

pika has a locker (storage space in OpenAFS provided by MIT IS&T) named "zelda" that has some stuff in it. It's mostly pre2015, but it is not totally useless.

You can read more about OpenAFS and lockers at SIPB's [AFS and You](#) page.

Note: this page is from 2015(?) or something like that, it may or may not be at all relevant.

Sun Rack cps1500avr 1500

- 1: LCD
- 2: 2U Sunfire PSU 1 of 2
- 3: Netgear
- 4: 1U Sunfire PSA

Note: Not 100% sure on these.

Have email in to get second USB to Serial converter. Then set up get and bogomips. Make sure loongson2f-1 backups are up to date.

Cisco Rack APC 750

- 1: Netgear 1 of 3
- 2: Netgear 2 of 3
- 3: Netgear 3 of 3
- 4: Cisco Wireless
- 5: Cisco Router
- 6: V-P Fiber to Ethernet

We pay `rsync.net` \$9/year to have 25G of backup space accessible over ssh and such.

We use public key authentication, and try to keep the authorized keys list in sync with the list of yfncc keys in the yfncc-cdist repository. There is a password in the password stash in case things go wrong.

For `.ssh/config`:

```
Host zurich
  Hostname ch-s010.rsync.net
  User 16502
```

Currently, the backups contain the four yfncc [git](#) repositories; we should probably copy other stuff there as well.

Most pika computers are managed using [cdist](#), using configuration files stored in [git](#). `cdist` is a means of configuring the pika computers, particularly `pika-web`, as we choose. The current pika version can be found on the [backups](#) and is called `yfncc-cdist`

## Relevant parts of cdist

The vast majority of times that `yfncc` needs to change something in `cdist`, it will be in `yfncc-cdist/cdist/conf/manifest`. Some of the most important items in this directory are highlighted here - `pika-web.mit.edu`: this script controls `pika-web`, `pika-wiki`, and `mealplan`. It contains all of the network settings (IP hostnames, MAC addresses, nameservers, ports, etc.) as well as numerous calls to other scripts and binaries to handle such things as certificate authentication. If you need to reinstall OpenBSD on `pika-web`, most of the initial configuration parameters can be found here.

- `bin/openbsd/`: This contains the various `go` binaries required to run the pika websites. They can be compiled from their corresponding repository on <https://github.com/pikans>. To update them, just make the changes in the appropriate repository, then compile them, and replace the binary in this directory. The `mealplan` repository has the most detailed documentation, and similar methods can be used on the other repositories.

- `pubkeys/`: This directory contains various public keys to give individuals access to the appropriate website-related user profiles. Of primary relevance here are `pika-private` and `yfnccs`. Any public key placed in the former will allow the user to use `ssh web@pika-web.mit.edu`. Any public key placed in the latter will allow the user to use `ssh root@pika-web.mit.edu`.

## Updating cdist

1. Pull the current `cdist` state from the remote repositories. See the [git page](#) for details.
2. Make the desired changes on your local repository.
3. Commit your changes.
4. Push your changes
5. Navigate up to `yfncc-cdist/` in the `cdist` repo and run `./bin/cdist config -v pika-web.mit.edu`. Note that this requires that you have SSH keys for root on `pika-web.mit.edu`. If you do not have these, inquire with the current `yfncc`.
6. Restart the appropriate service(s). If you made significant changes to multiple services, it may be easier to restart the `pika-web` computer altogether, but beware that if you misconfigured things, `pika-web` may be unable to reconnect to the internet and will require you to manually fix it using the terminal in the pika basement.

MIT students should use <https://certassist.mit.edu> to get certificates.

When pikans are unable to get MIT client certificates (due to technical difficulties or not being current MIT affiliates), but still need access to the mealplan website or the wiki, we can give them client certificates signed by a pika certificate authority. The procedure is as follows:

First, make sure that the person's email address (lilah@example.com) is on pika-food or pika-private as appropriate.

Then:

```
$ ssh root@pika-web.mit.edu
# cd certs
# openssl req -new -newkey rsa:4096 -nodes -keyout lilah-key.pem -out lilah.csr
Country Name (2 letter code) []:US
State or Province Name (full name) []:Massachusetts
Locality Name (eg, city) []:Cambridge
Organization Name (eg, company) []:pika
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:
Common Name (eg, fully qualified host name) []:Lilah Cat
Email Address []:lilah@example.com

Please enter the following 'extra' attributes
to be sent with your certificate request
A challenge password []:
# openssl x509 -req -days 3650 -in lilah.csr -CA pika-ca.pem -CAkey pika-ca-key.pem -CAcreateserial -out lilah.pem
# openssl pkcs12 -export -clcerts -in lilah.pem -inkey lilah-key.pem -out lilah.p12
# exit
$ scp pika-web.mit.edu:certs/lilah.p12 .
```

Now give lilah.p12 to the pikan, and help them import it into their web browser (for Firefox you go into Preferences -> Advanced -> Certificates -> View -> Import). During the last `pkcs12 -export` command you have the option to enter a password; this is probably overkill, but if you do set a password, you'll need to give it to the pikan when they import the certificate into their browser. (If you leave the password blank you might need to enter a blank password when importing.)

