

# Project Closeout



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## Project Details

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**Project Name:** Electronic File Storage  
**Project Team Leads:** Laurie Hafner Dahms, Mark Wilson, David Bronder  
**Project Manager:** Kris Halter  
**TeamDynamix Project Number:** 241112

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## Project Overview

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Centralize standard electronic file storage services. Design a robust, sustainable, and ubiquitous model for central file storage services to accommodate greater demand and meet the diverse needs of the campus. Migrate files and relevant data from duplicative services to the central service; retire or repurpose redundant services.

As part of TIER, the project in Phases 1-3 reviews and refines existing and planned central storage solutions for maximum campus impact and consolidates/centralizes services as needed.

Upon completion of the TIER project scope, as implementation continues, the project transitions its focus to long-term viability of campus storage.

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## Project Accomplishments

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### Migrations

- Migrated multiple departmental home drives and departmental file shares to Files@Iowa central service, including College of Public Health and Iowa Memorial Union
- Migrated some departmental storage to LSS, including Office of the State Archaeologist
- Migrated CCOM "R Drive" non-HIPAA data to RDSS to facilitate "R Drive" service retirement
- Migrated customers of legacy Low Cost File Service (LCFS) offering to LSS and other storage solutions and retired LCFS service

### Service Improvements

- Decreased price of Large Scale Storage (LSS) service from \$60/TB/year to \$40/TB/year in conjunction with Research Services
- Expanded LSS service offering to non-research customers (both new and migrations from other storage solutions)
- Increased "free" level of RDSS storage for researchers from 3 TB to 5 TB
- Expanded & upgraded RDSS service capacity and performance
- Decreased price of Files@Iowa service from \$3/GB/year to \$1/GB/year
- Customized adjustments to Files@Iowa service for customer-specific needs
- Expanded & upgraded Files@Iowa service capacity and performance

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- Updated storage service web site to reflect changes in service offerings
- Storage outreach, education & assistance with selecting the appropriate storage service(s)

## OneIT Collaboration

- Worked with the Data Centers and Servers and the HPC OneIT projects on campus server room inventories and follow-up
- Worked with VPSC and other stakeholders on centralized or shared service offering(s) for digital asset management and collaborative video editing capabilities (spun into new project led by Chris Wilkins)

## Customer-reported Savings

- College of Public Health – Home drive migration to Files@Iowa
  - \$22,000 capital & operational over 3 years
  - \$18,750/year (0.25 FTE) staff
- Office of the State Archaeologist – File share migration to LSS
  - \$27,000 capital over 5 years plus additional \$3,000/year capital & operational
  - \$10,445/year staff
- Iowa Memorial Union – Home drive migration to Files@Iowa
  - Management efficiency through use of common campus service

## Storage Service Usage & Migrations

- Files@Iowa – Departmental & application shares
  - Usage: 178 units and services, 182 TiB provisioned
- Files@Iowa – Home drives
  - Usage: 107,199 users, 2640 TiB of quotas provisioned
- Large Scale Storage (LSS) – non-research
  - Usage: 21 units, 185 TiB of quotas provisioned
- Research Data Storage Services (RDSS)
  - Usage: 407 researchers, 2035 TiB provisioned
- Additional space allocated for snapshots and/or replication for most customers of these services
- Low Cost File Service (LCFS) retirement
  - Migrated 10 units with 123 TiB provisioned space to LSS or other services
  - \$36,400/year of customer savings in billing
  - Decommissioned 2 servers, reclaimed 155 TiB iSCSI storage allocation

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## What Could Have Been Improved (What would you have done different)

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Proper communication and understanding of the project scope from the beginning.

Not enough initial direction from the steering committee.

Lack of a professional project manager on the project team.

OneIT Project Leader and Project Manager bi-weekly meetings did not give enough feedback to confer if the project was operating as it should.

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## Recommendations for Further Action (What tasks are still left to do)

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Stand up a Storage Service Advisory Team that will be responsible for long term viability of storage on campus.

Develop a team charge for the new Storage Service Advisory Team.

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## Recommendations for Process Improvement (What can be done better on future projects)

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Professional PMs on each project or more in-depth training for people inclined to do Project Management work.

Reduction of team members' normal day job hours to accommodate the OneIT Project workload.

Quality of communication was insufficient for the amount of communication.

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