Dear Student,

Several courses in our Interactive Media and Graphic Design program require students to make use of digital workspaces in order to practice and perfect the programming and design skills learned in the program. Due to financial and security concerns, NIC is no longer able to operate an internal cPanel server in support of this coursework (see full course list below).

On behalf of NIC, the IMG faculty have sourced a private web host provider to support your coursework. This service offers subscribers digital resources sufficient to meet your course needs, meet NIC's personal data storage legal responsibilities, and is available at a reasonable cost. First year students are asked to bring a credit card to the first week of classes. During this week, your instructors will advise you the domain name format to use for your subscription and work with you to get your subscription active. Advanced students should consult their instructors during the first week of classes for similar instructions and guidance. As this subscription cost was not published for your information before you registered in your Fall 2016 courses, NIC will reimburse you this unanticipated expense for the academic year 2016-17.

The basic account costs for the chosen web host service for individual subscribers includes a 1 year domain name registration fee of $12.00 and a monthly subscription fee of $6.95. Current pricing for the basic account includes a 1 month free trial, resulting in a discount of $6.95. The total cost to you for your IMG-related coursework in 2016-17 is $88.45 (U.S. dollars, tax included). Only one subscription is needed regardless of how many of the listed courses you are registered in.
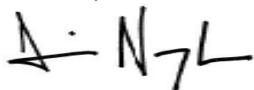
NIC will reimburse this cost directly to you in early October. Please give your instructor a printed copy of your receipt (showing the amount paid and your name). Your instructor will forward these receipts to me and I will authorize your reimbursement (in Canadian funds).

While this subscription does amount to an extra step for you as you start the upcoming term, there are several benefits to using this hosting service. Ongoing ownership of, and access, to your coursework products will allow you to build a publically accessible product portfolio. You can potentially access and modify this portfolio long after you have completed your studies at NIC and can migrate any portion of your work to another site at any time.

If you have any questions or concerns about using this service, including situations where you do not have access to a credit card, please speak with your instructor during the first week of classes.

Best wishes for a successful school year.
Sincerely,

Diane Naugler, PhD
Dean, Faculty of Business and Applied Studies

Course list: IMG 100, 102, 103, 110, 111, 130, 204, 209, 210, 214, 215, 240, 250, 260, 290/390, and CPS 146.