

TEACHING & E-LEARNING NEWS

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WEBCT ON RAPID RISE AT UNC CHARLOTTE

This semester, over 460 course sections are using WebCT, UNC Charlotte's online learning system, reaching over 9,400 unique students enrolled in over 17,600 student "seats." Most of these courses use WebCT to enhance the face-to-face, classroom learning, but some use WebCT to deliver courses completely online.

There are many reasons for the explosive growth of WebCT on campus. One explanation is that the Faculty Center for Teaching and e-Learning has provided the faculty and students adequate support needed for the expansion of e-learning. Another reason is that WebCT is conveniently

integrated with 49er Express.

Two components of WebCT that faculty find particularly useful are the discussion and gradebook features. Because much of the "live" classroom time can be consumed by the dissemination of content, faculty have found that using the discussion tool in WebCT is an excellent way to initiate the interaction and dialogue they realize are necessary components of the learning process. Also, the WebCT gradebook is an ideal means of posting student grades online within a secure environment. When midterm and final grades are due, these grades can be sent to the Student Informa-



tion System (SIS) with the click of a button.

To learn more about how WebCT can be used in your courses, please contact the Help Center at extension 7-3100 and mention WebCT. You will be put through to a FCTeL Instructional Technology Consultant who will be happy to answer your questions over the phone or arrange an in-person consultation.

WHAT IS FCTeL?

The Faculty Center for Teaching and e-Learning, also known as FCTeL (rhymes with "fractal"), is UNC Charlotte's clearinghouse for supporting faculty in instruction and e-learning. As a faculty support center, we offer a broad range of services to

meet your needs.

Whether you would like to try new teaching methods or maybe enhance your courses with e-learning technologies, a FCTeL consultant can work with you to incorporate these things—and more!—into

your course designs.

We provide faculty with professional development opportunities such as training sessions and workshops. We offer limited e-learning support for students, too.

Just let us know how we can help!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *WebCT is used in 464 classes as of Sept. 15, 2004, compared to just 103 courses in Fall 2002*
- *WebCT is flexible: use it as little or as much as you want, from posting a course syllabus to having a course fully online*
- *Since the WebCT gradebook is integrated with SIS, sending in midterm and final grades is done with a simple mouse click*
- *Call ext. 7-3100 today to learn more about using WebCT*

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The UNC-TLT Conference will highlight expertise from all 16 campuses in the UNC system.

CONFERENCE PROPOSALS DUE OCTOBER 15

Mark your calendars! The 2005 UNC Teaching and Learning with Technology Conference will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh on March 30 to April 1, 2005.

All UNC faculty, staff, librarians, and administrators interested in TLT issues are invited to attend. This annual event provides professional development for all UNC personnel who are interested in the effective use of technology for teaching and learning.

The conference emphasizes timely topics of particular interest to UNC campuses, from effective current practices to emerging technologies. Session types include formal presentation, panel discussion, roundtable discussion, poster, workshop, or demonstration. Previous sessions have featured examples of technology-supported instruction as well as technological, pedagogical, library, and administrative support

issues associated with TLT.

Proposals must be submitted by Friday, October 15. For more information about the conference or the proposal submission process, please visit the conference website at <http://conference.unctl.org> or contact Laura Rogers, TLTC Program Coordinator, at 919-929-0313 or Lrogers@northcarolina.edu.

NEW WEBCT ORIENTATION FOR STUDENTS ONLINE

Sometimes, students need a little help in learning how to use a new instructional technology. Such has often been the case with WebCT. Luckily for these students, FCTeL has created a new, fully online WebCT orientation to help teach your students how to use the more common WebCT tools and components such as discussions, quizzes and assignments. This

orientation is available for all UNC Charlotte students who are currently using WebCT in their courses. It can be accessed here: www.uncc.edu/webct/WCT_STUDENT/de_orientation.html.

Perhaps you have not yet used WebCT in your courses but are considering it, you may find it informative to look over our new orientation

course as well! It is extremely helpful in learning the various features and has been well received by all who have tried it.

For more information, please refer to our WebCT Support Site at www.uncc.edu/webct, or contact the Help Center at ext. 7-3100 and ask to speak with a FCTeL consultant.

“WOW!” ONE FACULTY MEMBER EXCLAIMED, “THAT’S GOING TO MAKE MY JOB A LOT EASIER.”

WHAT CAN E-LEARNING DO FOR ME? ASK FCTeL!

Would you like to know how instructional technologies such as WebCT, TurnItIn (plagiarism detection), and Respondus (quiz creation) can offer effective e-learning solutions for your instructional needs? Or are you already using an e-learning tool but need some ideas, support, or assistance?

FCTeL is your center for these services and products as well as other e-learning technologies available at UNC Charlotte. Faculty are encouraged to participate in our workshops or set appointments with one of our Instructional Technology Consultants for an individualized lesson in the use of our supported e-learning products.

For details about our workshop offerings, visit our workshop schedule at www.fctel.uncc.edu/calendar. To set up a private consultation on a workshop subject or other topic, please call ext. 7-3100, ask to speak with a FCTeL staff member and mention the subject you are interested in learning more about.



E-learning can help both students and faculty.

INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES, NOT JUST E-LEARNING

Instruction involves the art and science of teaching and learning. At the Faculty Center for Teaching and e-Learning, we provide resources, consultation, training, and support regarding the principles and practice of instruction.

We strive to serve and support faculty in using effective teaching methods, designing courses, developing curricular materials, conducting program evaluation, assessing

student learning, using instructional media and technologies for learning, performing usability testing, conducting research in teaching and learning, improving classroom management, delivering instruction, and more.

