

Hi all,

Awfully sorry for the late notice, but we're having our fresher guide writing night for 2014 this Friday at 7pm, in the clubroom. There's a meeting beforehand, but that will hopefully be finished in time.

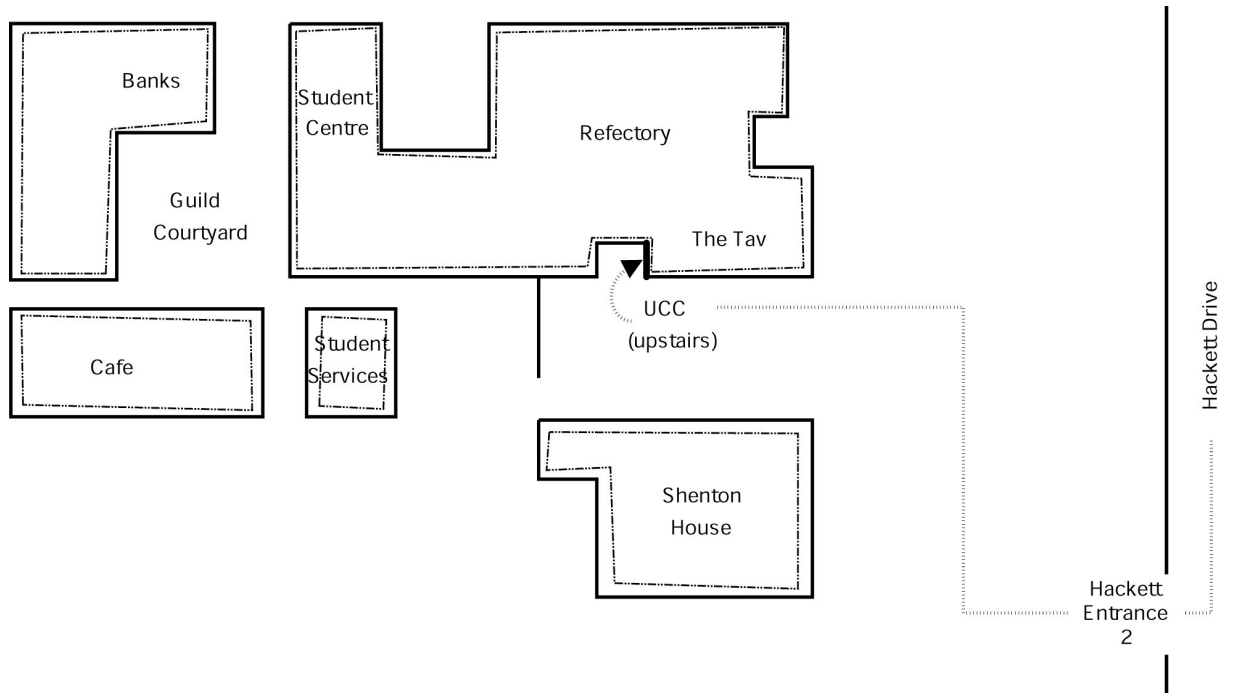
If there's not enough response, we'll reschedule, but for now, it's going ahead. I'll make something for Facebook as well, probably.

Cheers,

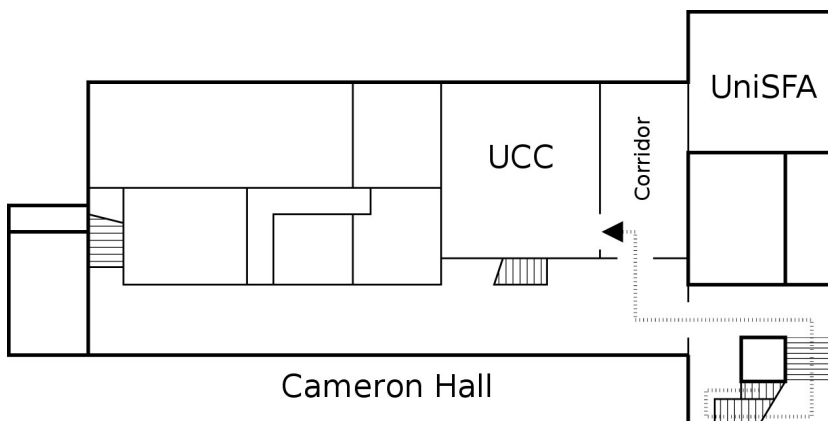
Erin

UCC Secretary 2013

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2014 UCC Fresher's Guide
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Instructions

