

## From Doors to Debit Cards – New Smart Card Offers Convenience

Think about how convenient your workday would be if you had one card that would not only unlock your doors, but also serve as your ID badge and as a debit card for purchases in the café or bookstore.

This scenario will soon become a reality at San Juan College with the new Smart Card system. Provided by Blackboard, a national company that sells technology products specific to higher education, the cards will replace the current keyless entry system that unlocks approximately 80 doors campus-wide. With the implementation of the new card, an additional 20 doors will be configured to use the keyless system. The Office of Technology Services teamed up with the Physical Plant to find an updated program to replace the current one, which operates off of the aging DOS computer system.

“Using the old DOS system is not only more time consuming to operate, but costly as well,” explains Garry Smothers, assistant director of SJC Physical Plant. “Many of the replacement parts are expensive and difficult to find, and the keycards are no longer being made, so replacing them or issuing new ones was becoming a concern.”

### *Staying Security Smart*

The new Smart Card is Windows based, and synchronizes with the other technologies being implemented campus wide, including Datatel and the fire alarm system. It also offers a variety of benefits, especially where increasing security is concerned.

Along with being used as an employee ID, the new Smart Card system will allow campus locksmith Bob James to program each individual card for after-hours access to one or more doors.

“It also offers a great deal of flexibility to make any revisions, explains Paul Holmes, OTS assistant chief information officer. “For instance, if an employee normally has access to the technology buildings, but for some reason needs access on a particular weekend to the Henderson Fine Arts Center, we can activate that employee’s card to specify the days and times he or she can get into the building.”

This also will serve well for consultants or authorized visitors who may need access during off-hours. The card could be programmed with an activation and expiration date for whatever time period was necessary.

Having the keyless entry on 100 outside doors will also prove beneficial should someone lose their card. “It can be expensive and time consuming to change locks in the buildings that use traditional metal keys,” says Bob James, who will serve as the Smart Card lock administrator. “With the Smart Card, employees can call us as soon as they know their card is missing, and we can immediately deactivate the lost card and give them a replacement.”

### *Students Get Smart Card IDs*

Along with the immediate security advantages, the Smart Card system will also generate new student IDs. Students will use it in the same ways as their current ID – for registration and access to the library and the HHPC fitness center.

An additional feature of the student ID will be a tracking mechanism for printing in the computer lab. A number of pages considered adequate for each student’s needs will be allotted each semester. Should a student exceed that allotment, they can then go to the business office and add to their Smart Card account.

### *Staying Smart for the Future*

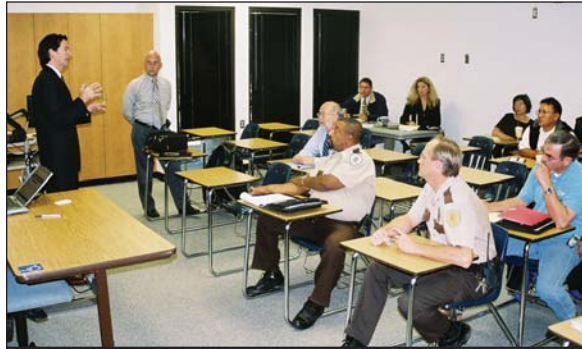
“We’re really excited about all the features this particular piece of technology can do for San Juan College,” adds Shah Ardalan, vice president for

Technology Services. “Not only will it increase security on campus, but it also will save in the overhead costs of staff’s time in dealing with the old system, as well as lessen the cost of paper and toner in student labs. We expect that the new system will pay for itself within a few years.”

While OTS has plans to implement the keyless entry and ID features of the card in early 2006, they hope to add the debit card benefits within a year’s time.

The debit card feature will work similar to a bank card, where employees can purchase items in the café and bookstore by simply swiping the card. The purchases would then be deducted from employees’ paychecks.

Garry Smothers compliments the teamwork among OTS, the Physical Plant and Security for making the Smart Card a reality. “This is in everyone’s interest to improve security and offer another level of customer service.”



*C.J. Golinar and John Kernitzki of Blackboard explain the benefits of Smart Card during the project kick-off session.*

## Technically Speaking – Has my identity been stolen?

*This is the final article in our three part series of “Protecting Your Identity.”*

Most victims of identity theft don’t realize that their identity has been used until they apply for a loan and their credit report comes up bad. To find out if you’re a victim, get a copy of your credit report from one of the three major credit reporting agencies: Equifax at [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com); Experian at [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com); or TransUnion at [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com).

Check the reports for unusual activity, bad addresses, employers that you have not worked for, and names other than your own. These are signs that someone else may be using your credit. For more information, visit these sites: <http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft/>, or <http://www.bbbonline.org/idtheft/>.

