

MATH FACULTY COMPUTING FACILITY (MFCF)

MFCF's newsletter with updates on the Math Faculty computing environment

Winter 2018...Linux computing, mail moves, IST tools!

[Information on other MFCF services](#)

Mail moves - from Mailservices to connect.uwaterloo.ca

Faculty and staff who are currently on Mailservices will be moved to Connect during the next few months.

You will receive email from IST with the proposed dates and how to prepare for the move.

Information describing the move to Connect and instructions on setting up email clients is available at:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/information-systems-technology/services/faculty-and-staff-email/about-faculty-and-staff-email/migrating-mailservices-connect>

Questions or concerns? Please contact the IST Service Desk, helpdesk@uwaterloo.ca or ext. 44357

Linux servers - Math Faculty research computing environment

Robyn Landers

MFCF provides a number of Linux servers for use by faculty and grad students. Collectively they are called linux.math. Some are intended for fast short jobs, others for large long-running jobs. The following URL provides a list of our specialty Linux servers and their specifications:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/math-faculty-computing-facility/services/specialty-research-linux-servers>

If you find that the default versions of tools such as GCC and Python on the linux.math servers are too old, there are newer versions installed. A list

of such tools, along with instructions for setting up your environment to use them, is published on the MFCF web site.

<https://uwaterloo.ca/math-faculty-computing-facility/services/service-catalogue-research-linux/software-environment-linux-servers>

We have some new CPU servers for early adopters to try out. They are running a newer operating system than the rest of the linux.math machines. We have also redeployed a 12-node cluster that is now ready for trials. Contact us to get access to these machines by filling out an [MFCF RT](#).

Skype For Business

IST

Microsoft Skype for Business is an enterprise unified communications tool that provides services such as Instant Messaging, presence, online collaboration, desktop sharing, and voice and video communication.

All Math faculty, staff, and grad students have accounts created automatically. Please read IST's page for more information on how to use Skype for Business:

<https://uwaterloo.ca/information-systems-technology/services/skype-business>

Scholar

IST

The University of Waterloo is using OpenScholar, an open-source software solution built on Drupal, to provide dynamic and customizable personal websites for Waterloo faculty and researchers including graduate students. The Math Faculty strongly encourages the use of Scholar which offers a secure, professional environment for the promotion of personal or academic work and achievements.

A Grad Student session on how to develop professional websites will be held on Tuesday, March 27th. Watch for the email!

Qualtrics Online Surveys

IST recently launched Qualtrics, a powerful online enterprise-class survey system, to provide our campus community with secure, confidential surveys for all use-cases. This service is available for all staff, faculty, and graduate students.

More information about Qualtrics is available at <https://uwaterloo.ca/information-systems-technology/services/qualtrics-online-surveys>.

UPS and heaters don't mix

Just a reminder - do not plug your heaters, microwaves, kettles, or other household electrical devices into your UPS or extension cords. Most are not designed to handle the current and may cause a fire. Thank you for your cooperation.

Help us help you

Do you know a way we could make math computing better? Is there something you'd like to hear about in these newsletters? Do you want to write an article?

Email Lori Suess at lsuess@uwaterloo.ca or fill out a [Request](#). We'd love to hear what you have to say!

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MFCF Webpage



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