Installation instructions from certassist:

~~~~~ instructions-chrome/IE-windows: Open the downloaded .p12 file, and follow the steps of the Certificate Import Wizard.  
instructions-chrome-linux: Save the .p12 file, then import it at Settings â†’ Advanced â†’ Manage certificates â†’ Your Certificates â†’ Import.  
instructions-firefox-windows: Save the .p12 file, then import it at Options â†’ Advanced â†’ Certificates â†’ View Certificates â†’ Your Certificates â†’ Import.  
instructions-firefox-mac/linux: Save the .p12 file, then import it at Preferences â†’ Advanced â†’ Certificates â†’ View Certificates â†’ Your Certificates â†’ Import.  
instructions-chrome-android: Open the downloaded .p12 file, and follow the prompts to install your certificate.  
instructions-chrome-mac: Open the downloaded .p12 file, and follow the prompts to add your certificate to the login keychain. ~~~~~

## How to set this up from scratch

If data from pika-web has been lost and you need to recreate this setup, here's how to create a new self-signed pika CA:

```
$ ssh root@pika-web.mit.edu
# mkdir certs
# cd certs
# openssl req -x509 -newkey rsa:4096 -nodes -keyout pika-ca-key.pem -out pika-ca.pem -days 3650
Country Name (2 letter code) [XX]:US
State or Province Name (full name) []:Massachusetts
Locality Name (eg, city) [Default City]:Cambridge
Organization Name (eg, company) [Default Company Ltd]:pika
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:yfncc
Common Name (eg, your name or your server's hostname) []:pikans.org
Email Address []:yfncc@mit.edu
# exit
$ cd yfncc-cdist
$ scp root@pika-web.mit.edu:certs/pika-ca.pem cdist/conf/manifest/pubkeys/pika-ca.pem
$ git commit cdist/conf/manifest/pubkeys/pika-ca.pem -m "replace pika CA"
$ git push
```

Most pika computers are managed using [cdist](#), using configuration files stored in [git](#). All machines are meant to be accessed over ssh as root with public key authentication, there is an emergency password stash inside the leftmost server rack.

pika-web.mit.edu hosts pikans.org, wiki.pikans.org, and mealplan.pikans.org. The operating system is OpenBSD, the web frontends use some custom go code to glue together golang standard library implementations of TLS and HTTP with rsc.io/letsencrypt certificate manager (see <https://github.com/pikans/simple-https-server/blob/master/main.go#L1>). Access to the wiki is controlled using the pika-wiki moira group and client certificates from either MIT or StartCom; this is implemented as a HTTP reverse proxy (<https://github.com/pikans/listproxy/blob/master/main.go#L1>). The wiki itself runs Gollum, the software behind github wikis. Mealplan uses a similar frontend architecture, but the webapp itself is also written in go (<https://github.com/pikans/mealplan>). We should probably deduplicate and package the web frontend code some day.

bogomips.mit.edu is a storage server. It is used for archived pika stuff, backups, and various media. The operating system is FreeBSD, chosen due to the reliability features of ZFS.

pika-guest-manager.mit.edu does not exist, it never gives dhcp addresses (registered to yfncc) to guests plugged into some select ethernet ports or connected to pika- wifi. The operating system is OpenBSD resflash.

pika-guest-ap-murph.mit.edu is an openwrt wireless access point, currently disabled. It used to be connected to pika-guest-manager.mit.edu.

musika.mit.edu is a [musicazooing](#) server hooked up to the soundsystem in the Jazz Lounge. The operating system is Debian. When Musika breaks, [fixing it](#) usually works.

Currently, the machines that run Windows do not seem to be maintained by anybody. get.mit.edu is accessed over Windows RDP and runs treasuring software (Quickbooks Pro 2015). This is somewhat documented in [Treasuring System Administration](#).

# Public Repositories

Public repositories are at <https://github.com/pikans>. This includes the mealplan server, the web server, the wiki server, the public wiki server, and a helper script for SHITS reminders. You can clone all of them by doing

```
curl -s https://api.github.com/users/pikans/repos | grep "clone_url" | awk '{print $2}' | sed -e 's"/"/g' -e 's/,/g' | xargs -n1 echo git clone
```

# Private Repositories

All pika private computer stuff is in git repositories: the website, the wiki content, and the [cdist](#) configuration files for all pika-managed computers. All git repositories are synchronized to two locations: `bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/$REPO` and `16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:$REPO` as a backup. In addition to that, the active copies of the website and the wiki are served from `web@pika-web.mit.edu:/home/web/pikawiki` and `pika-web.mit.edu:/home/wiki/pikawiki` respectively.

When editing the content of a repository, one should always push the change to all locations (as done by default in any configuration on this page). Any one of the pushes failing should be reported to yfncc and we will fix it :). Also, you probably need permissions to access any of these repositories -- just ask. Pull from the one that makes sense.

## pika-website

This repository is used to update the pika website (just push to the webserver); it also contains archived versions of the website. To use it, run `git clone ssh://web@pika-web.mit.edu:/home/web/pika-website` and then edit `pika-website/.git/config` to the following:

```
[core]
  repositoryformatversion = 0
  filemode = true
  bare = false
  logallrefupdates = true
[remote "web"]
  url = web@pika-web.mit.edu:/home/web/pika-website
  fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/web/*
[remote "bogomips"]
  url = bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/pika-website
  fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/bogomips/*
[remote "zurich"]
  url = 16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:pika-website
  fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/zurich/*
[remote "all"]
  url = web@pika-web.mit.edu:/home/web/pika-website
  url = bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/pika-website
  url = 16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:pika-website
  fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/web/*
[branch "master"]
  remote = all
  merge = refs/heads/master
```

Running 'git push' with the above configuration produces this output, and prompts you to enter the root password for rsync.net user 16502.

