

# University of Georgia Turns To Mirapoint For Unstoppable Email

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*Greg Ashley, Executive Director and Assistant CIO, at the University of Georgia*

CASE STUDY | EDUCATION



**The University of Georgia**

## **BUSINESS NEED**

The University needed a reliable, scalable system that would make it easy to add features in the future

## **SOLUTION**

Mirapoint Message Server  
Mirapoint RazorGate

## **BOTTOM LINE**

The university has dependable, secure solution for its message network, that could scale to meet the increasing demands of its users, while being cost-effective and easy-to-manage over the long term

## **Background**

America's oldest state-chartered university, the University of Georgia was founded in 1785. The main campus, located in Athens, Georgia, had 45,000 students, faculty, and staff relying on a homegrown solution, known as "Arches", for campus-wide email.

Although up-front costs of the homegrown solution were moderate, the University quickly discovered that this approach proved unreliable, required significant ongoing maintenance and expensive hardware investments, and also lacked the flexibility to add new messaging services. "Email is essential to the learning process and ongoing flow of communications between our students, faculty, and staff," says Greg Ashley, Executive Director and Assistant CIO, Enterprise Information Technology Services for the University. "We needed an email system that could scale to eventually handle 100,000 users."

## **The Business Need**

What the University needed was a reliable, scalable system that would make it easy to add features in the future. Kirk Bertram, UGA's CIO and Associate Provost, enlisted the help of a committee composed of several directors of IT from across campus to identify issues, alternatives, and make recommendations. The process involved thorough dialog with several independent consultants, rigorous testing, and input from a cross-sectional campus focus group.

# University of Georgia

## The Mirapoint Solution

After receiving proposals from a number of suppliers, the evaluation committee narrowed their search to two: Novell Netmail and Mirapoint, represented by the Newman Group, which focuses on the educational market. "In the end, Mirapoint was the unanimous recommendation of the selection committee to manage the tremendous volume of email that we have, while providing a robust and user-friendly interface-all with a very reasonable total cost of ownership," says Ashley. Bertram agreed. "There is simply no room in this environment for a legacy email system. Mirapoint was the only choice."

The University has deployed Mirapoint Message Servers to deliver POP and IMAP services for its desktop email users and Webmail for its mobile user population. To facilitate online collaboration, UGA is using Mirapoint's web-based group calendar and address book. They have also implemented Mirapoint Message Directors to secure incoming email traffic and guard against spam, virus, and hacker attacks.

## The Bottom Line

The University of Georgia has dependable, secure solution for its message network, that could scale to meet the increasing demands of its users, while being cost-effective and easy-to-manage over the long term.

## About Mirapoint

Mirapoint® is the market leader in appliance-based solutions for secure message networks in enterprise, service provider, and education organizations, with more than 100 million mailboxes served and secured worldwide. Customers use Mirapoint appliances including the Message Server mail appliance and RazorGate mail security appliance to build the messaging infrastructure that intelligently serves, secures and manages email. Mirapoint is headquartered in Sunnyvale, California, with offices throughout North America, Europe and Asia. For more information on Mirapoint, visit its Website at [www.mirapoint.com](http://www.mirapoint.com).

## Configuration

- Three Mirapoint Message Servers M4000s
- Three Mirapoint RazorGates RG400
- Two Mirapoint RazorGates RG450