The TRC has moved and is in Library Room 233 and there have been other changes too…

Yes, we’re moving away from a model where you come to us and towards a model of us coming to you. So we’ll see the TRC employees more in library classrooms, the 24 Hour Lab, or really anywhere in the library where you need help using technology. We’ll still be open all the hours the library is open in our office in Room 233. We also will be staffing the 24 Hour Lab before the library opens and after closing. We will figure out a schedule based on student need over time.

Are there any services you’re particularly excited about this year? This year TRC students will be in library classrooms at the start of class sessions to make sure computers, sound, media, and instructor podiums are working before classes start, rather than coming after a problem happens. We want to avoid situations where professors are grappling with technology after class begins.

You taught a course on Excel last year… I really did enjoy it. My mandate was to teach Excel in a blended learning environment, so in the classroom and online. The goals are for students to think critically about problems and use tools like Excel to solve them, along with enhancing students’ skills for their economics, finance, and business majors, and the workplace. I’m open to trying this out with other software programs if the blended learning courses make sense and save faculty from having to teach the software during the associated courses.

What are the biggest changes you’ve seen in your time here? When the TRC was created in 2004 hardware and devices were not quite as ubiquitous as they are now. Phones weren’t as smart yet. The TRC provided hardware and software where there was a greater need. Now everyone brings their own devices and uses them in their own ways.

When you’re not dealing with new hardware and software, what do you like to do? Honestly, that is what I like to do! Even when I’m at home, I’m always on a device or thinking about new technologies. I am very interested in the writings of futurists like Alvin Toffler and Ray Kurzweil. I just watched a terrific TED talk by Nicholas Negroponte of MIT called the “80-year History of the Future,” where he answered a fascinating question about upcoming technologies. I also volunteer tech support for Spay and Stay, a nonprofit in Grayslake that spays feral cats, and I have two rescue cats.

Building Updates

New Computer Lab

Room 208 (former location of the TRC) is now a lab populated with twenty-four 27” iMacs. Room 211 (previously the only Mac lab) has also seen its twelve Macs updated.

New Locations for LIT Offices

There have been many changes in LIT and the following departments have new locations:

The Brown Technology Resource Center (TRC): Library Room 233

LIT Help Desk: Library Room 137 (on the main floor of the library)

Interlibrary Loan: Library Room 030

Wireless Upgrades & Faster Speeds

Over the summer, LIT undertook a project to improve wireless access in the residence halls. Wireless Access Points were relocated and new ones were added in the majority of the residence halls. As a result, wireless coverage has been improved significantly. Students are encouraged to contact the Help Desk (847-735-5544 or lthelp@lakeforest.edu) to report any problems with the wireless network.

The College also doubled its bandwidth to the Internet over the summer and added a server that caches the most popular videos streamed from sites such as Netflix, YouTube, and Hulu. This means that frequently viewed videos will be streamed from a server located on campus rather than over the Internet. As a result, more Internet bandwidth will be available for other activities.

What is your favorite James Bond movie and who is your favorite Bond actor?

Michelle Oh: Dr. No, Sean Connery

Susan Cloud: Skyfall, Daniel Craig

Sean Connery: From Russia With Love, Sean Connery

Kim Cubit: Dan Craig, Pierce Brosnan

Connie Corso: Casino Royale, Daniel Craig

Kris Hazlett: GoldenEye, Pierce Brosnan

Pierce Brosnan: GoldenEye, Daniel Craig

LIT Director Jim Cubit attended the opening of the exhibit on August 6 along with the “30-year History of the Future,” where he answered a fascinating question about upcoming technologies. I also volunteer tech support for Spay and Stay, a nonprofit in Grayslake that spays feral cats, and I have two rescue cats.