

TEACHING & E-LEARNING NEWS

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2006

WEBCT MIGRATION SCHEDULE ON TRACK: HALF OF CAMPUS MOVING NOW, OTHER HALF LATER

As you may know, UNC Charlotte has begun its migration to the new version of WebCT, known as WebCT Vista. Colleges and groups that will start teaching with WebCT Vista in Spring 2007 include the following:

- ◆ Distance Education faculty and their courses
- ◆ Courses using Wimba voice tools
- ◆ CoIT
- ◆ CoED
- ◆ CoHHS
- ◆ CoE
- ◆ Completely new courses or new users of WebCT

The remaining colleges and groups not listed above will start teaching with WebCT Vista in Fall 2007.

Since WebCT Vista is very different from our current version, WebCT Campus Edition, we have created several new workshops to aid your transition:

- ◆ Up & Running with WebCT Vista
- ◆ Communication Tools
- ◆ Assessments
- ◆ Creating & Managing Groups & Assignments
- ◆ Presenting Content
- ◆ Improving Your Course

Please check the FCTeL calendar for specific dates

and times for each of these offerings (<http://www.fctel.uncc.edu/calendar/webct.html>). We encourage you to attend as many as your would like.

Should you have any questions about the migration to WebCT Vista, please contact fctel@email.uncc.edu, or call the Help Center at ext. 7-3100 and ask to speak to a FCTeL consultant. We also have a more detailed migration schedule on our WebCT Vista project page: <http://www.fctel.uncc.edu/projects/index.html>

□ Lorraine Stanton, Manager of e-Learning Support

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Student failure rate is reduced by nearly 10% in WebCT courses when compared to non-WebCT courses
- WebCT is used in more than 650 classes for over 12,000 students at UNC Charlotte
- The use of WebCT at UNC Charlotte has increased sixfold in the past 4 years

CHANGES IN ACCESSING ONLINE COURSES

WebCT Access Updates:

Students and faculty should be aware that they will now access their WebCT courses through a new link in the My Courses channel called Access WebCT, which will take users to the myWebCT homepage to select any of their current WebCT

courses.

From now on, the 49er Express My Courses page will only contain default 49er Express My Courses functionality, such as communication tools and a calendar.

Be sure to note that WebCT courses will no

longer be available from the e 49er Express My Courses page. There will no longer be a red edit button in the My Courses area to "enable" your course for WebCT, as this action is no longer required to allow WebCT access.

□ Mark Sivy, Associate Director, FCTeL

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API/CID FACULTY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FUND TEACHING AND LEARNING PROJECTS; DEADLINE OCTOBER 6

THE GRANT COMMITTEE IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED WITH FUNDING PROJECTS WHICH HAVE MEASURABLE OUTCOMES AND WILL SHOW EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS.

The Faculty Curriculum and/or Instructional Development Grants Committee is requesting proposals for Academic Program Improvement Grants and Curriculum and/or Instructional Development Grants. The two grant programs support faculty, departments, colleges, programs, academies, or standing committees in projects which will help improve teaching and learning on campus. The projects will involve making substantial curricular reforms, designing new curricula, initiating activities to improve the quality of instruction in undergraduate or graduate programs, or research that informs curriculum or teaching at the local (course, depart-

ment, college, university) level. The grant committee is particularly concerned with funding projects which have measurable outcomes and will show evidence of success.

To learn more about the two grant programs, the deadlines, the grant application process, and so forth, please visit the two websites below.

◆ API: <http://www.provost.uncc.edu/FacDev/apigrants.htm>

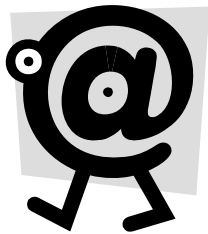
◆ CID: <http://www.provost.uncc.edu/FacDev/CIDgrants.htm>

The two grant programs are slightly different in nature and have somewhat different foci. A few suggested topics in-

clude helping student retention, progression, and graduation rates; introducing diversity issues into the curriculum; aiding student professional development; increasing academic access for specific groups or programs; reaching non-traditional students; and many more topics, which are all listed on the two websites.

