UIT to upgrade network switches; brief wired/wireless downtime expected

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In the coming months, UIT will upgrade operating systems on approximately 1,200 network switches in campus buildings. These upgrades are necessary to ensure that the university’s network continues to operate in a secure and manageable way.

The planned maintenance requires each switch to go offline while the upgrade is applied. Each switch will take approximately 15-20 minutes to upgrade and reboot, which includes verification of normal operations. Because wireless access points connect to the switches, wired and wireless access will be unavailable during the upgrades.

Due to the large number of switches impacted, upgrades will take place in daily batches outside of normal business hours, typically between 8:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. A maintenance schedule, including a building list, will be distributed at a future date.

If you have questions, your local IT support staff may be able to assist, or you may contact your respective help desk: UIT Help Desk (801-581-4000) or ITS Service Desk (801-587-6000).

Please visit the University IT Services Status page for information during this and future maintenance events.

Technical details: UIT will upgrade network edge switches to operating system versions that allow them to be managed by Cisco dynamic network access control (DNAC). The maintenance is in preparation for the implementation of network access control (NAC), an IT security control that restricts unauthorized users and devices from accessing a network.