

# Xythos

software, inc.

## Profiles in Excellence

Higher education institutions across the country have partnered with Xythos to protect vital institutional content and deliver collaborative services across their campuses. Over two million administrators, faculty and students rely on Xythos to securely access and share their files every day. Forward-thinking IT leaders are introducing academic and administrative web services using Xythos technology to address mission-critical objectives. The information technology industry has taken notice.

**“Balancing the need for improved collaboration, security, and service reliability has been an objective of our team’s initiatives at LMU. Xythos has provided a key technology component to help us begin to achieve these goals.”**

– Erin Griffin, CIO, Loyola Marymount University

As influencers in technology adoption, higher education institutions are setting the standard and providing the leaders of the future with the means to succeed.

Learn from these award-winning CIOs about how they are leveraging open standards-based technology, developing comprehensive storage and collaboration solutions and advancing the process of learning together with Xythos.



2005  
Bold CIO Winner



2006  
InfoWorld 100 Winner



2007  
CIO 100 Winner

Visit Xythos at [www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE](http://www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE) to find out more about these profiled institutions.

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## Loyola Marymount University 2007 CIO 100 Award Winner

Xythos web-enabled document and content management solutions are used for more than file sharing and collaborative initiatives. Role-based accessibility and process-driven accountability – significant features in Xythos Digital Locker Suite - are ideal for disaster recovery initiatives and other security strategies such as first-responder collaboration.

Even with powerful process management and accountability features, Xythos customers claim little to no end user training is needed to get end users productive. Support ratios of a single technician for thousands of users are common, providing significant customer cost savings. “Balancing the need for improved collaboration, security, and service reliability has been an objective of our team’s initiatives at LMU,” said Erin Griffin, CIO, Loyola Marymount University and winner of the 2007 CIO 100 Award. “Xythos has provided a key technology component to help us begin to achieve these goals.”

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**- Erin Griffin, CIO and Vice President of Information Technology,  
Loyola Marymount University**

### Secure access to critical disaster recovery data

Under the direction of Erin Griffin, CIO and Vice President of Information Technology at LMU, the university partnered with IT executives at Bowdoin College to create a co-located disaster recovery hot site. The initiative is the first of its kind in the United States and uses virtualization technology and the Internet to provide a disaster recovery solution that LMU anticipates will save over \$1 million for the university. Griffin selected Xythos to facilitate access to critical information and support the collaborative requirements of the disaster recovery plan.

Griffin also recognized the potential of web-based secure content and collaboration for teams inside and outside of the university. “Our mail system does not support huge documents as attachments due to the overhead they create,” Griffin said. “Administrative staff members are now exchanging files using secure links, instead of emailing file attachments. We like the security of knowing that confidential files are not being transported back and forth.”

Loyola faculty spend nearly 40% of their time in collaboration with faculty outside of the institution, co-authoring books, and commu-

nicating with other researchers. Xythos’ ease of integration with existing portal technology has helped them collaborate across institutional boundaries and meet the University’s goals of Outreach, Research, Promotion of Excellence and Enhancement of the Intellectual Experience.

Griffin notes that going forward almost everything LMU does will be web-based. “In moving to a SOA model, tools like Xythos will be part of a loosely coupled environment, delivering information from our enterprise systems to our constituents. The more I know about Xythos, the more opportunity I see to use it to address new and emerging problems.”

*Learn how Xythos and dozens of other higher education institutions are improving campus-wide collaboration and better protecting their valuable content. See the latest presentations recorded at Educause 2007. Visit [www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE2007](http://www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE2007).*

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*“In moving to a SOA model, tools like Xythos will be part of a loosely coupled environment.”*

*Erin Griffin, CIO and Vice President of Information Technology*

*Learn more from Erin Griffin and LMU’s strategic initiatives. Visit [www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE](http://www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE).*



University of Wisconsin,  
Milwaukee  
2006 InfoWorld 100 Winner

## University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee 2006 InfoWorld 100 Award Winner

The surplus of unsecured file sharing applications means that CIOs are challenged with providing places where students feel safe sharing personal information, researchers are assured that intellectual property cannot be easily pilfered, and faculty is comfortable that lecture notes can be safely stored for future re-use.

Xythos raises the bar with an alternative to traditional Enterprise Content Management (ECM) systems. Customers enjoy the benefits of safely managing and sharing documents and content – in a centralized and secure location. “We can now focus our resources on securing one content location and one technology,” said Bruce Maas, CIO, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. “The result is better data security and greater efficiencies in managing the data.”