```
your_user$ git push
Counting objects: 3, done.
Delta compression using up to 12 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (3/3), done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 339 bytes | 339.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 2), reused 0 (delta 0)
To pika-web.mit.edu:/home/web/pika-website
  540d65b..486c515  master -> master
Counting objects: 3, done.
Delta compression using up to 12 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (3/3), done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 339 bytes | 339.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 2), reused 0 (delta 0)
To bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/pika-website
  540d65b..486c515  master -> master
Password: [ENTER RSYNC PASSWORD HERE]
Counting objects: 3, done.
Delta compression using up to 12 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (3/3), done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 339 bytes | 339.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 2), reused 0 (delta 0)
To ch-s010.rsync.net:pika-website
  540d65b..486c515  master -> master
```

To pull updates to an already downloaded repository, run `git pull --rebase web master`.

(not ideal route) If that doesn't work, run `git checkout HEAD -- [filename.ext]`

## yfncc-cdist

This repository contains autoconfiguration files for all pika computers (in directory `conf/cdist/manifest`). To clone it, run `git clone ssh://root@bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/yfncc-cdist` and then edit `yfncc-cdist/.git/config` to the following:

```
[core]
  repositoryformatversion = 0
  filemode = true
  bare = false
  logallrefupdates = true
[remote "bogomips"]
  url = bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/yfncc-cdist
  fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/bogomips/*
[remote "zurich"]
  url = 16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:yfncc-cdist
  fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/zurich/*
[remote "all"]
  url = bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/yfncc-cdist
  url = 16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:yfncc-cdist
[branch "pika"]
  remote = all
  merge = refs/heads/pika
# "midstream" for sending patches to cdist itself
[remote "github"]
  url = git@github.com:andres-erbsen/cdist
  fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/github/*
  merge = refs/heads/pika
[branch "midstream"]
  remote = github
# upstream, cdist configuration management
[remote "origin"]
  url = https://github.com/telmich/cdist.git
```

```
    fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/origin/*
[branch "master"]
    remote = origin
    merge = refs/heads/master
```

To pull updates to an already downloaded repository, run `git pull --rebase bogomips`.

## pikawiki

This repository contains the content (not the implementation) of the wiki. You can commit and push to the wikiserver, and the wiki content will change. To clone it, run `git clone ssh://wiki@pika-web.mit.edu:/home/wiki/pikawiki` and then edit `pikawiki/.git/config` to the following:

```
[core]
    repositoryformatversion = 0
    filemode = true
    bare = false
    logallrefupdates = true
[remote "wiki"]
    url = wiki@pika-web.mit.edu:/home/wiki/pikawiki
    fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/wiki/*
[remote "bogomips"]
    url = bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/pikawiki
    fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/bogomips/*
[remote "zurich"]
    url = 16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:pikawiki
    fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/zurich/*
[remote "all"]
    url = wiki@pika-web.mit.edu:/home/wiki/pikawiki
    url = bogomips.mit.edu:/left/archive/pikawiki
    url = 16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:pikawiki
[branch "master"]
    remote = all
    merge = refs/heads/master
```

To pull updates to an already downloaded repository, run `git pull --rebase wiki master`.

## facebook\_archive\_2021\_04

This repository contains the archive of pika's facebook account, as of April 2021, including all images and posts. To clone it, run `16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:facebook_archive_2021_04` and then edit `pikawiki/.git/config` to the following:

```
[core]
    repositoryformatversion = 0
    filemode = true
    bare = false
    logallrefupdates = true
[remote "zurich"]
    url = 16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:facebook_archive_2021_04
    fetch = +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/zurich/*
[remote "all"]
    url = 16502@ch-s010.rsync.net:facebook_archive_2021_04
[branch "master"]
    remote = all
    merge = refs/heads/master
```

To pull updates to an already downloaded repository, run `git pull --rebase zurich master`.



To request a public IP/hostname from IS&T (for something you want to be accessible outside MIT), you can file an IS&T helpdesk ticket with your desired hostname and your device's MAC address, or you can repurpose one of the hostnames here (you'll need to change your device's MAC) and get yfncc to change the name to whatever you want.

spare hostnames available for use:

- ziyou.mit.edu, 18.18.214.18, MAC 00:23:8b:35:6e:74

pika has a lot of mailing lists for various purposes. It's useful to have a list of these to reference when you want to send emails, so here ya go. It seems like a lot, but mostly you should care about the main/social lists and reference the elected positions when you need:

(all are @mit.edu; for example, pika-private is pika-private@mit.edu.) (Also, all of these except "pikans" are moira managed lists; you can add/remove yourself at <https://groups.mit.edu/webmoira/>. Requires certificates)

## Email List Etiquette

- Be careful what you send to **pika-social** - it has a whole lot of people on it, many of whom we may want to rush at some point, so we want to make a positive impression.
- To that effect: emails like "who left their laundry in the washer" should ALWAYS go to **pika-private** and should NEVER go to **pika-social**

## Getting added to lists

Please in this order:

1. Try to add yourself - click on the link next to the list name.
2. Bug yfncc@mit.edu to add you

## Administering Lists

- When making a new moira list for pika, make sure the list ownership includes at least pika-private@mit.edu and yfncc@mit.edu. You can set the owner to pika-private-plus-yfncc@mit.edu if that's all you need, or create another list that owns your new list and includes pika-private and yfncc along with any other owners it should have.
- Moira lists - the links below will let you admin lists, or use "blanche" from the command line.
- Mailman lists - click on the link below, then scroll to the bottom and click on the "administrative interface (requires authorization)" link. You'll need the admin password, some of which are in /private/maillinglist-passwords.
- Note: starting March 2013, records of past pika-private membership gets dumped in /mit/zelda/pika\_private\_snapshot.log on AFS, in case you are curious who lived here when. [Note: as of 2019, this link may be defunct. Oops.]

## List of lists

### Main/Social Lists (all residents are on all of these):

*pika-private*: Residential in-house mailing list for logistical/house-only-relevant matters. Medium/high traffic

*pika-commie*: (Commie as in "community") Social/random discussion list for close friends of the house (arbitrarily defined). Medium/high traffic

*pika-social*: Social list for large events and meal-plan signups. Low traffic.

*pika-food*: Dinner and mealplan related announcements and discussion. Request kitchen duty swaps and announce late dinners here. Medium traffic

### Elected Positions (yfn stands for 'your friendly neighborhood'):

*yfnhm*: House managers; email us if stuff in the house is broken or if you're gonna miss SHITS or something.

*pika-treasurer*: (alternatively yfnt) They handle the money. Talk to them if you need to set up a housebill payment plan.

*yfnkm*: Kitchen Manager, handles mealplan scheduling and signup periods + general kitchen stuff.

*yfnfs*: Stewards, they get the food.

*pika-rush*: Rush/recruitment; they organize rush week and bid meetings.

*pika-speaker*: MIT makes us have a "president" to send to meetings; we call this position "speaker". Not really any reason you should email this list.

### Alum Lists (we should be better about adding alums to these!):

*pikans*: Theoretically a list of everyone who has lived at pika ever. Very low traffic (2-3 emails/year)

*pika-alum-talk*: Alum general-discussion list; people are added on request. Still pretty low traffic.

*nutso-flaming-pikans*: Theoretically more spammy version of pika-alum-talk. Medium/low traffic.

*pika-local-alums*: Theoretically pika alums who live in the Cambridge/Boston metro area.

### Other stuff:

*pika-lynx*: People sometimes send random web links here (funny youtube videos! insightful speeches! etc.)

## List of Lists [as it was in 2013. As of 2019, most of these are no longer extant.]

- Please add any lists you know of that are not listed!
- Feel free to update below with more current / correct information :-)

| List (admin link)                | Description                               | Note | Elected?                          | Active?                                     |                                           |                        |       |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| fsilg-sysadmin <a href="#">3</a> | FSILG System Administration Collaboration |      | bay-area-pikans <a href="#">1</a> | pikans living in the bay area of California |                                           | desi <a href="#">2</a> | meow! |
|                                  |                                           |      |                                   | fsilg-sysadmin-archives <a href="#">4</a>   | FSILG System Administration Collaboration |                        |       |

Archives | | | | housecorp [5](#) | Alumni Corporation of pika | | | | in-house-pikans [6](#) | forwards to pika-house | | | | jazz-lounge [7](#) | | | | joepika [8](#) | |  
used for common login to various web services | | | | kingpin [9](#) | The pika kitchen kingpin! | | | | mealplanner-dev [10](#) | hippies working on pika's  
lates server | | | | mountain-pika [11](#) | pika pika pika pika climbing | | | | nutso-flaming-pikans [12](#) | Random commentary for pikans and their  
friends. | | | | ny-pikans [13](#) | pikans living in the NYC area | | | | out-house-pikans [14](#) | forwards to pika-alum-talk | | | | pika-alum-talk [15](#) |  