The deadline for applying is rapidly approaching: proposals are due in your college's dean's office no later than Friday, October 6, 2006, for submission to the Faculty Center for Teaching and e-Learning, 149C Atkins Library by 5 p.m. on Friday, October 13, 2006.

CHANGES TO FCTeL WEBSITE MAKE IT EASIER TO USE, EASIER TO FIND INFORMATION



Have you been to the FCTeL website lately? If so, I am sure you were surprised by the new look and feel of the site, and we bet you were also pleased to be able to find information more easily than ever before.

In a collaborative process during the past year, FCTeL has worked diligently to revise our website to be more streamlined, organized, and user-friendly. This redesign effort has been implemented by the site's webmaster, Debbie Mowry, who has also

labored to ensure that the website is accessible to all users by aligning the site with the current, widely-accepted accessibility guidelines.

This past summer, the website also went through an extensive and rigorous usability test by FCTeL's graduate intern, Joan Nieves. She designed a series of authentic tasks for users to complete, and then she asked them follow-up questions in an interview format. She then compiled the data and made several recommendations, some

of which were implemented immediately. The rest of the changes will occur over the next few months, since we constantly strive to refine our website—just as we do with our workshops, publications, and more.

So please drop by our site, <http://www.fctel.uncc.edu>, and take a look around. And don't forget to check out our Calendar page, News page, or whatever else fits your needs. We really hope you like what you see.

NEW WORKSHOPS FOR DEVELOPING “WRITING INTENSIVE” COURSES

The Faculty Center for Teaching and e-Learning (FCTeL) is pleased to offer several new workshops about developing university-required “writing intensive” courses. You can attend just one or all of these workshops—your choice!

Designing Writing Assignments for Writing Intensive Courses

During the first hour of this two-session workshop, participants will be introduced to a range of possible writing assignments based on purpose (expressive, informative, persuasive), genre, and level of

formality. Participants will then design a writing task and over several weeks implement it; participants will return for the second hour several weeks later to report on how things went. (Session A: 9/22, 10:00-11:00, Atkins 123; Session B: 9/13 11:30-12:30, Atkins 123)

Evaluating Writing

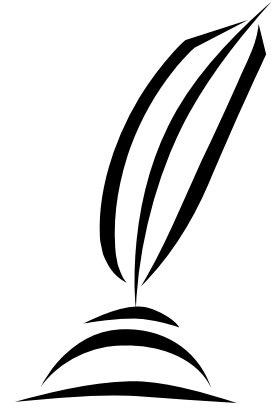
This two-hour workshop will introduce participants to ways of assessing student writing, including holistic, analytic, and portfolio assessment; participants will bring samples of their students’ work (anonymously submitted) and

design an assessment tool that most accurately measures student achievement. (9/20, 10:00-12:00, Atkins 123)

Working with Collaborative Writing Groups

Participants will learn about writing group theory to help them design tasks, groups, and assessment tools to manage a collaborative writing task. We will discuss successful and unsuccessful projects and why they became that way. (11/17, 10:00-12:00, Atkins 123)

☐ *Meg Morgan, Department of English & President of UNC Char-*



ITS ROLLS OUT NEW REPORT EXPRESS AND REPORT CENTRAL TOOLS

ITS is pleased to announce two new reporting tools – Report Express and Report Central. Report Express and Report Central were developed to provide a central repository for enterprise data used in reporting and analysis. Launched as a pilot project on July 25, 2006, its goal is to provide quality data and reports with greater reliability, accuracy, timeliness, and completeness. This resource will be relied on both by campus departments and central offices for the data essential to performing the analyses to run departmental and campus business operations effectively and efficiently. Currently,

the report databases capture and store data from the Banner Student system. Requests for data extensions and new reports will be prioritized and scheduled in cooperation with our University business partners.

