

# TEACHING & E-LEARNING NEWS

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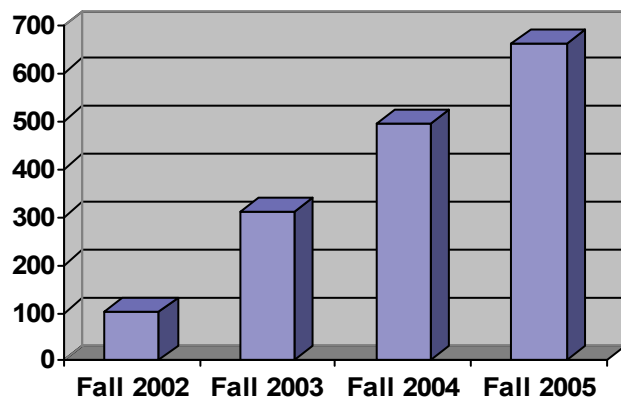
## EXPLOSIVE GROWTH OF WEBCT CONTINUES: 12,000 UNC CHARLOTTE STUDENTS IMPACTED

With the fall 2005 semester underway, a significant increase in WebCT usage at UNC Charlotte is already noticeable. Compared to last fall, there are 30% more faculty utilizing WebCT to enhance their

courses. Within the 661 course sections, there are over 12,000 unique students enrolled in nearly 22,000 student "seats". As the enrollment at UNC Charlotte continues to expand, these figures illustrate

the growing recognition of WebCT as an effective tool for managing courses and students. We encourage you to give it a try!

☐ Jana Avery, e-Learning Systems Administrator



■ WebCT Courses at UNC Charlotte

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *WebCT is used in 661 classes for 12,000 students at UNC Charlotte*
- *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 grade-book 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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## NEW WORKSHOPS FOR FACULTY THIS SEMESTER

There's something for everybody among the 75+ workshops this semester. New library workshops are included, too!

Please join us in any number of our professional development opportunities to help maximize teaching and

learning in your courses. We offer workshops in various instructional methods, e-learning technologies, library utilization, diversity issues, WebCT, and more. We even have subscribed to a number of satellite teleconferences from the award winning Starlink educa-

tional network.

We invite you to attend as many workshops as you would like. Please see <http://www.fctel.uncc.edu/calendar/index.html> for the full schedule of all of our offerings and let us know if you would like to attend.



March 15-17, 2006.  
Mark your calendar!

## UNC-TLT CONFERENCE PROPOSALS DUE OCTOBER 17

Mark your calendars! The 2006 UNC Teaching and Learning with Technology Conference will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh on March 15-17, 2006.

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 Monday, October 17. For more information about the conference or the proposal submission process, please visit the conference website at <http://conference.unctl.org/proposals/call.htm> or contact Laura Rogers, TLTC Program Coordinator, at 919-929-0313 or [Lrogers@northcarolina.edu](mailto:Lrogers@northcarolina.edu)

## TEACHING CIRCLES ENCOURAGE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT TEACHING AND LEARNING

For many faculty members, opportunities to talk about teaching are limited to brief encounters with colleagues around faculty mailboxes. In those few minutes, the talk may turn to the frustrations of teaching rather than to more substantive, and stimulating, teaching and learning issues. One way to encourage conversations about teaching and learning is through the formation of teaching circles.

A teaching circle is a group of faculty (and/or graduate students) who meet on an ongoing basis to discuss issues of teaching and learning. Members of the circle determine the focus and topics for discussion.

The following teaching circles are being formed this year at UNC Charlotte by a talented group of facilitators. Anyone interested in a particular

teaching circle topic should contact the facilitator to let them know you are interested.