Present and former members of pika and their friends; higher traffic than pikans@mit.edu. | | | | pika-ambassador [16](#) | | single point of contact  
for pika's neighbors | | | | pika-barn [17](#) | pika barn renovations coordination | | | | pika-bids [18](#) | People with bids at pika who aren't frosh | | | |  
pika-bids-10 [19](#) | | | | | pika-books [20](#) | | people working on jhamrick's pika books webapp | | | | pika-bread [21](#) | | | | | pika-bridge [22](#) | | | | | pika-  
car-czar [23](#) | | person who deals with parking / cars | | | | pika-chickens [24](#) | | | | | pika\_chickens [25](#) | | pika mailing lists use dash, not underscore;  
so it's preferable to use one of the other aliases of this list. | | | | pika-chicks [26](#) | | same list as pika-chickens | | | | pika-chicks-request [27](#) | | | | |  
pika-climbers [28](#) | climbers | | | | | pika-commie [29](#) | people who are around pika a lot | list for **current** pika community | | | | pika-construction [30](#) |  
| Discussion of Construction at pika | | | | | pika-cooks [31](#) | pika big cooks | | | | | pika-csa [32](#) | | people who get notified by the scary lady | | | | pika-  
cycling [33](#) | | | | | pika-daf [34](#) | Development of pika's undergraduAte rush effort, Fuck yeah | | | | | pika-dialup-acl [35](#) | ACL for dialup users of  
pika cluster machines | | | | | pika-disc [36](#) | pika ultimate frisbee! | | | | | pika-errors [37](#) | The list of people we really shouldn't have given a bid to. | |  
| | | | pika-food [38](#) | pika meal plan folk | | | | | pika-foot [39](#) | soccer with pikans | ... or pika foot fetishists? | | | | pika-frosh [40](#) | Frosh with bids at  
pika (non-frosh are on pika-bids) | | | | | pika-fucking-social [41](#) | | | | | pika-gardens [42](#) | pika gardens and general yard maintenance/projects | | | |  
pika-gatekeeper [43](#) | | | | | pika-graywater [44](#) | | | | | pika-green [45](#) | | | | | pika-groupies [46](#) | pika "groupies" | | | | | pika-historian [47](#) | pika  
historian | | | | | pika-house [48](#) | non-private pika-related discussion (includes friends of the house) | | | | | pika-house-managers [49](#) | | current and  
interested former house managers | | | | | pika-house-managers-current [50](#) | current pika house managers - alias for yfnhm lisr | | | | | pika-interest [51](#) |  
| If you have visited pika during a rush period... | | | | | pika-irdf [52](#) | Fully utilize IRDF Grant money for pika | | | | | pika-jam [53](#) | | | | | pika-jazz  
[54](#) | A list about live shows, centered around jazz but including other genres as well | | | | | pika-list-of-lists [55](#) | | | | | pika-local-alums-announce  
is DEFUNCT / DEPOPULATED as of 5/1/2013 [56](#) | announce things to pika alums who live close to pika | rexaiecec | | | | pika-lynx [57](#) | Opt-in  
pictures of cats and occasional discussion... | | | | | pika-math [58](#) | in which pika learns math | | | | | pika-meditation [59](#) | | | | | pika-mp3-announce  
[60](#) | folks interested in pika's internal mp3 server | | | | | pika-music [61](#) | rockin music lovin pikans | | | | | pika-neighbors [62](#) | | After people sign up  
it's useful to login there to put in their full names. | | | | | pika-odd-jobs [63](#) | | | | | pika-orgies [64](#) | | | | | pika-orgy [65](#) | | | | | pika-overlord [66](#) | | | | |  
pika-pledges [67](#) | people moving into pika soon | | | | | pika-power [68](#) | | | | | pika-president [69](#) | Pika President | | | | | pika-private [70](#) | pika  
housemember-only discussion | | | | | pika-privates [71](#) | | | | | pika-produce [72](#) | For ordering produce | | | | | pika-questions [73](#) | pika, an  
independent living group of MIT | For people who want to answer questions about pika | | | | | pika-rush [74](#) | | | | | pika-rush-2010 [75](#) | freshman  
rushees fall 2010 | | | | | pika-secretary [76](#) | | | | | pika-social [77](#) | pika's social list | | | | | pika-social-request [78](#) | | | | | pika-spang [79](#) | | | | | pika-  
summer [80](#) | summer pikans; use instead of summer-pikans | | | | | pika-summer-dictator [81](#) | | | | | pika-summer-food [82](#) | pika summer meal plan  
| | | | | pika-summer-high-muckymucks [83](#) | pika summer officers | | | | | pika-summer-interest [84](#) | People interested in living at pika, summer  
2009 | | | | | pika-tkd [85](#) | | | | | pika-treasurer [86](#) | | | | | pika-vote [87](#) | | | | | pika-vps [88](#) | | | | | pika-vps-root | | | | | pika-windows [89](#) | | | | | pika-  
zipcar [90](#) | | | | | pikachuoftheday-request [91](#) | | | | | pikans [92](#) | Present and former members of pika and their friends. (Low traffic!) | | | | |  
pikans-acl [93](#) | pikans ACL | | | | | pikans.org-mesh [94](#) | | Notifications and discussion for pikans.org/mesh-\* network | | | | | rihp [95](#) | forwards to  
pika-private | | | | | rihp-plus-pledges [96](#) | pika rihp and pledges | | | | | seattle-pikans [97](#) | pikans living in the Seattle area | note | | | | summer-  
dictator [98](#) | pika summer dictator | | | | | summer-pikans [99](#) | Undeprecated to avoid confusion errors; everyone should be using spam-filters these  
days | | | | | uk-pikans [100](#) | pikans living in the UK | | | | | yfnac [101](#) | | your friendly neighborhood alum chair | | | | | yfncc [102](#) | | your friendly  
neighborhood computer chair | | | | | yfncc-and-rush [103](#) | | | | | yfncc-logs [104](#) | yfncc-related logs | logs from computers managed by yfncc | | | |  
yfnhm [105](#) | Your friendly neighborhood House Managers | | | | | yfnj [106](#) | Your Friendly Neighborhood Jo(h)n | | | | | yfnkm [107](#) | your friendly  
neighborhood kitchen manager at pika | | | | | yfns [108](#) | Your Friendly Neighborhood Stewards | | | | | zelda [109](#) | was user group, now belongs to  
locker | acl for the zelda openafs locker | | |

How to try fix temporary fuckage by updating software:

1. get a former yfncc (as of 2019: kruerj@reed.edu, joebob, dukhovni, and andreser are all options. Ask those listed earlier first :) to add your SSH key to musika
2. go to the seekrit yfncc password list and find the root password for musika
3. ssh into musika
4. go into the "musicazooing" folder and run "install.sh", entering the password when prompted:

