



*The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

# **MANAGING THE DIGITAL UNIVERSITY DESKTOP: UNDERSTANDING AND EMPOWERING THE INDIVIDUAL; PRESERVING THE PUBLIC RECORD AND INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY**

## **Survey Questions**

**(Note: This is the text for the questions but they will be distributed through a web survey form with specific instructions for each item.)**

### **I. About You.**

1. Which school, department, or facility is your primary affiliation/work site on campus?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Check all of the following categories that currently apply to your status at UNC:

\_\_\_\_\_ Faculty

\_\_\_\_\_ Administrator (ie. Associate Dean, Director, Chair)

\_\_\_\_\_ Staff

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

3. If faculty, what is your rank?

\_\_\_\_\_ Distinguished or chaired prof.

\_\_\_\_\_ Professor

\_\_\_\_\_ Associate Professor

\_\_\_\_\_ Assistant Professor

\_\_\_\_\_ Instructor (non tenure track)

\_\_\_\_\_ Lecturer (non tenure track)

\_\_\_\_\_ Emeritus

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female

5. How long have you worked at UNC?

\_\_\_\_\_ Less than 1 year

\_\_\_\_\_ 1-5 years

\_\_\_\_\_ 6-10 years

\_\_\_\_\_ 11-15 years

\_\_\_\_\_ More than 15 years



## II. About Your Computing Use.

6. What is the operating system of the computer you primarily use in your work (and especially word processing and e-mail) at UNC?

\_\_\_\_\_ Windows  
\_\_\_\_\_ Macintosh  
\_\_\_\_\_ Unix  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Do you primarily use a desktop or laptop computer?

\_\_\_\_\_ Desktop  
\_\_\_\_\_ Laptop  
\_\_\_\_\_ Both about equally

8. What types of software do you use on a daily basis and what is the name of the program you most often use in your work at UNC?

\_\_\_\_\_ Word processing: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Spreadsheet: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Database: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Image processor/graphics: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Web design: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Project manager: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail application: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

9. What additional types of software do you use on at least a weekly basis and what is the name of the programs you most often use in your work at UNC?

\_\_\_\_\_ Word processing: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Spreadsheet: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Database: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Image processor/graphics: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Web design: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Project manager: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail application: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_



10. What additional types of software do you use on at least a monthly basis and what is the name of the programs you most often use in your work at UNC?

\_\_\_\_ Word processing: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Spreadsheet: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Database: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Image processor/graphics: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Web design: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Project manager: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ E-mail application: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

11. What types of products do you most often produce/process in your UNC position? Rank the top 3, "1" indicating the greatest amount.

\_\_\_\_ Word-processed documents  
\_\_\_\_ Spreadsheets  
\_\_\_\_ Databases  
\_\_\_\_ E-mail messages  
\_\_\_\_ Presentations (e.g., Powerpoint presentations)  
\_\_\_\_ Images/graphics  
\_\_\_\_ Web pages  
\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Are the files on your hard drive being backed-up to guard against loss in the event of some sort of system crash?

\_\_\_\_ Yes  
\_\_\_\_ No  
\_\_\_\_ Don't Know

(If "don't know" then skip to question 14)

13. If your hard drive is being backed up, who is doing it? Check all that apply.

\_\_\_\_ UNC information technology shop (e.g., ATN, AIS, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_ Your department/school  
\_\_\_\_ You  
\_\_\_\_ Don't know who, but believe it is being done



14. How often do you clean out, reorganize, etc. your hard drive?

- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Monthly
- ☐ Once each semester
- ☐ Annually
- ☐ Infrequently
- ☐ Almost never

### III. About Your E-mail Usage.

15. In what year did you start using e-mail in your daily work?

- ☐ Before 1992
- ☐ 1992-1995
- ☐ 1996-1999
- ☐ 2000-present
- ☐ I don't use e-mail

16. How many e-mail messages do you receive, on average, per day in your primary UNC e-mail account (including messages you have forwarded from other accounts)?

- ☐ 0-10
- ☐ 11-20
- ☐ 21-30
- ☐ 31-40
- ☐ 41-50
- ☐ 51-60
- ☐ >60

17. Approximately how many hours per day do you typically spend managing (reading, composing, filing) your e-mail messages?

- ☐ 0-1
- ☐ 1-2
- ☐ 2-3
- ☐ 3-4
- ☐ 5-6
- ☐ More than 6

18. Do you think e-mail makes you more productive?

- ☐ Definitely
- ☐ Probably
- ☐ Not sure
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Definitely not



19. Approximately what percentage of professional business and/or correspondence do you conduct with e-mail?

- ☐ Less than 25%
- ☐ 25% to 50%
- ☐ 51% to 75%
- ☐ 76% to 100%

21. What percentage of professional business and/or correspondence do you conduct with postal mail?

- ☐ Less than 25%
- ☐ 25% to 50%
- ☐ 51% to 75%
- ☐ 76% to 100%

21. What percentage of professional business and/or correspondence do you conduct with the telephone?

- ☐ Less than 25%
- ☐ 25% to 50%
- ☐ 51% to 75%
- ☐ 76% to 100%

22. How do you feel about your use of e-mail?

- ☐ Great, it is a good communication tool.
- ☐ Comfortable, but I spend a lot of time doing it.
- ☐ Okay, but there must be a better way.
- ☐ Discouraged, who invented e-mail anyway?
- Other:

---

---

---

#### IV. How You Manage Your E-mail.

23. Do you organize your e-mail messages in electronic folders?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, how many folders (including subfolders) do you currently have on your primary UNC e-mail application?