**“PantherFile eliminates the need for campus units to manage their own file storage systems. These technologies save money by providing one well-researched and planned solution, rather than multiple pockets of solutions. The key savings are in the reduced number of staff and infrastructure required to support core services.”**

**- Bruce Maas, CIO, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.**

### Moving forward with PantherFile

Responding to the collaborative needs of a growing campus, the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (UWM) needed a solution that addressed the demands of a diverse and mobile community and supported secure file exchange between external organizations to support its growing research initiatives.

Partnering with Xythos, Maas and his team developed “PantherFile”, that improves enterprise-wide collaboration while increasing the security of UWM’s institutional content. PantherFile also provides the university with technology to better respond to state and federal data protection compliance requirements.

Designed to meet the needs of 30,000 users across twelve schools and colleges, UWM PantherFile has reduced its cost of managing enterprise storage and minimized user’s reliance on email to share and store files.

What’s more, PantherFile enables UWM’s American Geographic Society Library to

share GIS data, assist administrative job application processing, and support the delivery of electronic textbooks at the Student Accessibility Center for those who have physical, learning, sensory, or psychological disabilities.

PantherFile eliminates the need for campus units to manage their own file storage systems. “These technologies save money by providing one well-researched and planned solution, rather than multiple pockets of solutions,” said Maas. “The key savings are in the reduced number of staff and infrastructure required to support core services.”

*UWM PantherFile is designed to meet the needs of 30,000 users across twelve schools and colleges.*

*PantherFile and Xythos eliminate the need for campus units to manage their own file storage systems.*

*Learn more from Bruce Maas and PantherFile. Visit [www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE](http://www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE).*



## Northeastern University 2005 CIO Bold 100 Award Winner

For many years, universities were constrained by their own technology success. Learning management systems facilitated course work, file sharing applications enhanced collaboration, and portals drove personalized content. Proprietary architectures, however, made it difficult to integrate and leverage these benefits without massive development activities. In many cases, universities were left with silos of information, content and data obscured to many and difficult to share.

Xythos offers a technology neutral solution which flexibly supports mixed data center infrastructure and virtually all client systems. "Xythos is a key part of the Northeastern On Demand infrastructure, particularly as we implement centralizing content storage to improve management," said Rick Mickool, Executive Director and CTO, Information Services, at Northeastern University and a 2005 CIO Bold 100 Award winner. "More important, Xythos' adoption of open standards - such as JSR-170 - enables us to flexibly develop a common content repository for applications within our campus."

**"Xythos is a key part of Northeastern On Demand, enabling the Northeastern community to securely access their files over the web with version control and other basic library services. Our users can better work and collaborate, and ultimately be more effective." - Rick Mickool, Executive Director and CTO, Information Services, Northeastern University**

### Northeastern on Demand

Northeastern needed a solution that would serve the needs of their mobile and distributed campus community. Acting on this vision, the Northeastern Information Services leadership team created the myNEU portal. myNEU allows students to access University announcements and class schedules, as well as having direct access to admissions and other personalized student services. Anticipating the demands of the Web 2.0 architecture, the Northeastern Information Services team pushed myNEU to the next level by creating an initiative called 'Northeastern On Demand.'

With Xythos, Northeastern On Demand allows the campus community to access files and applications through myNEU. Xythos' ability to authenticate against Northeastern's LDAP directory creates a secure web-based virtual file management environment for the entire campus community. Most everything that a student, faculty member or Northeastern staff member can access on campus, they can access via Northeastern On Demand, no matter where they are located or what type of computer they are using.

One of the most critical benefits is that the Xythos open standards-based architecture integrates with all common databases, application servers, authentication sources and operating systems—fitting the heterogeneity of the Northeastern campus. Xythos architecture enables Northeastern's IT team to easily make changes to the user interface or embed collaborative document management services within other web applications.

"Xythos is a key part of Northeastern On Demand," said Mickool. "The Northeastern community can securely access their files over the web with version control and other basic library services, helping them to be more effective."

*Northeastern On Demand propelled Northeastern University to win the 2005 CIO Bold 100 award.*

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*Xythos' open standards-based architecture fits the heterogeneity of the Northeastern campus.*

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*Learn more from Rick Mickool about the Northeastern On Demand Initiative. Visit [www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE](http://www.xythos.com/EDUCAUSE).*