IT News
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY @ WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY

Spring 2005

Technology Across the Curriculum

As faculty, some of you may have been asked to serve on the Technology Across the Curriculum (TAC) committee or you may have volunteered or you may just have heard about it. Hopefully, you've at least heard that TLTR has morphed into TAC and that it has a new vitality that has resulted in some big changes.

First, TAC developed its new mission, along with appropriate goals and objectives. One of the agendas of TAC became the assurance of the technological literacy of our students in the same way that writing across the curriculum helps to ensure the writing literacy of our students. By working with faculty to incorporate these skills into their courses, we empower our students to be prepared for the 21st century. Additionally, a member from every department on campus was invited to participate. With such engagement, we will create new paths of commu-

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Guest Login Required

The University has become well-acquainted with the effects of e-mail spam and malicious viruses that have the ability to shut down the entire system and make workstations unusable. Everyone also has a heightened sense of security due to the rise of identity theft crimes, the threat of terrorism, and internet-based criminal activity.

For the past several years the University IT Management team has been discussing increased computer security at both the network and user level. Upgrades to the campus information infrastructure, visible to the general user as the migration to Windows XP, Banner and the WPConnect portal have underlying system requirements for every user to log in. For University faculty and staff at their desks, this is the same login procedure they've been using for years. For students, it requires a login using their username and

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Contact IRT
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Wireless Laptop Classrooms on a Cart!

This fall semester, IRT rolled out its wireless laptop classrooms on a cart service. The wireless laptops are available for scheduling in the Valley Road building as well as the Curriculum Materials Classroom in the Library. Twenty four laptops are available in the Library and 36 in Valley Road for non-computer classrooms. The purpose of the program is to enable faculty and students to gain access to computers when the need arises. The computer classrooms are heavily booked after preventing access for the occasional user. The laptops can be booked for individual days throughout the semester. An online reservation form for Valley Road is available at http://euphrates.wpunj.edu/laptops4classroom_use.htm. For the Curriculum Materials Classroom, see http://www.wpunj.edu/irt/cmc.htm.
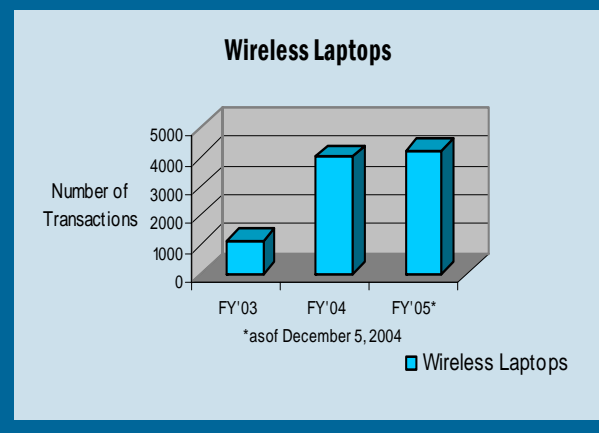
Since the rollout in September, 26 classes have been held in Valley Road accommodating over 369 students and 16 classes have been held in the Curriculum Materials classroom. The heaviest use is from the College of Education. Melda Yildiz described how her students use them: "Students use one laptop for a group of three or four students. One student takes notes and posts the group's findings/results to their group on Blackboard. Another class uses the wireless PC laptops with different software packages. It gives me, as the instructor, flexibility and access to more tools."

For more information on the wireless laptop classrooms on a cart, contact IRT at x2659 or go to their website at http://www.wpunj.edu/irt.

Wireless Technology Remains Popular with Students

Media Services in the Library continues to be an active place this fall with the circulation of wireless laptops for students and faculty use in the Library. The Library added 8 laptops this summer and will be obtaining an additional 4 through funding from the Provost Office. Circulation has been astronomical. This past year, there were 4,008 circulations. Since the beginning of July of 2004, laptops have circulated 4,227 times.

Wireless Laptops

*as of December 5, 2004

Banner... Changing The Way We Do Business

It's not so much that we're afraid of change or so in love with the old ways, but it's that place in between that we fear . . . . It's like being between trapezes. It's Linus when his blanket is in the dryer. There's nothing to hold on to.

Marilyn Ferguson, editor and publisher of the "Brain/Mind Bulletin" since 1975, the Leading Edge Bulletin since 1980, and author of "The Aquarian Conspiracy"

Departments and offices across campus are getting accustomed to the finance module of the University's new enterprise system, Banner. Since July, all requisitions and purchase orders have gone through using the new system and everyone has needed to learn a new account structure and processes. These changes and trying to access and understand new budget views take some getting used to, but the self-service web pages have been well received as easy-to-use and providing efficient access to information. The entire Banner Finance Team did a great job to get the University started with using Banner, but there is still much to do and many issues to resolve. The cooperation and support of all the departments and offices that are catching onto these changes has been and will continue to be greatly appreciated.

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Next up in the Banner implementation is the HR/Payroll system which will begin on January 3, 2005. Paychecks will have a little different look, but the Banner HR/Payroll Team has been checking all the important numbers in parallel testing to ensure an accurate and successful tran-

sition. All employees will have an Employee ID Number that will initiate a change in our use of social security number for other than payroll purposes. Access to WPOnline will be through WPConnect as of January 8, 2005. Accessing WPConnect is easy. Simply click on the login at the top of WPUNJ's homepage **WPconnect Login** or go to http://wpconnect.wpunj.edu. Then type in your email username and password. That gets you inside the portal. WPOnline is available on the Faculty or Employee tab depending upon your role at the university. Notices about these and other changes will be sent to all employees.

