Hubie Harris arrived on the scene at VSU in early February, 2011. His mission was clear, “I came to help VSU become a Digital Campus. We are lagging behind and because of this we are playing ‘catch-up’ with technology. We have to quickly close the gap in order to remain competitive.” With the support of VSU President, Dr. Keith Miller, VP of Administration and Finance, David Meadows, and other Presidential Cabinet members, Technology Services is undertaking a number of new initiatives to improve technology on campus for students. In less than eight months, Harris and his technology staff have accomplished much for the VSU Community.

Ms. Cierra Wilson, a Senior Management Information Systems student and IT intern, interviewed Mr. Harris on his vision for a Digital Campus.

Cierra: What is your vision for the digital campus?

Hubie: There has always been what’s called the digital divide. Part of the digital campus is about closing that digital gap, so that we enable students to be comfortable with using computers to transact business anytime, anywhere.

Cierra: Obviously you are trying to create convenience for students. As an example, if I was unable to attend class. How could technology help me?

Hubie: With a digital campus, you should be able to pick up your smart phone and participate in your class anytime, anywhere, on any device.

Cierra: Great, this would be a life saver! It would cut down on catch up meetings with the professor and borrowing notes from classmate. What are other benefits of having a digital campus?

Hubie: We are able to provide services when our stakeholders [students] want to conduct business. Technology is there to improve customer service. We do this by using technology to better serve our customers.

Cierra: Can you give me an example?

Hubie: Suppose, you wanted to pay tuition. You’re running late, and it is 4:30 p.m. The Cashier’s office closes at 5 p.m. With a digital campus, you could pay the tuition bill at 4:00 a.m., 10:00 p.m., or even in the middle of the day. It’s about providing key services to our students anytime, anywhere.