



Faculty Technology Newsletter

Spring, 2013

Spring at last! In addition to the tulips and flip-flops, another sign of spring is the annual eTeaching Day scheduled for May 15th. Looking forward—the next academic year will bring many changes on the technology front, with a new learning management system and the first initiatives from the Academic Innovation Program. Faculty voices are appreciated as these new programs are implemented. Your FTC (see below) serves as an important link between faculty and ITS and IDES. Best wishes for the summer months! I hope that you will keep in touch with your breaking technology news.

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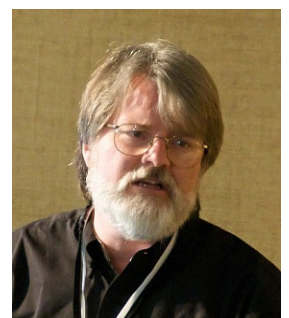
Reserve your spot for eTeaching Day on May 15

Take a break from grading to attend the annual eTeaching Day sponsored by Instructional Design and eTeaching Services (IDES). The 2013 eTeaching Day offers an exciting mix of presentations, awards, and workshops on innovative uses of academic technology. A detailed schedule of the day's events and registration information is available at www.bc.edu/eteachingday.



The focus of the morning's talks and poster session is The MediaKron Project (TMKP). MediaKron is a platform developed at BC that allows instructors to organize images, text files, video and audio clips with metadata that includes dates, geographic location and other instructor-defined tags. Students are then able to work with the content in several different interfaces. With a second round of support from the Davis Educational Foundation, TMKP has expanded its scope to six partner universities. Boston College and partner school initiatives will be highlighted in the morning platform sessions and poster session. To learn more about TMKP, access the project's website at www.bc.edu/tmkp.

The keynote speaker for eTeaching Day is Dr. Gardner Campbell, Director of Professional Development and Innovative Initiatives at Virginia Tech. Dr. Campbell was recently named one of the top 50 innovators in education by the Center for Digital Education. His lunch-time talk is entitled "From Memex to YouTube: Cognition, Learning and the Internet." (In case you're wondering about Memex—which was never built—it was the 1945 brainchild of Vannevar Bush that presaged the personal computer.) Dr. Campbell is also a member of the Virginia Tech English Department, where he specializes in the works of John Milton.



Congratulations to the 2013 TWIN winners! A highlight of eTeaching Day is the Teaching with New Media (TWIN) awards. Each year, faculty are given awards for their innovative uses of technology in teaching, based on student nominations. Final recommendations are made by a committee of faculty, IDES staff and students. The 2013 TWIN winners are Paul Cichello (Economics), Seung-A Jin (Communication), Joseph Nugent (English), Colleen Simonelli (CSON), and Greg Stoller (CSOM).

Afternoon workshops will introduce faculty to the iBooks Author program, mobile computing applications and MediaKron. ***Reserve now - some workshops are already filled!***



Traveling with your computer this summer? Keep your computer secure.

The summer is typically an active time for faculty travel to conferences and vacation destinations. As you travel, be wary of insecure wireless connections. Be particularly suspicious of pop-up windows offering software updates—the FBI reports instances of malware being installed this way. If you must install software while traveling, do so only from the provider’s web site. There may be instances when you need a secure connection, and BC faculty have some options in this regard. One option is to install and use the BC VPN. Another option is to take advantage of BC’s participation in the Eduroam network (eduroam.org), which includes over 5500 institutions worldwide. An edu-roamer’s credentials are authenticated through their home institutions, so guest credentials are not required. ITS recommends that edu-roamers make their first connections at BC before traveling. Contact the HELP desk for more information on the VPN and Eduroam. ITS supplies additional tips for traveling abroad at <http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/offices/help/gethelp/techabroad/travel-security.html>.

Introducing the Faculty Technology Consultants (FTC)

Most faculty are well-acquainted with their department’s technology consultant (TC) as the go-to person for computer problems, but many faculty may be unaware of their Faculty Technology Consultant (FTC). Every department appoints an FTC, who attends a monthly meeting with ITS and IDeS staff to discuss technology issues and provide advice about technology at Boston College. Your FTC is happy to discuss your problems with and ideas for technology at Boston College.



FTC meeting

April 24, 2013

FTCs for the 2013 academic year include Joe Burdo (Biology), Dunwei Wang (Chemistry), Brigitte Libby (Classics), Bill Stanwood (Communication), Hao Jiang (Computer Science), Kit Baum (Economics), James Wallace (English), Sheila Gallagher (Fine Arts), Rudi Hon (Earth and Environmental Sciences), Michael Resler (German Studies), Lynn Johnson (History), Tim Duket (Honors), Rob Gross (Math), Thomas Oboe Lee (Music), Mike Graf (Physics), Kenji Hayao (Pol. Sci.), Ehri Ryu (Psychology), Stephen Bold (Romance Lang.), Michael Connolly (Slavic and Eastern Lang.), Sharlene Hesse-Biber (Sociology), Crystal Tiala (Theater), Jeffrey Cooley (Theology), Michael Mitsukawa (Law), William Griffith (CSOM), Amy Ryan (LSOE), Amy Smith (CSON), Stephanie Berzin (GSSW), Dominic Doyle (STM). Administrative liaisons include Rita Owens (IDeS), Barry Schaudt (ITS) and Scott Cann (ITS).

The Google migration is ahead of schedule

In the last newsletter, we reported on the phased plan for migrating student email to Google Apps for Education. When ITS solicited 1000 student volunteers for the Google pilot, they were overwhelmed with requests. Consequently, 4000 students are now participating in the pilot. Faculty input is welcomed for the next phase. Are your students using Google Apps to collaborate on group assignments? Do you have a view about whether BC should migrate faculty email to Google Apps? Contact your FTC and join the discussion.

Thanks to Kit Baum, Scott Cann, Michael Connolly, Beth Clark, Rita Owens, and Barry Schaudt for supplying information and commentary for this newsletter. - C.O.