- General Discussion on Teaching & Learning: Charlie Burnap, x 7-4563, [cburnap](mailto:cburnap)
- Teaching Large Courses: Walt Martin, x7- 4255, [wemartin](mailto:wemartin)
- E-Learning: Marvin Croy, x7-2174, [mjcroy](mailto:mjcroy)
- Writing Across the Curriculum: Meg Morgan, x7-4210, [mpmorgan](mailto:mpmorgan)
- Collaborative Learning: Meg Morgan, x7-4210, [mpmorgan](mailto:mpmorgan)
- Information Literacy: Donna Gunter, x7-4941, [djgunter](mailto:djgunter), and Heather McCullough, x7-8762, [hamccull](mailto:hamccull)
- Evaluating Teaching: Jim

Dudley, x7-4284, [jrdudley](mailto:jrdudley)

- Teaching Portfolios: Sallie Ives, x7-3021, [smives](mailto:smives)
  - Critical Thinking: Sean McCloud, x2542, [spmcclo](mailto:spmcclo)
  - Learning Communities: Mary Metzger, x7-6606, [mcmetzge](mailto:mcmetzge)
  - Experiential/Service Learning: Denise Smith, x7-2231, [ddsmith](mailto:ddsmith)
  - Teaching Styles & Learning Styles: Charlynn Ross, x7-3540, cross, and Christi Amato, x7-4414, [chamato](mailto:chamato)
  - New Faculty: Diane Zablot-sky, x7-2509, [dlzablot](mailto:dlzablot), and Anita Blowers, x7-6074, [anblower](mailto:anblower)
- For more information about the teaching circles, contact Sallie M. Ives, ext. 7-3021 or [smives@email.uncc.edu](mailto:smives@email.uncc.edu).

☐ Sallie Ives, Director, FCTeL

WOULD YOU  
LIKE TO TALK  
ABOUT  
TEACHING &  
LEARNING?

## HOLD YOUR COURSE ONLINE “LIVE” WITH CENTRA: VIRTUAL CLASSROOM NOW AVAILABLE FOR FACULTY

Centra is an online “virtual classroom environment” that enables you to use your personal computer to hold live classes, virtual office hours, or bring guest speakers to your students over the Internet. It is also a powerful tool for online collaboration and meetings with colleagues from around the country or around the world.

There are many other ways in which Centra can be used as well. For example, you can display class materials such as

PowerPoint slides and annotate them for discussion. You can also give students hands-on instruction in using computer software by sharing the application. Students can hold small group discussions in breakout rooms. Or you can create diagrams and write notes on the whiteboard. Another excellent feature is that Centra sessions can even be recorded for later review by students and faculty alike!

If you wish to try using Centra with your class or to col-

laborate with colleagues, please submit an online request at <http://www.fctel.uncc.edu/instructional/centra/requestcentra.html>, and we will contact you to set up a meeting. For computer specifications and other information about this exciting e-learning tool, please visit our Centra website at <http://www3.uncc.edu/elearning/centra/>.

□ *Sam Eneman, Instructional Technology Consultant*



## SAVE GASOLINE & TIME WITH CENTRA, TOO!

With gas prices spiraling ever higher, the State Budget and Management Office has asked that state employees undertake conservation measures when traveling on official business. This has recently affected members of the UNC Charlotte community, as travel plans have been curtailed or modified.

In an effort to help meet the state’s request that teleconferencing be used in place of travel whenever possible, FCTeL is making Centra available for such purposes.

Centra is an online tool that allows faculty to hold live classes with students. However, an additional, innova-

tive use of Centra is to host meetings and other collaborative efforts. FCTeL is offering this service to faculty and staff to help alleviate the inconvenience of travel, whether across campus or the world. Contact us today to set up your next meeting on Centra.

□ *Mark Sivy, Associate Director,*

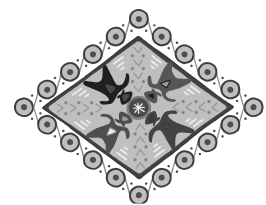
HAS YOUR  
TRAVEL BEEN  
CUT?  
NEVER FEAR:  
CENTRA IS HERE!