All faculty and staff have access to Report Express. It contains the reports most frequently used by Academic Departments and is accessed by simply keying in your UNC Charlotte ID. No password is required. Report Central contains the complete centralized repository of Administrative and Academic Department reports and is accessed by trained WebFo-

cus users. Please see your departmental WebFocus contact for assistance in providing these reports for you.

Report Express can be found at <https://reportexpress.uncc.edu> and Report Central at <https://reportcentral.uncc.edu>. Both tools are on the Quicklinks list at <http://www.uncc.edu>.

NOTE: Access to Report Express and Report Central is only available through on campus resources or through VPN.

☐ *Susan Wagoner, Student Computing Manager*

☐ *Peter Barton, Director of Enterprise Information*

ALL FACULTY
AND STAFF HAVE
ACCESS TO
REPORT EXPRESS.



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: fctel@email.uncc.edu

FCTeL Homepage: www.fctel.uncc.edu

WebCT Support: www.uncc.edu/webct

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

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



BRIDGING METHODS OF INSTRUCTION
& EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.

FCTeL LIBRARY: NEARLY 1000 BOOKS (AND COUNTING)

In FCTeL's main office in Atkins 149C, we have amassed nearly 1000 books about faculty development in a variety of topics, from assessment to diversity to e-learning and more!



We will soon have an electronic database of all of our holdings, which we will publish on our FCTeL website. Until then, please feel free to drop in and check out our selection in person!

FALL 2006 WORKSHOPS

FCTeL is pleased to offer a variety workshops in many different topics this semester:

- ◆ Formative Assessment: Giving Feedback (and Receiving It, Too!) (9/5, 10/11, 11/2)
- ◆ Communication Tools in WebCT Vista (9/5, 10/4, 11/20)
- ◆ Getting Started with WebCT CE (9/6)
- ◆ Summative Assessment: Principles of Test Construction (9/6, 10/12)
- ◆ Introduction to Centra (9/7, 9/19, 10/18)
- ◆ Lecture & Discussion, The Two-Headed Beast (9/7, 9/13, 11/1)
- ◆ Assessing Learner Reactions to Class Activities, Assignments, & Materials (9/12, 10/25)
- ◆ Introduction to Rubrics (9/13, 10/19, 11/6)
- ◆ 49er Express for Faculty (9/14, 11/13)
- ◆ Civility in the Classroom (9/15, 10/17)
- ◆ SurveyShare: Online Assessment Tool (9/18, 10/13, 11/16)
- ◆ Active Learning Methods & Techniques (9/19, 10/18)
- ◆ Seven Principles for Good Practice in Undergrad Educ. (9/20, 10/20)
- ◆ A Conversation About Peer Observation (9/20, 11/16)
- ◆ Up & Running with WebCT Vista (9/20, 10/10, 11/8, 11/30)
- ◆ Presenting Content in WebCT Vista (9/21, 11/14)
- ◆ Designing Writing Assignments for Writing Intensive Courses (9/22)
- ◆ Large Classes: Strategies for Designing Your Courses (9/22, 10/31)
- ◆ Respondus (10/24, 11/21)
- ◆ Open WebCT Vista Migration Session (9/29, 10/27, 11/10, 12/1)
- ◆ Engaging Students with Technology (10/9, 11/14)
- ◆ Creating & Managing Groups & Assignments in WebCT Vista (10/16, 11/10)
- ◆ Adult Learning Principles (10/17, 11/9, 11/15)
- ◆ Evaluating Writing (10/20)
- ◆ Assessments in WebCT Vista (10/23, 11/28)
- ◆ Improving Your Course in WebCT Vista (10/26, 11/27)
- ◆ Using the Grade Book in WebCT Vista (11/7, 12/7)
- ◆ Working with Collaborative Writing Groups (11/17)
- ◆ Syllabus 101 (11/29, 12/5)

FCTeL's calendar of events is always online, where you can see details for the whole semester, including workshop descriptions, dates, times, locations, and so forth: <http://www.fctel.uncc.edu/calendar/>