To find the clubroom, follow the above maps:

- Starting from the carpark outside The Tav, follow the arrow on the aerial picture to get to the Cameron Hall door, then go up the stairs to the second floor and follow the bottom map.
- If you see a coke machine and a snack machine, you are in the right place. The UCC clubroom has lots of computers and a couple of couches.
- If you accidentally find yourself surrounded by books and a fridge, you're in UniSFA — try the other door in that corridor, or just ask someone who looks less confused than you.

You can see if the clubroom is open online using the webcams (<http://webcams.ucc.asn.au/>)

Setting Up Your Account

Your UCC account is one of the most important things you can have as a member. It lets you log into any of our clubroom machines, as well as granting you access to our user servers, wireless network and online drink and snack machines.

You'll need to come into the clubroom to set up your account. Once you're here, ask around for a **Wheel** or **Committee** member and have your **membership sticker** (we normally put it on your student card on O-Day) to set up your account. You'll need a user name and a password to memorise, but it's a pretty simple procedure once you've found the right person!

Now that you have an account, you can use it to log into any of our clubroom machines. If you want to log onto one of our servers, you'll need to use the **SSH** program. If you're having trouble, just ask someone in the clubroom — we don't bite!

Changing your UCC password can either be done by Ctrl-Alt-Del on a windows machine or using the command *passwd* on a Linux/Unix machine.

Accessing the UCC **WiFi** network can be a bit tricky (particularly on Windows machines). Ask someone if you need help, or refer to wiki.ucc.asn.au/Wifi

Dispense 101

At the same time as you set up your account, you will also have your dispense account set up. Dispense is the program that allows users to store credit and purchase items from the coke/snack machines (which are almost always cheaper than what you would find elsewhere on campus).

This will involve a 5 digit **User ID** and a 4 digit **PIN**. This allows you to physically log into the snack machine and dispense both drinks and snacks.

Coke members can help you add credit to your dispense account. Call out for one in the clubroom if need be, there's always one around.

You can also use your Student Card/SmartRider as a log in device on the snack machine. To do so, log in to the Snack Machine and hold whichever card you want to use up to the card scanner (it's the thing with the blinking green light) and the card should auto- enroll. To log in using the card, simply hold the enrolled card up to the card scanner.

You can also access Dispense online via shell login and using the *dispense* command. Dispense isn't installed on clubroom machines so you will have to use SSH to access one of UCC's servers. You can get someone to show you how to do this, or alternatively, go to: wiki.ucc.asn.au/SSH

UCC Groups

The UCC committee delegates specific duties and responsibilities to other people in the club. These groups, traditionally modelled after UNIX groups, are referred to often. It pays to be aware of what the responsibilities of each group are.

Wheel	Wheel is in charge of maintaining the club's machines. They are the best people to see if you're having problems with the computers. Wheel maintains its own membership, but works hand in hand with Committee on issues relating to account policy. If you abuse your account, it will be locked by a Wheel member. The unlocking of
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accounts is at the discretion of Committee. Wheel have infrequent meetings, where they sing the *secret wheel song*.

Committee The Committee is appointed each year by the members (that's you) at the AGM. They handle the day-to-day running of the club, managing money, events and holding grumpy meetings each week, which members like yourself are welcome to attend.

committee@ucc.asn.au

Fresher Rep: fresher@ucc.asn.au

The Fresher Rep is your voice on the Committee. Get to know them and let them know how incredibly happy you are! If you have problems, they'll always be ready to listen.