## “DEVELOPING MULTICULTURAL EDUCATIONAL CURRICULAR MODELS” NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

Materials from this Summer Institute are now on the UNC Charlotte Diversity Website, along with other valuable instructional resources. You can see the goals of the Summer Institute and browse the annotated listing on each instructional session. Beneath

each summary are links to the presentation and to bio info on the presenter. All the PowerPoint materials can be viewed on screen or downloaded for future viewing. Simply go to <http://www.provost.uncc.edu/diversity/models.htm> to view

the materials. With the aid of these extremely valuable resources, you will be able to culturally enrich your courses and classroom environment. Be sure to check out other portions of the Diversity Website, too, for additional tips and resources.





Faculty Center for Teaching and eLearning

FACULTY CENTER FOR TEACHING AND E-LEARNING  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

149C Atkins Library  
The University of North Carolina at Charlotte  
Charlotte, NC 28223

Phone: 704.687.3022

Fax: 704.687.3894

Email: [fcotel@email.uncc.edu](mailto:fcotel@email.uncc.edu)

FCTeL Homepage: [www.fcotel.uncc.edu](http://www.fcotel.uncc.edu)

WebCT Support: [www.uncc.edu/webct](http://www.uncc.edu/webct)

Student E-Learning: [www3.uncc.edu/elearning](http://www3.uncc.edu/elearning)

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
[WWW.FCTEL.UNCC.EDU](http://WWW.FCTEL.UNCC.EDU)



BRIDGING METHODS OF INSTRUCTION  
& EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP OF TEACHING & LEARNING (SOTL) FAIRE AT WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

UNC Charlotte faculty are invited to submit proposals or simply to attend the 2nd annual Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL) Faire at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC, on Thursday, February 23, 2006. The website for the 2006 Faire is <http://www.wcu.edu/facctr/sotlfaire/index.htm>, and **proposals are due by October 21, 2005**. If any faculty are interested in participating in the Faire and have questions, they should contact the Faire's organizer, Alan Altany, at [altany@email.wcu.edu](mailto:altany@email.wcu.edu).

The Faire is a one-day, concurrent sessions conference where faculty presenters (sometimes with student associates), individually or collaboratively, inform others about their approaches, methods, research and results in creating, guiding and assessing students' learning. Since it is a SoTL event, presentations are to include not only teaching practices, but some amount of qualitative and/or quantitative research / evidence about the effects of methods or practices upon student learning.

## NEW FEATURE: THE WEBCT VISTA CORNER

Every newsletter from now on will feature an update on our implementation of WebCT Vista, the new product from WebCT.

WebCT Vista is the premier e-learning course management and delivery system. Offered in conjunction with the UNC system and support of the Office of the President, WebCT Vista will provide UNC Charlotte's faculty and students with access to a greater variety of online tools and options while still utilizing the familiar name of WebCT.

During the implementation of WebCT Vista over the

next two academic years, we will maintain dual licenses for WebCT Vista and our current version of WebCT, Campus Edition. The training and support FCTeL provides will naturally be extended to WebCT Vista.

As we plan and develop implementations strategies, we will be involving UNC Charlotte faculty, students, and staff in the process. Please watch for announcements of WebCT Vista demonstrations, roundtable discussions, focus groups, and department presentations.

The following timeline gives a rough idea of the basic

components of the implementation process:

- Spring and Summer 2005: Project planning and development of support & training
- Fall 2005: Development of select pilot courses
- Spring 2006: Pilot course delivery; finalize support processes
- Fall 2006 - Fall 2007: Existing courses migrated/moved to WebCT Vista
- December 31, 2007: Campus Edition license expires; transition to WebCT Vista complete.

□ Lorraine Stanton, Manager of e-Learning Support



### HOW WILL WEBCT VISTA BE BETTER FOR MY TEACHING?

- *Personalize content based on students' unique needs*
- *Design one course template with multiple re-use capability*
- *Greater capabilities to increase faculty productivity and course interactivity*
- *More options for tracking and reporting student activity*