```
$ cd musicazooing $ ./install.sh
```

This will upgrade all the system packages and all the python packages that musicazoo depends on. In particular, it's important to keep the youtube downloader package up to date, because google keeps changing the way youtube works and then the old version of the downloader won't work anymore.

1. Reboot musika
2. Jam out to sick beats!

pika has one Ubiquity NanoBridge on its roof.

- NanoBridge M2 <https://m2.pikans.org> (2.4 GHz) WLAN0 MAC 00:27:22:30:6A:7B - LAN0 MAC 00:27:22:31:6A:7B

Old note There is a 2nd M2 that should be on PBE's roof soon.

## Doc

[Documentation](#) is available.

## Notes

p25

Router or SOHO Router mode keeps broadcast traffic within its respective broadcast domain, so that broadcast traffic will not overload the overall traffic in the network.

Bridge The device acts as a transparent bridge and operates in Layer 2, like an unmanaged switch. There is only one IP address for the device in Bridge mode.

p26

Auto IP Aliasing

If enabled, automatically generates an IP address for the corresponding WLAN/LAN interface. The generated IP address is a unique Class B IP address from the 169.254.X.Y range (netmask 255.255.0.0), which is intended for use within the same network segment only. The Auto IP always starts with 169.254.X.Y, with X and Y as the last two octets from the MAC address of the device. For example, if the MAC is 00:15:6D:A3:04:FB, then the generated unique Auto IP will be 169.254.4.251.

The Auto IP Aliasing setting can be useful because you can still access and manage devices even if you lose, misconfigure, or forget their IP addresses. Because an Auto IP address is based on the last two octets of the MAC address, you can determine the IP address of a device if you know its MAC address.

p28

Bridge Network

(Available in Advanced view.) You can create one or more bridge networks if you need complete Layer 2 transparency. This is similar to using a switch “all traffic flows through a bridge, in one port and out another port, regardless of VLANs or IP addresses. For example, if you want to use the same IP subnet on both sides of a device, then you create a bridge network. There are many different scenarios that could require bridged interfaces, so the Bridge Network section is designed to allow flexibility.

Click the + button to display the Bridge Network section

p30

Router

In Router mode, the device operates in Layer 3 to perform routing and enable network segmentation “ wireless clients are on a different IP subnet. Router mode blocks broadcasts and can pass through multicast packet traffic.

The device can act as a DHCP server and use Network Address Translation (Masquerading), which is widely used by APs. NAT acts as the firewall between the LAN and WAN.

In Router mode, the WLAN functions as the Wide Area Network (WAN). The Ethernet ports function as the LAN. Each wireless or wired interface on the WAN or LAN has an IP address. For example, the following diagram shows the NanoStation at a residence wirelessly connecting to a WISP tower.

p48

Sensitivity Threshold, dBm Defines the minimum client signal level accepted by the AP for the client to connect. If the client signal level subsequently drops, the client remains connected to the AP.

p49

Signal LED Thresholds

(This feature is not available on all devices.) You can configure the LEDs on the device to light up when received signal levels reach the values defined in the following fields. This allows a technician to easily deploy an airOS CPE without logging into the device (for example, for antenna alignment operation).

p58

#### Site Survey

The Site Survey tool searches for wireless networks in range on all supported channels. In Station mode, you can change frequency list.

The nanobridges support arpnat, but don't have a great description of what it is; here is a better description.

#### What is ARPNAT?

ARPNAT is a clever hack. It's the same idea as NAT for IP networks, except it works one layer deeper. Instead of translating IP network addresses, the router translates between the MAC hardware addresses on each side of it.

If something on the wired side of the router makes an ARP request for the MAC address of an IP on the wireless side, then the router forwards the request as if it came from the router. When the response comes back, it mangles that too. Instead of passing back the real MAC (which lives on the wireless network), the router gives its own wired MAC address. Then, when it receives frames for IP addresses on the wireless network, it forwards them through. It does this to both sides of the bridge.

Here's an example, taken from my network:

1. XBMC Xbox asks "What is the MAC address of 10.0.0.1? Tell me: 10.0.0.5." This is a broadcast ARP request over the wired ethernet.
2. Asus router sees the ARP request, and forwards the broadcast onto the wireless network, as "What is the MAC address of 10.0.0.1? Tell me: 10.0.0.4."
3. Access point (at 10.0.0.1) gets the ARP request from the wireless, and replies with its MAC address: AA:AA:AA:AA:AA:AA.
4. Asus router gets the ARP response, sent to 10.0.0.4. It mangles it and forwards it back to the Xbox as "10.0.0.1 is at BB:BB:BB:BB:BB:BB", where BB:BB:BB:BB:BB:BB is the wired address of the Asus itself.
5. Now, any time the Xbox wants to talk to 10.0.0.1, it will talk to BB:BB:BB:BB:BB:BB, and the Asus will forward that frame onto the wireless network, to the real destination AA:AA:AA:AA:AA:AA.

# Configuration instructions for Netgear GS748 switches

These are `pika-no-such-sw-3.mit.edu`, `pika-no-such-sw-4.mit.edu`, and `pika-no-such-sw-5.mit.edu`; see [the list of machines](#)

1. Use a paperclip to hold down Factory Defaults reset button (on right side) for five seconds. Wait for the reboot.
2. Connect to it on one of the ethernet ports using a laptop. Set a static IP address in the `192.168.0.*` subnet, with subnet mask `255.255.255.0`. Default gateway shouldn't really matter but you can put the switch's IP: `192.168.0.239`.
3. Open a supported browser (Firefox version  $\leq 3.8$ ; Chrome seems to work now) to `192.168.0.239`. Log in with the default password "password".
4. Fill in system information.
5. Set the time.
6. Set a secure password.
7. **IMPORTANT** for not getting IS&T yelling at you: Disable Spanning Tree Protocol. Switching > STP > Global Settings > Spanning Tree State -> Disabled; BPDU Handling -> Filtering.
8. Register it using command `moira` in Athena: machines > add; network "pika"; assign it the desired IP (or [unique] if you want it to pick)
9. Upgrade firmware (if necessary):
10. Download from Netgear
11. Unzip
12. Maintenance > Download > Via HTTP > Choose the `.ros` file
13. Apply
14. Reboot (reset) switch
15. Set IP configuration:
16. Static IP address
17. Use the IP address assigned above
18. Subnet mask `255.255.255.0`
19. Gateway: whatever IP `pika-rtr-ether.mit.edu` points to



P2

P3

David Lawrence <dlaw@dlaw.me>

10/20/2015 5:17 AM

Re: [Allg-it] Fwd: [mitallg] FSILG network switch upgrade announcement

To: Tim Gorton <tim@timgorton.com>; Copy: allg-it <allg-it@mit.edu>

Dear Tim,

Your house is welcome to attach any device as it likes to your Ethernet drops. What MIT is saying is that you must purchase at least one standard-issue new switch in order for those Ethernet drops to remain available. The IT committee does not recommend that you continue to rely on older switches as they are likely to fail soon, but nothing will prevent you from attaching them to the new switch if you would like.

For completeness, I should note that MIT IS&T does have a policy on the books about the use of external switches. My understanding is that this policy exists primarily to prevent students in dormitories from creating routing loops and bringing the network down for an entire building. It is not presently enforced except in case of a network issue and it should not be an issue for you.

