

Welcome to SENS Computing with *UBiquity*!

Hello and welcome to *UBiquity*, the computing environment supported by the staff of **Science & Engineering Node Services (SENS)** for the **School of Engineering and Applied Sciences** and the Departments of **Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, and Physics** (referred to as “**Natural Sciences and Mathematics**” or “**NSM**” in the remainder of this document). *UBiquity* is unique in that it offers you as a student in Engineering or NSM a large distributed computing environment that is reserved specifically for your computing activities and needs. *UBiquity* provides you with easy access to software programs for both Microsoft and Unix/Linux environments, and enables you to store your files on a central file system that is fully backed up. The *UBiquity* environment is supported by a staff that is knowledgeable in Engineering and NSM computing requirements and applications.

By this time you have your personal CIT-issued UBITname and should have read the web page on Unix from <http://wings.buffalo.edu/computing/Documentation/>. This document will provide you with the majority of information necessary to become an effective practitioner of Unix and client/server computing. Generally, the Unix commands in this document are valid for most Unix-based computer systems, including Linux, that you will encounter on campus. There are, however, environmental differences between CIT and SENS. This document describes many of these differences, but for additional information go to: <http://www.sens.buffalo.edu/>

- **How do I get my SENS computer account?** If you are in the School of Engineering or if you are majoring in Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, or Physics, access the web site <http://www.sens.buffalo.edu/accounts/> and complete all required information. It generally takes a couple of days to process your account. You will use your UBITname, and your initial password will be your person number. You must *immediately* change your password the first time you log in. Your new account is separate from your CIT-provided account, and this means: different passwords, different file storage, different software, and different support people.
- **How do I log in to computers in the SENS labs?** Simply type in your UBITname and your password at the login screen. Note that some labs will use your SENS password and some will use your UBIT password; we are transitioning to use of UBIT passwords, and this will continue throughout the semester, with signs posted to let you know which password to use in a particular lab.
- **How do I change my SENS password?** The initial password for your SENS account will be your 8-digit person number. For security reasons, it is of vital importance that you change this password *immediately*. To do so, log in to “unix.eng.buffalo.edu”, or, for NSM, “password.nsm.buffalo.edu”, using the SSH or Telnet program on your computer. Enter your UBITname, then enter your 8-digit person number as your password. When you get a command prompt, type the command “`passwd`” and follow the instructions.
- **How do I access SENS’ Solaris timeshares?** From the workstation or PC you are using, log in to either “unix.eng.buffalo.edu” or “unix.nsm.buffalo.edu” using the SSH or Telnet software available on your computer. These names actually connect you to one of a pool of shared-use timeshare computers; do not log directly into a particular one, as we try to balance the loads on the individual systems in the pool and can provide better performance if you use the names shown here.
- **How do I access SENS’ Linux timeshares?** Same as above, but connect to either “linux.eng.buffalo.edu” or “linux.nsm.buffalo.edu”.
- **How do I access SENS’ *UBiquity* Citrix system?** *UBiquity* Citrix can be thought of as a timeshare system for Microsoft Windows. Instructions for connecting to it from Macintosh, Unix/Linux, Microsoft Windows, and other operating systems can be found at this web page: <http://www.sens.buffalo.edu/services/citrix/>

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Computing Laboratories Available to Engineering Students include:

- 340 Bell Hall – Workstation lab for Engineering and CSE students;
- 425 Bell Hall – PC lab for Industrial Engineering Students;
- 211/212 Furnas Hall – Linux workstation Classroom;
- 213/214 Furnas Hall – PC lab for Electrical Engineering students; and
- 1019 Furnas Hall – PC lab for MAE and CBE students.
- 208 Ketter Hall – PC lab for CSEE students.

Computing Laboratories Available to Natural Sciences & Mathematics Students include:

- 8B Baldy Hall – Linux workstation lab;
- 218 Cooke Hall – Macintosh lab for Biological Sciences students;
- 139 Hochstetter – Linux workstation lab for Geology students.

Computing Laboratories Available to both Engineering and NSM Students include:

- 101 Bell Hall – SENS/CIT workstation lab (24 hour consulting and printing); and
- 1018 Furnas Hall – Linux classroom/lab.

Special SENS Unix/Linux Commands:

- **use** – This command sets up your terminal or workstation environment to use various programs. If you type **use** by itself you will see a list of all the software packages available to you in the SENS environment. At this point you can select the package you want to use. If you already know what is available, type **use <software name>**; for example, to use the Maple package, type: **use maple**
- **use comp** – Sets up your environment to use the compilers. After you enter this command you can use compilers for the C, C++, FORTRAN, and other languages if available. When you log out this configuration will go away, so you must do this each time you log in and need to compile programs.
- **use update** – Automatically updates your account to accommodate any system-wide changes made by the administrators. We recommend running this command once a month in order to take advantage of any improvements or new software installations.
- **mkenspage** – Creates a simple personal web page under your “public_html” directory.

Useful Email Addresses:

- **senshelp@buffalo.edu** – To ask for software help or assistance with computer systems supported by SENS;
- **consult@buffalo.edu** – To ask for help with basic Unix issues, and to report broken equipment in labs maintained by CIT;
- **accounts@eng.buffalo.edu** / **accounts@nsm.buffalo.edu** – To resolve problems related to your account, such as a forgotten password;
- **restore@eng.buffalo.edu** / **restore@nsm.buffalo.edu** – To recover lost files (they have to be more than one day old); and
- **consult-cse@cse.buffalo.edu** – Consulting for CSE students.

Useful UB Internet Sites:

- **School of Engineering and Applied Sciences** – <http://www.eng.buffalo.edu/>
- **College of Arts and Sciences** – <http://www.cas.buffalo.edu/>
- **SENS** – <http://www.sens.buffalo.edu/>
- **UB Information Technology** – <http://ubit.buffalo.edu/>
- **MyUB** (personal portal to UB pages) – <http://myub.buffalo.edu/>
- **Student Response Center** – <http://src.buffalo.edu>
- **TAURUS** (record transfer system) – <http://taurus.buffalo.edu/>
- **UB Libraries** – <http://ublib.buffalo.edu/>
- **Career Services** – <http://www.ub-careers.buffalo.edu/>
- **Counseling Services** – <http://ub-counseling.buffalo.edu/>
- **Residence Halls** – <http://www.ub-housing.buffalo.edu/>

SENS offices are located in 101-116 Bell Hall, UB North Campus, Buffalo, NY 14260-2050
Telephone: (716) 645-3797