Cheng Chat: Smarter Printing at WPU

by Kurt Wagner

To start off the new year and the new semester – here’s some good news about something that’s usually the source of trouble. Printing throughout WPU is easier than before. During the January break campus IT and Library staff implemented Uniprint, a new print management system. So what? You might ask. Here’s why it’s a good thing:

- Multifunction printers in the Library, Atrium, Ben Shahn, Hobart Hall, Science East, and Valley Road. In addition to printing (in COLOR too, except Ben Shahn), these MFPs can scan and copy, and print from and save to a USB drive.
- More print options available. From http://webprint.wpunj.edu you can upload your documents, choose 2-sided or single-sided, color or black and white, and number of copies.
- Upload your documents from home, dorm, anywhere, then pick them up at any printer. See http://www.wpunj.edu/itwiki and click the picture of the printer on the right to see full documentation and a printer location list.
- Printing at computer labs is essentially the same as before, but the release workstation process is simpler.
- Newer ID cards (that bear a WP water tower image) allow a very quick “tap to login” making “quick print” even quicker.
- Print quotas and print jobs are detailed, now, in terms of dollars and cents. You’ll know how much a print job will cost before you OK it.

As with all technologies, especially newly deployed ones, problems may arise. If you have problems with anything related to printing, particularly the printers, releasing print jobs, or about your printing quota, please open a ticket at https://www.wpunj.edu/helpdesk/ “Request Type” of “Printing/Multi-Function Device – Request.”

Also, if you have a big scanning job to do – a set of notes, or more than a quick page or two, please use the Scannx workstation located at the Library’s Reserves Desk rather than the Quick Print printer next to the Reference Desk. We are trying to make sure that Quick Print is indeed quick and available to anyone on the run! Scannx is also quick and better still – FREE. Ask at the Reference Desk if you have questions about this service.

Overall, though, you should be thinking about printing; or better still be thinking about not printing as much. Last October Librarian Mark Sandford wrote a Cheng Chat column “Beyond Paper” (http://goo.gl/zqUnuY) that discussed using cloud resources such as Office 365 and
Dropbox to store documents and Adobe Reader to read PDFs on tablets, phones or computers. No one is suggesting that we can do away with printing completely, but why not make a (late) New Year’s resolution to print less? Come by the Reference Desk (or email us at refdesk@wpunj.edu) and we’ll answer any questions you may have. You’ll be amazed how easy it is to go paperless.

So, as we begin 2015 and another round of Cheng Chat columns, I will restate my original and ongoing mantra: “It’s all about you!” Everything we do at the Library is about you. Let us know how we can do a better job of it!