College of Engineering
Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Sciences
Instructional Support Group (ISG)

Information about
EECS Instructional Computer Accounts

February 2010

☞ *What´s an ´instructional´ account?*

The Department of Electrical Engineering & Computer Sciences maintains its own computers to be used for EECS coursework. There are two types of accounts: *named* and *class* accounts. A named account has a login that resembles the user's name; a class account login resembles the course name (such as "ee141-xx"). A **UNIX** account will work on all EECS Instructional UNIX and MacOSX computers. A **Windows** account will work on all EECS Instructional Windows computers.

UNIX and **Windows** *named* accounts are requested by students, using the 'newacct' utility (see below). For many courses, no other account is needed - a student can use the named account to do assignments for various courses. For EE and CS majors, these accounts do not expire at the end of each semester.

UNIX and **Windows** *class* accounts are created at the request of faculty, who distribute account forms to the students in class. *Class* accounts are set up to serve special needs of a course. All class accounts expire at the end of each semester.

☞ *Who is qualified to have an instructional account?*

Undergraduate and graduate students who are declared majors in EECS, L&S CS, EE and CS programs are eligible for long-term *named* Instructional accounts. The account remains active as long as the student is in the department. It is not expired or turned off at the end of each semester. For some courses, temporary UNIX or Windows *class* accounts may also be issued.

For an undeclared or non-EECS major, the accounts that are issued depend upon the course(s) taken. If a course uses class accounts, the instructor will distribute the account forms, and that may be the only account that is issued. A non-EECS student should try 'newacct' (see below) to see if she is eligible for a named account.

Undeclared students who are candidates for acceptance in the major may be eligible for named accounts, with the approval of the CS Advising office (Barbara Hightower, 377 Soda). Approval would have to be requested again each semester until the student becomes a declared major.

☞ *What computers can I use for EECS coursework?*

The EECS Instructional systems are UNIX (SUN, MacOSX, Linux) and Windows (Microsoft) systems. They are located in Cory Hall, Soda Hall and Sutardja Dai Hall. For a current description of the facilities, please see bulletin boards near 199 Cory and 273 Soda, or browse our WEB site at **http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu**.

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Although EECS students will have access to a variety of computers, many instructors will specify a particular operating system (UNIX, Windows or MacOSX) that is best for the software used by that course. The URL **http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/labs** provides information about the computing labs and requirements of specific classes.

Note that EECS Instructional accounts are not valid on EECS research computers or on non-EECS systems such as the campus microcomputer labs.

☞ *How do I obtain my instructional account?*

Class accounts: account forms are **distributed in class** by the instructors.

Named accounts: Login as *newacct* (password: 'newacct') on an Instructional UNIX workstation in 199 Cory or 273 Soda (look for the signs). You may also request it over the net (using ssh or Putty) by logging in as '**newacct**' on **cory.eecs.berkeley.edu**.

newacct is an on-line procedure for requesting or renewing an EECS Instructional named account. You will be asked for your Student ID number. If you are found to be eligible, you will be asked to choose a login (ie your "user name"). The account will be created by 1PM on the next business day. An account form with your password and other information will be emailed to your UCB CalNet Directory email address.

newacct may reject the requests for some users, typically if they do not have a Student ID number or if they are not pre-enrolled in any EECS course. In that case, **newacct** will inform the student to complete an EECS Instructional Account Request Form, available outside of 386 Cory and on-line at **http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/cgi-bin/pub.cgi?file=pdf/forms/account-request-form.pdf**.

☞ *When will my account expire?*

Students who are in an EECS major keep the account for one additional semester after they graduate or leave campus. December graduates expire the following May; May graduates expire the following December. Login as **newacct** (password: 'newacct') to check the status of your account.

For students who are not EECS majors, class accounts and named accounts expire at the end of the current semester. However, their named accounts are preserved and will be restored if the student becomes eligible in the following semester.

☞ *Where do I go for help about an instructional account?*

If you have trouble with your account, contact a member of the EECS Instructional group by sending email to "**inst@eecs.berkeley.edu**" (NOT root@eecs or root@cs) or visiting **333 Soda** or **384/386 Cory Hall**. Tutorial help and guidance about UNIX, the workstations and printers is also available from the student volunteers in the **CSUA** (311 Soda) and **IEEE** (246 Cory).

The Instructional WWW site contains information about our procedures, classes, labs, and software. The URL is **http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu**

Instructional Support Group: inst@eecs, 386 Cory & 333 Soda (computing labs)
Electronics Support Group: esg@eecs, 377 Cory (electronics labs and AV)