



The TESS Executive Steering Committee and College Leadership are examining the opportunity to offer free hosted email accounts for students and alumni under the new Microsoft Windows Live@edu Program. The Windows Live @ edu Program provides institutions of higher education with a set of free hosted communication services for students, alumni, and applicants, leading with an offer of Windows Live Mail, a brand new hosted email service built from the ground up by the MSN (Hotmail®) division of Microsoft, using the same global network that 200 million accounts in 17 languages worldwide already successfully utilize. Although MSN hosts the email, the College would maintain control – we would be able to determine, create, delete, and store edu email addresses for our constituents.

Windows Live Mail is all-new Web mail, built from the ground up. You may preview your email without loading a new page each time, drag and drop messages into folders, and generally work through your email in an easier and faster manner. The existing MSN Hotmail® email network is a known, reliable email service with great features, including large storage capacity, junk e-mail filtering, and anti-virus protection tools. Windows Live Mail adds new functionality on top of the existing services, such as a combined Calendar, Address Book and Calendar Sharing capabilities, anti-phishing features and an increased storage limit from 250MB to 2GB.

St. Louis Community College will select the tertiary domain name for the email addresses for our students and alumni. Although multiple domain names may be setup under this program (which would only increase the College's maintenance workload), the College's recommendation is to use a single domain name for all students, alumni, users and applicants: **@my.stlcc.edu**. Faculty and staff (employees of the College) email would remain on the College's Exchange server (which is about to be significantly upgraded to Exchange 2003), and would continue to use

@stlcc.edu addresses, making it easy to differentiate between student/alumni and faculty/staff email addresses.

The email accounts will never expire unless the College wants them to, in which case the College may individually evict accounts from our institutional domain. Each user is provided 2GB storage with Windows Live Mail. Banner advertising is removed from student email accounts; it only displays on non-student (i.e. alumni) accounts. If the account owner doesn't log in at least once every 180 days, the in-box will be cleared to save storage costs. Still, the account itself remains, and the in-box will generate anew on the user's next authentication.

The College may deploy this solution with all of our students or as little as one. There are no minimums or maximums. Microsoft will white list the College's sending email IP addresses to help keep emails from the College from getting blocked by Microsoft's SPAM filters.

Users of the new email program may also use that email address to authenticate on a number of other MSN services, most of which are opt-in and free:

- MSN Messenger: great for audio and video conversations with friends, family, and colleagues; or multi-user IM functionality for study groups.
- MSN Spaces: has many opportunities for use within higher education. For example, students can create e-profiles for prospective employers. Students, alumni, faculty, clubs, and departments can use spaces to share information, photos, or blogs.
- Mobile access to IM and e-mail (carrier charges may apply). Students can access their **@my.stlcc.edu** email on any Web-enabled phone.

The cost to the College of participating in this Program would be a Windows External Connector License (about \$1,000 plus SA) and the staff time to develop the rules for lifecycle management (determining the provisioning/de-provisioning) of the accounts.