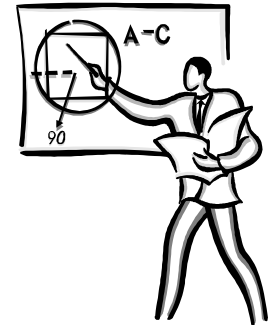
Our instructional services are guided by the following questions:

- ◆ What are the needs of the faculty?
- ◆ What services can we offer

to improve teaching and learning?

- ◆ What tools and resources will make instruction more effective and/or efficient?

Please feel free to take advantage of our instructional support services. Just contact us at ext. 7-3022, or stop by our office in the Atkins Library, room 149C. Let's begin a conversation today about how to maximize teaching and learning in your courses!



FCTeL supports the art and science of teaching and learning.

SURVEYSHARE: ONLINE ASSESSMENT TOOL

If you have been looking for an easy and effective way to use surveys, then look no further! SurveyShare is a web-based tool designed for assessment of teaching and learning, survey research, evaluations, and more. It is freely available to UNC Charlotte faculty for use with your courses and research. You can create and compile your own questions, or you can use

or modify any of the 100 available templates.

The Faculty Center for Teaching and e-Learning purchased a license for the SurveyShare online assessment product after piloting its use. Acquisition of this tool was made after a year of evaluating products based upon teaching, learning, and academic needs.

If you would like to learn more about SurveyShare or request an account, please see our SurveyShare web page at www.fctel.uncc.edu/instructional/surveyshare.

SurveyShare has many powerful features for designing online surveys, yet it is extremely user-friendly. We encourage you to give it a try!

“SURVEYSHARE HAS MANY POWERFUL FEATURES FOR DESIGNING ONLINE SURVEYS, YET IT IS EXTREMELY USER-FRIENDLY.”

USE TECHNOLOGY TO STOP PLAGIARISM

Have you ever wondered if your students are turning in original work? Certainly, the Internet has made plagiarism easier and more rampant than ever before: a 2003 study by Donald McCabe at Rutgers found that 38% of college students admitted so. However, help is available to all UNC Charlotte faculty in the form of a simple and elegant

e-learning product called TurnItIn, supported by FCTeL.

TurnItIn is a web-based tool which assesses student work for plagiarized content. Students' papers are checked against over two billion web pages, periodicals, and other student work. TurnItIn creates an “Originality Report”

for each paper: any text in the paper that is found to be unoriginal appears underlined, color-coded, and linked to its original source. It's amazing!

To get an account, please use the request form at www.fctel.uncc.edu/instructional/turnitininfo/requestturnitin.html. Make the Internet work for you!





Faculty Center for Teaching and eLearning

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Student E-Learning: www3.uncc.edu/elearning

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.FCTEL.UNCC.EDU

INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT FOR
THE 21ST CENTURY.

ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first installment of the Faculty Center for Teaching and e-Learning's effort to expand our outreach to the campus community.

With this newsletter, we hope to achieve the following goals:

- ◆ Increase communication about teaching and learning
- ◆ Support the integration of research and teaching effectiveness
- ◆ Promote the concept of lifelong learning
- ◆ Examine the roles that technology can play in enhancing instruction
- ◆ Expose faculty to peer programs, perspectives, and expertise
- ◆ Provide instructional and e-learning ideas and support

If you would like to contribute an article to our next newsletter, ask us a question, or give us an idea that you would like for us to address, we encourage you to let us know. We look forward to publishing this newsletter on a regular basis and always value input from our constituents.

This issue's contributors included Jana Avery, J. Garvey Pyke, Mark Sivy, and Lorraine Stanton.

FCTeL'S FALL WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

We invite you to look over the schedule of workshops (www.fcotel.uncc.edu/calendar) and choose the ones which will help you develop best practices in teaching and learning.

FCTeL is offering a series of workshops for faculty, support staff and graduate assistants during Fall 2004.

If you are considering enhancing your course with some online components or if you'd like to further your skills in WebCT, please visit our online workshop listing. To see the available WebCT Workshops, go to www.fcotel.uncc.edu/

calendar/wschedules.html.

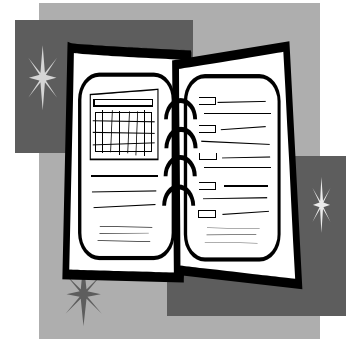
Or perhaps you would like to learn how to incorporate other e-learning technologies in your courses, besides WebCT. We offer workshops for such things as using 49er Express or MERLOT (a learning objects repository) in your classes. To see the available Instructional Technology Workshops, go to www.fcotel.uncc.edu/calendar/itschedules.html.

We also offer a variety of workshops regarding the face-to-face classroom techniques and issues, such as designing your course syllabus, promoting respect and

civil behavior, encouraging students to be partners in learning, assessment techniques, and critical thinking. See www.fcotel.uncc.edu/calendar/pschedules.html.

To attend any of these sessions, please RSVP to Jundra Burris at ext. 7-3022 or via email to fcotel@email.uncc.edu.

If you'd rather have an individual meeting or consultation about these topics or anything else regarding teaching and learning, or if you'd even like a customized workshop for your department, we would be happy to assist you. Just let us know!



Check our extensive schedule of workshops to see what best fits your needs.

