Here’s Listening to You
A Message From the NUI, NA President for 2000

Mike Gerst

1999 was a good year for NetWare Users International (NUI). As networking technology changed during the year, NUI also changed to keep up with the pace of change facing you, the network administrator.

In 1999, two of the highlights for NUI were the NUI Leadership Summit and the relaunching of NUI’s web site. Both of these events made NUI stronger and a better resource for you.

**NUI Leadership Summit**

In March 1999, presidents and delegates from more than 150 NetWare user groups worldwide met for the fourth annual NUI Leadership Summit in Salt Lake City. At the two-day leadership summit, NUI representatives participated in seminars and workshops, including a question-and-answer session with Dr. Eric Schmidt, Novell Chairman of the Board and CEO. At this question-and-answer session, Dr. Schmidt recognized the value of NUI members and NetWare user groups to Novell and reconfirmed Novell’s commitment to NUI.

The NUI Leadership Summit was held in conjunction with BrainShare '99 Salt Lake City, Novell’s premier technical conference. As a result, NUI representatives also attended BrainShare ’99.

**NUI’s New Web Site**

During 1999, NUI also relaunched the NUI web site (http://www.nuinet.com). This new web site is a place for NUI members and NetWare user groups to communicate with each other. The web site is regularly updated to keep you current on the latest NUI events.

NUI’s redesigned web site also provides many resources and tools for NUI members. For example, the web site features technical tips and forums, special webcasts, a section for NetWare user group presidents with NUI organizational information, user group spotlights, and much more. (If you want your user group to be spotlighted on NUI’s web site, send an e-mail message to sosburn@novell.com.) If you haven’t explored this new resource, check out NUI’s web site for yourself.

**A NEW YEAR**

As president of NUI, North America (NUI, NA) for 2000, one of my goals for the upcoming year is to ensure that each NUI member knows what NUI is doing and knows how to get information about NUI. For example, I plan to make sure that the regional representatives are in touch with each user group president in their region and that, through them, I am in touch with you.

Communication among you, your user group president, NUI regional representatives, NUI staff, and myself is essential. We must know what your needs are and how well we are meeting those needs. Please let us know how we are doing. This kind of open communication will more fully enable NUI to be the association for Novell networking professionals. You can contact me personally using the following information:

Mike Gerst
e-mail: m-gerst@tamu.edu
telephone: 1-409-845-9689

You can also contact Brent Sharp, NUI executive director:

Brent Sharp
e-mail: bsharp@novell.com
telephone: 1-800-228-4684

For a list of user group presidents and NUI staff members, visit http://www.nuinet.com.

During 2000, we will again invite user group presidents to join us during the weekend before BrainShare 2000 Salt Lake City for the annual NUI Leadership Summit. (BrainShare 2000 Salt Lake City will be held March 26–31.) The NUI Leadership Summit is a great opportunity for user group presidents to receive information from Novell executives and to exchange ideas and associate with other user group presidents.

**CONCLUSION**

NUI is committed to delivering professional opportunities for NUI members, and we plan to expand those opportunities in 2000. We welcome and encourage your feedback.

Mike Gerst is president of NUI, NA for 2000.

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**January on NUI’s Web Site**

The hot topic this month is backup. Look for the following features—and more—on NUI’s web site (http://www.nuinet.com):

- Meet Veritas Software, one of the giants of the backup industry, in the Vendor Spotlight.
- In the Technical Spotlight, download a white paper that outlines the procedures for implementing Veritas’s Backup Exec.
- Stay tuned for great new career resources coming this month.