

Straw Proposal #2

- A cluster farm of servers system is acquired. The cluster is split between at least two data centers (EBC and Park) and the load balancing be done with a layer 7 switch. The cluster must have lots of disk space, handle many fast, connections, be up 24/7, and be consistently backed up including off site.
- The system provides four services – POP, IMAP, SPAM Filtering, and Virus scanning. The end user or their designated administrator can remotely configure filtering through a simple to use web interface a TLS/TTLS connection. [What is TLS/TTLS?]
- Virus filtering would be turned on ALWAYS as viruses affect all of us.
- IMAP would have shared folders. [??]
- Any client with pop or imap capabilities (and they all have it) can access the mail. [Discuss NAP router. If comes over TLS/TTLS it is ok. What are the issues here?]
- We'd also need web access to mail via the cluster.
- Addresses for this are first.lastname@utah.edu. I'd propose that if there is a conflict, then the user can choose what is in the first part – I would recommend that there is an algorithm that comes up with several possibilities based on what is available and what is reasonable and lets the user decide). But the lastname has to be there. If someone changes their last name then a new account is created with a forward left from the old account. [Discuss: The server should support aliases where the canonical email address was their campus user name and they are really only ever told about their first.last@utah.edu address. This way if the need ever arises to change someone's email address it does not break anything underneath. And how long do we allow accounts to remain active? What about organizations that need life time accounts? How do we define affiliation with the U and thus capable of getting an account? What about loose affiliates (people that are only here for a short period of time and need an account on our systems?) We should run a sample through the 270,000 users in PeopleSoft and see how many conflicts we will get with a first.last combinations.. This will really determine how probable it is to force that combination on people.]
- Only one account per person and likewise only one address.
- Every person (student, staff, faculty) by default gets an account. Each user can choose to not have their account if they set up a forwarding address. At some point in the future, it might be a good idea to periodically send a message to each forwarded account to make sure that it is active. If it isn't, then the person should be contacted (even if by snail mail and telephone) and the mail forwarding dropped.
- Remote admin – managers of departments or units should have some control. I would think that they should be able to create guest accounts and manage quotas for the accounts in their unit. The managers should also be able to manage distribution lists. Again, a web interface for this capability.
- Quotas – this is a big deal (politically). I'd propose that based on status (students, faculty/staff) you get so much space. We need some way of increasing the quota, preferably using some kind of remote admin capability. But what policies work here, we need to discuss. I also really hate what happens when you exceed your quota. Mail gets dropped. You can't even get an email message that says you are out of quota. Catch 22. It would be good if there was some kind of solution – like when you get to 95% of quota, you get an email message that you are out. Then email messages are saved for X bytes even if you go over your 100%. If you get even above even that x% then the email message's are rejected. Something a little more graceful than simply rejecting everything.
- Calendaring/groupware. [Discuss this – seems hard because some are No Microsoft, some are Only Microsoft. Can we offer a two-tiered system? Can we handle the multiple constituents?]
- Alumni can keep accounts for a few years. But they must be spam filtered accounts. It would be good to keep their account names forever, just change the forwarding.

Email Committee

[Discuss – how can we keep these names for so long. Discuss that some departments will need life accounts.]

- Digital signatures and encryption – [Discuss how we can do this for the future – PAN forms and what not.] [Discuss – can we keep all email around in an encrypted form?]
- [Discuss other topics in the above list, not discussed here.]