Coke The Coke group are the people to talk to if you want to add money to your *dispense* account (see the section on *dispense*). They can also credit your account for bad dispenses and other tasks related to *dispense*.

coke@ucc.asn.au

(appointed by committee)

Door The Door group is responsible for the clubroom itself. Only a member of door group can unlock the clubroom and keep it open for members during the day. This means that if the only Door group member in the room has to leave, then everyone will have to leave until another Door group member arrives.

door@ucc.asn.au

(appointed by committee)

Webmasters The Webmasters are charged with maintaining the UCC web presence. Becoming a Webmaster usually involves showing some interest in the UCC website, as well as approval from an existing Webmaster or member of *Wheel*.

webmasters@ucc.asn.au

Winadmins In response to the decreasing availability of *Wheel* members during the day, the Winadmins group was created to give trusted members administrator access to the Windows desktop machines in the clubroom.

winadmins@ucc.asn.au

You can see who's in each group online¹ (photos are included). Alternatively, if you're looking for a member of a certain group, shouting out 'is there anyone here in *group*?' will usually get you an answer.

Unlike committee, obtaining membership to one of the UCC groups does not involve being elected. Membership of these groups entails a certain amount of trust, so you may not be allowed to join them straight away.

The exact entry requirements are often vague and it is generally accepted that you will nominate yourself once you feel you meet those requirements. Members join Wheel by invite only, and will be asked to attend a Wheel Meeting, where they too will be taught the *Secret Wheel Song*.

Do not despair if you're not made a Wheel member immediately. Sticking around and showing an interest through contribution is more important than just having the skills.

Clubroom

¹ <http://ucc.asn.au/infobase/groups/>

The clubroom is usually open from about 9am (after the first *door group* member arrives from 8am lectures) until 11pm (when UWA security kick us out). It is also sometimes open on weekends, and most days during university holidays. There is a map to the clubroom *somewhere* in this guide. If you want to check the clubroom is open and who is there, check out webcam.ucc.asn.au

The clubroom has a heap of desktop computers, a server room, a projects area with tool cupboard, and assorted storage areas for parts, books and components. These things are all there for members to use – the locks on everything are to keep thieves out, so please don't be put off, and just ask if you need to get into something.

We don't have cleaners, so look after the clubroom! There is always a *door group* member in the room, and you will do what they damn well tell you to do as they are the ones who have to come to cleanups in their free time. Of course, if you see something that needs doing such as cleaning up, feel free to do it!

Mailing Lists

UCC has a series of mailing lists that it's members use to communicate. These include:

UCC-Announce - An announcement list through which we let members know about Events and the like. You are automatically subscribed to this list when becoming a member.

UCC - Having a party that you want to invite UCCans to? This is the list for you! Most UCCans subscribe to this list so it's a great source of information and discussion on both the club and general technical things.

Committee - The list where committee matters are dealt with and circular discussions occur. If you are interested in the running of the club then you should subscribe to this list.

Tech - Technical question? Suggestions or discussion around UCCs setup? The list used to discuss UCC's hardware and machines.

If you want to subscribe to any of these lists, you can do so at <http://lists.ucc.gu.uwa.edu.au>

IRC

Without a doubt, the easiest way to waste time in or out of UCC is chatting on our Internet Relay Chat (IRC) server.

You'll get to chat with some of the older members of the club who may not even be in Perth. Some of these old guard may seem a little grumpy or intimidating at first, but give them a chance, they are gold mines for information about the club and all things tech! We also have members from CASSA and ComSSA, clubs at other WA unis.

You can connect with an IRC client to irc.ucc.asn.au:6667 and join the channel #ucc, or with a web browser go to <http://irc.ucc.asn.au>

UCC Groups

UCC has several groups to which the Committee delegates responsibilities and duties. These groups help keep the club running on a day-to-day basis. Each group can be contacted via e-mail: [GROUP]@ucc.asn.au

Wheel

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Wheel members are the system admins of UCC, they maintain (read: break and then fix) the clubs machines (mainly the servers). If you're having a problem with a club machine, these guys are your first port of call.

Coke

=====

Coke members are the ones to go to if you want to add credit to your dispense account. If you have a problem with Dispense, these guys are your best bet.

Door

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Door member are responsible for clubroom security and cleanliness. A door member must be present whilst the clubroom is open. If the last door member is about to leave the clubroom, you will be asked to leave. Door members also have the ability to remove (door) someone from the room if they are causing problems.

