24 February 2014

MEMORANDUM

To: Department Heads, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Subject: TAMU Email Transition

Attached is the memo sent on this topic by Provost Watson. In light of this memo, I wanted to inform you as to how this matter will be handled by all departments in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

1. Students will follow TAMU guidance.

2. Faculty and staff email services will not change and will continue to be provided by our AgriLife IT Enterprise Server. Departments may not opt out of this service. The key reasons for this decision are:
   - Maintaining the high level of collaboration between the college and agencies through the use of a common Exchange email and Lync services.
   - Maintaining an accurate and comprehensive college and AgriLife agency directory.
   - Minimizing overhead in departmental account management responsibilities.
   - Maintaining a consistent and high level of support from departmental and central AgriLife IT resources.
   - Strategically positioning the college and agencies for a single username/password environment that is being developed by TAMUS.

3. As described in the attached memo, faculty may request a Google App account for collaborations.

Also, as a result of cost savings and need, we are increasing the default mailbox size to 4 GB.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

William A. Dugas
Acting Vice Chancellor and Dean
Agriculture and Life Sciences

Attachment

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans, Vice Presidents, Student Body President, Graduate Student Council, Faculty Senate, Council of Principle Investigators

FROM: Karan L. Watson
Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: University Email Transition

February 12, 2014

The Email Selection Advisory Committee, convened in fall 2013, reviewed options for email migration and recommended the transition paths for faculty, staff and student email. Read the committee’s full recommendation at http://u.tamu.edu/Email-Recommendations. Texas A&M University will enact email service changes to increase quality of service and decrease operating costs.

- Student email will be transitioned to the cloud-based Google Apps for Education.
- Existing faculty and staff email services will be consolidated to a single, on-premise hosted Microsoft Exchange 2013 service.
- Faculty will be able to request a Google Apps account for collaboration with students and colleagues in addition to receiving an Exchange account.
- Deans and vice presidents have the option to select Google Apps for their units or delegate this decision to the department level. If a unit moves to Google Apps, they will not receive Exchange accounts.
- Central funding will be provided for both services for Texas A&M University students, faculty, and staff (System Part 02 only).

Computing & Information Services, a department of Texas A&M Information Technology, is tasked with implementing these services. They will be providing more information about the transition in the coming months. Visit these web pages to learn more:

- Google Apps for Education Transition - http://u.tamu.edu/Google-Apps-Transition
- Hosted Microsoft Exchange Transition – http://u.tamu.edu/Employee-Email-Consolidation

For questions or comments, contact Help Desk Central at 979.845.8300 or helpdesk@tamu.edu.