We do recognize the burden imposed by this purchasing requirement, which is why we offer a 50% subsidy (rather than 50% subsidy, free installation, and included 5 year warranty. It comes out to about \$5 per reduction in month which is not bad for the level of wired service provided.

Best,

David Lawrence  
IT committee chair

On Oct 20, 2016 8:54 AM, "Tim Gorton" <tim@timgorton.com> wrote:

A question here - is MIT saying they'll cut us off unless we replace every piece of (effectively well-functioning) network hardware in the building with their new switches, or that we need at least a single new one in the building, even if older switches are still connected to it?

thanks,

TG

ADP Corp Treasurer

Forwarded message  
From: David Lawrence <dlaw@dlaw.me>  
Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2016 at 10:00 PM  
Subject: [mitallg] FSILG network switch upgrade announcement  
To: <mitallg@mit.edu>  
Cc: allg-it <allg-it@mit.edu>

Dear FSILG members and AIG stakeholders,

For the last several years, the AIGS IT committee has been working with MIT's IS&T department to upgrade FSILG network infrastructure to the state-of-the-art and to integrate it with the campus network. In 2014, we completed a major milestone with the installation of direct fiber-optic connections from FSILG back to MIT. Latest-generation wireless access points were deployed in 2015. And earlier this year, we made MIT's campus numbers and handsets available to FSILG.

Now we are pleased to announce MIT's 5-year program for the wired network switches in every FSILG. The current Netgear switches are the last remaining hardware from the original CISC network and are now 10 years old. They have never been officially supported by MIT IS&T, and as their hardware becomes obsolete, wired networks relying on them will have no responsible party to provide support. We are already seeing

↑ not supported by IS&T, contact yfncc@mit.edu for help ↑

PANDUIT  
CABLE MANAGEMENT

PANDUIT  
CABLE MANAGEMENT

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# Current state

## Machines

Some of the switches we have:

| Hostname | IP | Model | Description | | ----- | ---| ----| -----| pika-003t-sw-1.mit.edu | 10.102.214.3 | Cisco C3KX-NM-10G |  
For IS&T-managed wifi routers (not for our use) | | pika-003t-sw-2.mit.edu | 10.102.214.2 | Cisco Catalyst 3650 | New switch from  
[Dec 2016 "upgrade"](#). Managed by IS&T; we can plug things into it | | [pika-no-such-sw-3.mit.edu](#) | 18.102.214.10 | [Netgear GS748TP](#) | Unofficial pika switch; on top of networking rack; **not supported by IS&T**; used to be pika-cnup-sw-1.mit.edu when IS&T  
installed it | | [pika-no-such-sw-4.mit.edu](#) | 18.102.214.11 | [Netgear GS748TP](#) | Unofficial pika switch; on top of networking rack; **not supported by IS&T**; used to be pika-cnup-sw-2.mit.edu when IS&T installed it | | [pika-no-such-sw-5.mit.edu](#) | 18.102.214.12 | [Netgear GS748TP](#) | Unofficial pika switch; on top of Sun rack; **not supported by IS&T**; used to be pika-cnup-sw-3.mit.edu when IS&T installed it |

[[yfncc/network/TopOfNetworkRack.jpg]]

## mitnet

PIKA connects to internet through MIT, managed by IS&T. The subnet 18.102.214.0/24 is routed to the building. Addresses from 18.102.214.10 to 18.102.214.100 are statically assignable (moira network PIKA, owned by ht-pika-acl). The MIT-wide captive portal and DHCP system seems to be assigning IP-s from 18.102.214.101 to 18.102.214.250 (moira network PIKA-DYN, owned by network-acl).

The house is connected to the MIT network using a Lighttower fiber connection that enters through the wall next to the window by the racks. The fiber box is in the middle of the network rack and the computer rack next to the studyroom door. An optical goes from the fiber box to a IS&T router (Cisco Catalyst 4948E). One port on the IS&T router is reserved for the IS&T wireless controller right above the router (pika-003t-sw-1.mit.edu). The good access points are owned and managed by IS&T.

After the IS&T router, the new IS&T switch (pika-003t-sw-2.mit.edu) is used in combination with two of our own switches (pika-no-such-sw-3.mit.edu, pika-no-such-sw-4.mit.edu) to distribute ethernet to the house. **These two switches are not supported by IS&T**. The hardware is Netgear gs748tp, and it has usual "smart" equipment issues. For example, only old browsers are [supported](#) on the web-based admin interface; [Firefox portable 3.5.6](#) seems to work. Chrome 55 (up-to-date as of Dec 2016) seems to work fine too.

The switches are connected to a breakout board on the high half of the network rack, whose ports map to physical locations in the house (both ends of the same wire are labeled with the same combination, e.g. 54d1). Some breakout ports are wired through a power-over-ethernet injector for pika-owned access points.

[IS&T KB: FSILG network home page](#) has more (generic) information.

The pikan registered as "FSILG network contact" at IS&T can register new IP addresses to the pika subnet. It is not possible to give this power to the yfncc list.

## History

### Dec 2016: IS&T "upgrade"

IS&T required us to purchase a Cisco Catalyst 3650 and stopped supporting the [CNU](#) switches. We were allowed to keep the switches but they are not supported by IS&T; we should be careful not to misconfigure them in a way that causes trouble for IS&T, and if something doesn't work, we can't ask IS&T for help.

Clarifying email from dlaw:

Dear Tim,

Your house is welcome to attach any devices it likes to your Ethernet drops. What MIT is saying is that you must purchase at least one standard-issue new switch in order for those Ethernet drops to remain available. The IT committee does not recommend that you continue to rely on older switches as they are likely to fail soon. But nothing will prevent you from attaching them to the new switch if you would like.

For completeness, I should note that MIT IS&T does have a policy on the books which forbids the use of external switches. My understanding is that this policy exists primarily to prevent students in dormitories from creating routing loops and bringing the network down for an entire building. It is not presently enforced except in case of a network issue and it should not be an issue for you.

We do recognize the burden imposed by the purchasing requirement, which is why we have arranged the greater than 50% subsidy, free installation, and included 5 year warranty. It comes out to about \$3 per resident per month which is not bad for the level of wired service provided.

Best,

David Lawrence IT committee chair

## **2015: networking upgrade**

We got rid of our Comcast connection and transitioned to only using IS&T-supplied fiber. IS&T upgraded it to gigabit speed. pika was told that the hardware could support up to 10 Gbps up/down bandwidth, but is currently software limited to 1 Gbps. We were told that if we could demonstrate a legitimate usecase for requiring more than the 1 Gbps allocated, we could probably get that limit raised. This has not appeared to be necessary as of December 2016.

## **2009: Community Network Upgrade Project**

This gave us the three Netgear GS748TP switches which used to be `pika-cnup-sw-1.mit.edu`, `pika-cnup-sw-2.mit.edu`, and `pika-cnup-sw-3.mit.edu`. See [the configuration instructions](#).

You can use the printer by going to your printer settings and adding a network printer with the address `stud.mit.edu` or the URI `socket://stud.mit.edu:9100`. It is a HP LaserJet M607. It should just work. You can only print to it if you are on MITnet (18.0.0.0/8, Stata, or MIT guest; VPN also works).

In case you are having configuration trouble, here is the section of `/etc/cups/printers.conf` that has been working for me for years (I made it for the previous printer, but it seems to work with the current one as well):

