December 11, 2023

TO: CHASS Faculty

FROM: Matthew Gunkel, CIO

                Daryle Williams, Professor of History and Dean

RE: Upcoming Changes to Storage, Email, and Calendar Services

CC: James Lin, CHASS CIO

                Cindy Williams, CHASS Assistant Dean and CFAO

On Wednesday, November 8, ITS announced [changes to Google Workspace and Microsoft O365 storage](#) as the result of new storage quotas imposed by both Google and Microsoft. Shortly thereafter, the CHASS Executive Committee, among others, requested further clarification on the nature and implications of this change.

This memorandum aims to address primary concerns and provide additional context regarding the recent notice about upcoming changes to Google Workspace (namely, Gmail and Drive) and Microsoft O365 storage changes. Please note that the following information will be discussed in greater detail at the December 13 CHASS Chairs & Directors meeting. As needed, ITS and CHASS IT will provide additional follow-up to CHASS faculty. Additionally, ITS is available to meet and partner with chairs and departments on IT needs.

As background: For over a decade, UCR has contracted with Google and Microsoft for low-cost, abundant, and secure cloud-based storage made available to faculty without charge or capacity limits. Recently, however, both Google and Microsoft announced that they are changing their service models for all higher education institutions and will begin enforcing storage limits that require institutions, including UCR, to pay for storage capacity above modest no- or low-cost allocations. The Google storage changes are planned to take effect **June 1, 2024**.

Data is the commodity of the future. ITS is committed to ensuring that the secure computing storage services that support our research mission continue, grow, and are available without interruption.

The University and CHASS CIOs have conducted a census of CHASS Senate faculty to document current cloud storage users and use. That survey identified eight individual faculty and five workgroups whose usage exceeds 1TB on Google Workspace (which is to say, up to 10X the new 100GB limit) and an additional 47 users above 100GB but under 1TB.

To fully support CHASS and UCR, ITS is committed to the following:

- ITS and CHASS IT will work directly with the eight individual CHASS faculty whose individual Google Workspace storage exceeds 1TB to identify alternative and sustainable storage options based on need and assist with the migration of data. These faculty can expect to be contacted by ITS via email in January.
- Faculty who need more than 100GB may request additional storage at no additional cost. The 47 CHASS faculty whose individual Google Workspace storage use is currently over 100GB, but under 1TB, do not need to make this request as they will automatically be granted additional storage.
- ITS and CHASS IT are developing clear service offerings and support for research data storage for needs over 1TB.
- ITS and CHASS IT commit to working with shared governance and other interested stakeholders to formally craft a research computing support statement that faculty can use in upcoming grant submissions.

Please expect additional communication from ITS in the near future as more information becomes available.

Sincerely,

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