You can also purchase fraud monitoring from one of the major credit reporting agencies or purchase identity theft insurance from a major insurance company.

# OTS Shares Solutions



OTS recently participated in the CHECS conference by sending a sizable team of managers, coordinators, and technical staff to attend and present some of the many interesting technology-related activities at San Juan College. Other SJC individuals also represented the College by either participation and/or making presentations. Here are brief summaries of the OTS presentations:

**Where Did That PC Go?** – *Beth Dalton* and *Nathan Bachert* provided examples of solutions used by SJC-OTS for managing and tracking PC's and laptops. They demonstrated the web-based application, which was developed in-house.

**Implementing Video over IP using VBrick** – *Shelley Mulligan* and *Mike McDonald* presented the design and implementation process of VBrick. Video over IP was the last part of successful convergence of data, voice, and video at San Juan College.

**Implementing a new ERP—Lessons Learned** – *Lawrence Jones* and *Paull Holmes* led a panel discussion regarding the successful implementation of Datatel at San Juan College, as well as other implementations of the program throughout the state.

**Portals vs. Websites: MySJC Portal at San Juan College** – *Nathan Bachert* demonstrated the advantages of the portal over the intranet including single sign on and systems integration.

**Tablet PC in Higher Education** – *J. Reid Anderson* and *Nicole Tucker* demonstrated the many benefits of the Tablet PC including note-taking capability, speech recognition and mobility.

Congratulations to the SJC team, as I have received several verbal and written praises for the SJC team's presentations!

As we approach the holidays, your OTS team will be working the larger projects more aggressively. This means we need your input and participation even more to stay on time and within budget. On behalf of the entire OTS team, I thank you for your continuous support and wish you a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving.

Best Regards,

Shah S. Ardalan  
Vice President for Technology Services

## A Big Thank You!

OTS staff extends a special thanks to Jonathan Hunstiger, director of Talent Search at San Juan College, for recently providing a leadership training workshop titled "Leadership with Integrity."



During the daylong session, Hunstiger focused on communication and listening skills as well as how to lead by positive influence. He also combined the Myers-Briggs assessment, which provided a framework to help participants discover the best way to relate to one another.

"This was a great opportunity for our staff to learn how they can build an even stronger, more unified team," says Shah Ardalan.

Hunstiger developed "Leadership with Integrity" from a compilation of other leadership programs and has presented it to national organizations throughout the United States including the U.S. Department of Interior, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Secret Service.

# Major Projects Status

## Datatel:

The Datatel ERP system will be completed in the spring of 2006. The project is progressing well with only the Student Module left to complete. Recent and upcoming milestones:

- Curriculum module setup: September '05
- Academic Records / Registration module setup: November '05
- Financial Aid module setup: November '05
- Admissions module setup: November '05

## Network Redundancy:

The network redundancy project provides alternate paths for data across the network greatly reducing the risk of the network being down.

- First building (QCB) installation: November '05
- Rooms 1313 and 1609: November '05

## Storage and Backup:

A major component of the network is storage and backup of files and email. Our capacity has grown over 300 percent in the last four years and projections show continued growth at a substantial rate. This project will increase capacity and improve our ability to maintain backups of that data.

- Backup network complete: December '05
- Backup system complete: March '06

## Smart Card:

The Smart Card project will provide new ID cards, door access and printer control in labs. The project is due for completion in Spring of '06.

- Kickoff meeting: October '05
- Door Access: January '06

# OTS Staff Profile

The OTS staff would like to introduce you to members of our team. Each month, *TECH Update* features an employee based on their seniority, with the most recently hired employees being introduced first.



Troubleshooting problems and providing customer service are just two of the aspects Barbara Van Hook enjoys in her job as an instructional aide.

Barbara is no stranger to San Juan College. She began taking classes in 1998, and has since earned an associate of arts degree. She first began working with the Office of Technology Services in January of 2000 as workstudy lab assistant. In August of that same year, she joined the staff as a lab shift leader. In April of 2004, Barbara became an instructional aide where she supervises and trains lab assistants and oversees the delivery of laptop carts.

She finds working with the students especially rewarding. "I get a great deal of satisfaction when I know I've made a difference by helping them out."

Barbara says her studies won't stop with one degree, as she would eventually like to apply for a computer tech position, and plans to get the education to help her reach her goal.

During her off-hours, she enjoys climbing the fitness center rock wall and taking classes such as pottery, choir, voice, guitar, and now an A+ computer class. She is also the president of the Dirty Mud Lovers Club.

**TECH Update is the monthly newsletter of OTS. Our goal is to keep our customers informed and seek input. If you have questions or comments, please write to: [TECHUPDATE@sanjuancollege.edu](mailto:TECHUPDATE@sanjuancollege.edu) or call 566-3166.**