```
<Printer stud>
UUID urn:uuid:d58b1953-ca2c-3250-4ad4-07d9a86d5cc7
Info HP LaserJet 600 M601 M602 M603
Location stud.mit.edu
MakeModel HP LaserJet 600 M601 M602 M603 Postscript (recommended)
DeviceURI socket://stud.mit.edu:9100
State Idle
StateTime 1495721345
ConfigTime 1472592667
Type 8425684
Accepting Yes
Shared Yes
JobSheets none none
QuotaPeriod 0
PageLimit 0
KLimit 0
OpPolicy default
ErrorPolicy stop-printer
</Printer>
```

# yfncc onboarding

Y'argh so yer the new yfncc! Congrats matey!

There are two things you need to do right away: get your computer set up to administer pika's computers and read about pika's computing infrastructure.

## Bootstrapping

1. Get your SSH keys on the pika computers. This will let you SSH (remotely log-in) into them later without having to remember any passwords. You should do this by generating an SSH key (run `ssh-keygen -t ed25519`) and sending your public key (usually `~/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub`) to a former yfncc (as of 2019: [kruej@reed.edu](mailto:kruej@reed.edu) and [joebob@mit.edu](mailto:joebob@mit.edu) are the go-to people to ask.)
2. Clone all of the yfncc-relevant git repositories to your machine. This will let you do things like make changes to this wiki page and fix the mealplan software at the start of a new semester. Do this by following the instructions on the [git](#) page.
3. Make sure that you or another active yfncc are on [ht-pika-acl@mit.edu](mailto:ht-pika-acl@mit.edu); this is the list that makes you IS&T Network Contact and gives you bits to add hostnames/IPs to pika's network. A current member of [ht-pika-acl@mit.edu](mailto:ht-pika-acl@mit.edu) can email [ht-ilg-acl@mit.edu](mailto:ht-ilg-acl@mit.edu) and request that you be added.
4. Maybe join the [ailg-it@mit.edu](mailto:ailg-it@mit.edu) list to hear about ILG IT stuff. <http://mailman.mit.edu/mailman/listinfo/ailg-it>

## Required reading

- [fixing musika](#)
- [pika computers](#)
- [pika network info](#)

## Read when necessary

- [pika guestnet](#) (broken link)
- [certificates](#)