), Dropbox, thumb/flash or external backup drive to protect your data (even if your system crashes).

Remember to back up routinely and often (old backups won’t include the latest updates to files & documents).

Boise State and ENGR domain servers (holding all your network files) ARE BACKED UP NIGHTLY

Articles &Newsletter by M. Moore