Winadmins

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Winadmin members have administrator access to the clubroom windows machines. If a Wheel member isn't around to help with a problem, these guys are your next best bet.

Webmasters

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Webmasters members are in charge of UCC's (ever obsolete) website.

TODO: Add actual helpful things on how to use the things. And links to wiki.

UCC Services

UCC provides many services. Here is a not quite comprehensive list:

1. Drinks and Snacks
2. Games -
3. Facebook and Twitter

Whilst technically not provided by UCC, social media has proven a semi-popular way for members to socialise online. Or so I am told.

4. Wireless

Unifi doesn't work? You can connect to the internet through the UCC's wireless infrastructure. UCC's wireless doesn't work? Try Unifi.

5. Clubroom Music

From within the clubroom, you can navigate to <http://robotnik> to play music over the speakers. Beware, as abuse of this service may lead to activation of the dreaded "loldongs" mode.

6. Mumble - *heathred.ucc.asn.au*

What's that? I couldn't quite hear you.

7. Email

An ancient technology still favoured by many UCC members as a primary method of communicating.

6. IRC
8. HTTP (Websites)
9. SSH (Remote access to servers for general use)
10. File storage

These services and more are maintained by members; if you are interested in adding to or learning more about one of UCC's services, join the IRC channel #ucc or send an email to tech@ucc.asn.au

Server List

Most of UCC's services are run on our own servers, in the UCC clubroom. The heroic efforts of these servers keep the club running against all odds.

The servers are usually (but not always) named after fish starting with 'M'. The reasons for this are lost in the mists of time. Here is a list of servers in increasing order of obscurity; if you do not understand some of the terms, rejoice, for you have not yet been corrupted. There is still hope for you.

Heathred - Games, Mumble, General use, VM hosting (libvirt)
Minecraft - Minecraft
Robotnic - Clubroom music, Binary Audio Clock, Text to speech
Motsugo – General use, NFS (server home), LDAP (secondary), VM hosting (libvirt)
Mooneye – Email, Wiki, DNS, forwarder of spam
Mussel – HTTP (secondary), LDAP, IRC
Merlo – OpenDispense2 (Drink and Snacks, Door)
Mantis – HTTP, IRC (secondary)
Murasoi – Routing, Firewall, DHCP, overheating
Maaxen - Windows Server
Mylah - NFS (clubroom home), SAMBA, destroyer of disks
Nortel, Onetel - VM storage, shared storage
Enron, Stearns - SAN (clubroom home storage), destroyers of disks
Camwhore - Webcams
Medico - VM hosting (proxmox)
Bitumen, Curviceps - Switches
Mollitz - Offsite backups

Glossary

Words and phrases that are (or were) useful around the club.