- ☐ Less than 10
- ☐ 11-25
- ☐ 26-50
- ☐ More than 50

24. When do you usually check/read your e-mail. Check all that apply:

- ☐ First thing when I start work
- ☐ When I'm signaled that I have a message
- ☐ Occasionally during the day
- ☐ All the time
- ☐ At the end of the work day
- ☐ From home
- ☐ When I'm away from Chapel Hill

25. Are your e-mail messages being backed-up to guard against loss in the event of some sort of system crash?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't Know

(If "don't know" then skip to question 27)

26. If your e-mail is being backed up, who is doing it? Check all that apply.

- ☐ UNC information technology shop (e.g., ATN, AIS, etc.)
- ☐ Your department/school
- ☐ You
- ☐ Don't know who, but believe it is being done

27. About how many messages are currently in your "in-box"?

\_\_\_\_\_

28. About how many messages are currently in your "delete/trash file/folder/bin"?

\_\_\_\_\_

29. About how many messages are currently in your "sent mail file/folder"?

\_\_\_\_\_

30. When you read a message that you consider to be important in your work here at UNC, typically how often do you do each of these actions?

- a. Print it out and file it into a paper filing system, **and** file it in an e-mail electronic folder for online reference/retrieval purposes;

Frequently                      Sometimes                      Never

- b. Print it out and file it into a paper filing system;

Frequently                      Sometimes                      Never



- c. File it in an electronic folder for online reference/retrieval purposes;

Frequently

Sometimes

Never

- d. Read it; act upon it; and delete the message without electronic or paper filing;

Frequently

Sometimes

Never

- e. Keep it in my in-box;

Frequently

Sometimes

Never

- f. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

31. Typically, how often do you “clean out” or “clean up” your in-box?

I usually dispose of/file messages at the time of reading them so the in-box rarely needs cleaning;

I clean up my in-box by the end of each work day;

I clean up my in-box once each week;

I clean up my in-box once a month;

I clean up my in-box at least once a year;

I clean up my in-box occasionally but at no specific time;

I delete unimportant messages but keep everything else in the in-box;

I never clean my in-box;

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

32. Typically, how often do you “clean out” or “clean up” your sent box?

I clean up my sent box by the end of each work day;

I clean up my sent box once each week;

I clean up my sent box once a month;

I clean up my sent box at least once a year;

I clean up my sent box occasionally but at no specific time;

I delete unimportant messages but keep everything else in the sent box;

I never clean my sent box;

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

33. How often do you permanently delete messages (empty the “trash” or empty the delete folder)?

I permanently delete messages by the end of each work day;

I permanently delete messages once each week;

I permanently delete messages once a month;

I permanently delete messages at least once a year;

I permanently delete messages occasionally but at no specific time;

I never permanently delete messages;

Other: \_\_\_\_\_



34. What do you do with attachments that you keep?

- a. Print them out and file them into a paper filing system, **and** file them as word processing files;

Frequently                      Sometimes                      Never

- b. Print them out and file them into a paper filing system;

Frequently                      Sometimes                      Never

- c. File them in an electronic folder in a word processing package (i.e., save them as Word or Word Perfect, etc. files)

Frequently                      Sometimes                      Never

- d. Keep them with the original e-mail message in my in-box;

Frequently                      Sometimes                      Never

- e. Keep them with the original e-mail message in e-mail folders;

Frequently                      Sometimes                      Never

Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

35. How satisfied are you with the way you are currently managing your e-mail?

- \_\_\_\_\_ Very satisfied  
\_\_\_\_\_ Somewhat Satisfied  
\_\_\_\_\_ No Opinion  
\_\_\_\_\_ Not Very Satisfied  
\_\_\_\_\_ Unsatisfied

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

36. To what degree is the way that you manage your electronic documents a result of the NC Public Records Act?

- \_\_\_\_\_ A lot  
\_\_\_\_\_ Somewhat  
\_\_\_\_\_ None  
\_\_\_\_\_ Not sure what the NC Public Records Act states





*The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

37. If you would like to provide any further comments please do so here.

We would like to further investigate this topic by conducting brief interviews with a small sample of respondents. Would you be willing to be contacted? If so, please e-mail your name, campus phone number, and e-mail address to: Meredith Evans at [evanm@ils.unc.edu](mailto:evanm@ils.unc.edu) (Graduate Assistant for this project) or myself: Helen Tibbo at [tibbo@ils.unc.edu](mailto:tibbo@ils.unc.edu). Please do not include your personal information on this form.

Thank you for your time and effort on behalf of this project and UNC-CH!