Dr ACC Murphy	A Computer Called Murphy. Dr ACC Murphy is infamous around the UCC. He even receives mail!
BSD	Berkeley Systems Distribution – a UNIX developed at Berkeley, now better known through the FreeBSD, NetBSD and OpenBSD UNIXes. <i>musdea</i> runs FreeBSD.
blog	<i>aka. weblog</i> – sort of like a journal on the Internet (you don't have one?). Think of it as a <i>tumblr</i> for grown-ups. Syndicated by a <i>Planet</i> .
Coke credit	If you gotta ask, you ain't got it! Coke credit is how people usually refer to money in your <i>dispense</i> account.
Coke Group	The people who can put money (<i>Coke credit</i>) in your <i>dispense</i> account.
Debian	a <i>Linux</i> distribution popular in the UCC due to its community nature.
DEC Terminal	A dumb serial terminal, useful for plugging into the serial console on servers (possibly via a <i>terminal server</i>). Has a model number like vt100, vt200 or vt420. There's one in the corridor you can log into <i>muschel</i> and dispense drinks from.
dispense	dispense started off as a way to dispense Cokes from the online Coke machine, and has since grown into the way UCCans think the world should do business.
Door Group	the group of people charged with keep the room open, tidy and safe.
Firefox	A web browser by the <i>Mozilla Foundation</i> , arguably the second-worst Internet browser – the worst is every other browser.
Flame	Flame is the UCC's MUD (<i>Multi-User Dungeon</i>) and may or may not be haunted.
Fresher	A new university student, usually also a first time UCC member.
Fresher Rep	Fresher Committee member, usually chosen because they look like they'll make a good worker drone in the future. Represents the freshers at committee meetings, if they attend.
GNOME	GNU Networked Object Model Environment – an <i>open source</i> desktop environment aimed primarily at UNIX computers. Quite popular in the past, before it removed all of the features people liked.
GNU	GNU is Not Unix – a layer of libraries and utilities to implement a UNIX like operating system, commonly used on top of <i>Linux</i> .
Internet Explorer	Just use <i>Firefox</i> . No, really.
IRC	The lifeblood of UCCan communication. <i>Internet Relay Chat</i> lets you share news, stories and terrible puns with other members worldwide.
KDE	The K Desktop Environment. A rival of GNOME which some members prefer. Contains a frankly scary number of features, and a memory footprint to match.
kernel	The core of an operating system. All operating systems have a kernel, some popular ones include the <i>Linux</i> kernel and the <i>Mach</i> kernel.
LDAP	<i>Lightweight Directory Access Protocol</i> : the black magic used for authentication at the UCC.
Linux	the <i>kernel</i> (basis) of an open source UNIX operating system that has developed quite a following among computer scientists and engineers.

loft	the area above the UCC that looks down into the UCC clubroom. LAN gaming and other activities take place up there.
machine room	The UCC data centre. This is the small room with the glass doors that is located within the clubroom. All of our servers are kept in this room. It is locked when there is no one from <i>Wheel</i> around.
mailing list	a way of communicating with a very large number of people via email. The UCC has several mailing lists of varying popularity.
Mozilla	develop several open source web related products, such as <i>Firefox</i> and <i>Thunderbird</i> .
OCM	Ordinary Committee Member – the worker drones of the UCC Committee, they do lots of work, for little reward.
Oligoboot	boots more then one operating system (selectable when you boot).
OpenSolaris	A UNIX developed by Sun Microsystems, and abandoned by Oracle.
NeXTStep	An operating system developed by NeXT before they were bought out by Apple. Lots of NeXTStep is incorporated into Mac OS X.
open source	A software ideology, where the source code to software (what is compiled into the program you run) is freely available. Also known as Free Software, exactly what makes a program open source is a good way to get into an argument.
Planet	A web page that syndicates <i>blogs</i> . UCC has one at http://planet.ucc.asn.au/
Secret Wheel Song	The song that is supposedly sung at the beginning of each <i>Wheel</i> meeting.
SLA	A <i>Service Level Agreement</i> . A document describing how reliable services are. UCC does not have one, and you should not ask Wheel members about it.
terminal server	Sort of a router for serial ports, allows you to connect to one serial port from another. Usually connected to <i>DEC Terminals</i> , servers and <i>dispense</i> . (It can also refer to other sorts of servers which provide login sessions over the network).
theft book	this is where you write down that you borrowed tools from UCC. It is not for borrowing books; you mail books@ucc.asn.au to do that.
TLA	Three Letter Acronym – a way to refer to UCC members, often used in the minutes of meetings. Use the <i>tla</i> program or visit the UCC website to decode them.
Ubuntu	A <i>Linux</i> distribution derived from <i>Debian</i> . Funded with space money.
UCCan	someone who spends a lot of time in the UCC. Some UCCans pass their units.
Unifi	The University wireless network. Available around campus where UCC's wireless is not. You need to be a student to access it though.
UniSFA	the University Science Fiction Association, the ones down the hall.
VM	A VM or <i>Virtual Machine</i> is a computer emulated on top of another computer. Many of the UCC's servers run inside VMs. The claim is that UCC's VMs are not a “single point of failure.”
WAIX	WA Internet eXchange – a group of ISPs and interested bodies who peer resources on the Internet for mutual benefit.
Wheel Group	the group responsible for maintaining computers, accounts and services in UCC.