The imagery of fear - like being between trapezes - couldn't be any more real for the brave high flyers of the Banner Student Team. Banner admissions, financial aid and student records will be phased in throughout next year with work continuing in both the old and new systems. Ohhhh, wow! How will they do that?!? Even the Banner Student Team isn't sure right now, but they are working hard every day to find the answers and get all the parts in order for a successful transition.

Ask the Expert!

IRT is launching a liaison program encouraging each College and department to personally interact with an IRT member to meet its educational technology needs. In particular, we are launching an **"Ask the Expert"** program encouraging faculty to invite an expert in their various fields into their classrooms and IRT will set up the videoconference so that their students can interact with the expert. All you need is an Internet connection in the classroom. We'll do all the rest. Just ask us! Call x3326 or email ryanp@wpunj.edu.

Turnitin.com

Instruction and Research Technology (IRT) is pleased to announce that William Paterson University has adopted Turnitin.com for faculty. Turnitin.com is an online resource that provides an easy-to-use tool for faculty to detect student plagiarism. Developed by a team of professors at the University of California at Berkeley in 1997, Turnitin.com has been recognized as a great tool for preventing and detecting plagiarism for many educational institutions.

How does it work? When you, as an instructor suspect plagiarism, you tend to use Google.com or other Internet search engines for detecting plagiarized sources from the Internet by entering suspicious word strings. Even though using search engines is useful for tracking down suspicious parts of the paper, it could take a lot of your time and energy. Considering the fact that you have many duties and responsibilities, this could be a very time consuming approach. The question is whether you are willing to do this.

However, Turnitin.com provides an automated and simplified process to detect any suspicious passages in a student's paper. When a paper is submitted to Turnitin.com, it starts comparing the paper to more than six billion sources on the Internet. Then it combines the search results compiled from the submitted paper and identically matches text with hyperlinks from the Internet.

Fully Online Blackboard Institute

This past Fall semester, IRT offered its first ever fully online Blackboard Institute to those faculty members developing or currently teaching online courses at William Paterson University. The class ran for five weeks. It started September 27th and ended October 31st at midnight.

IRT chose this timeframe to start because, although it was during the semester, it was exactly what our students experience. They take our online classes while they are taking other classes and are probably working as well. Participants quickly realized the all-important aspect of time-management online. In fact, we realized that we would prefer to offer this during the summer rather than during the semester because it really is a time-management issue and we want to respond to your needs just as we do with the more traditional Blackboard Institute.

The best thing about the Institute was that it gave all participants a chance to truly experience what their online students experience. Their insights were fruitful and they shared these with each other. In fact, those who really participated, and didn't just "lurk", built a strong online community of collaboration with the other online teachers. They discussed the ins and outs of what they were experiencing as they applied the principles taught in the online class.

Some of the "anonymous" comments from our Climate Surveys given every week included:

IRT's Academic Technology Extends Hours

IRT's Assistant Director for Academic Technology, Robert Harris, reports that his unit will have new hours. During the Spring semester, one of the academic technologists will be on duty between 8am and 8pm Monday through Thursday, and 8-5 on Fridays.

The Academic Technology unit of IRT is available to consult with faculty on issues related to the integration of technology with teaching and learning, including:

Using MS Office (to create gradebooks and correct papers, for example), creating multimedia presentations, creating and editing webpages, using online tools such as Blackboard and Turnitin, and database management, as well as general tips and tricks for using technology in classwork and research.

Additionally, the Faculty Technology Curriculum workshops offered mid-day will also be extended to the early evening hours (a wonderful addition for adjuncts who cannot come during the day) -- for details please see:

http://www.wpunj.edu/irt/ftc/

Or contact any of the Academic Technologists:

Robert Harris	Atrium 109 973.720.2451 harrisr@wpunj.edu
Jae Kim	Atrium 107 973.720.2937 kimj@wpunj.edu
Housen Maratouk	Atrium 105 973.720.2220 maratoukh@wpunj.edu

Microsoft Office CDs Now Available

Information Systems is now able to offer copies of MS Office Professional 2003 and MS Project 2003 to WPU faculty/staff for work at home use. The system requirements to run this software include an operating system of either MS WindowsXP or Windows 2000 Service Pack 3 or later. The software is provided at no cost to the user.

To obtain this software, the faculty/staff member is required to read and sign a statement acknowledging that they understand that the software is intended for performing work at home, may not be duplicated, does not entitle the user to technical support at Microsoft and is to be removed from their home computer upon separation of employment from William Paterson University of New Jersey. The Helpdesk will provide technical support for the software only and will not troubleshoot problems occurring during or as a result of the installation.

Interested parties should call x2682 to make arrangements to pick up the software in College Hall.

Technology Across the Curriculum
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nication between faculty and technology administration. You can read all about it on the new TAC website linked right off WPUNJ's homepage under Faculty and Staff, Teaching Support, http://www.wpunj.edu/academics/tac/

Okay, so what are the big changes? Well, TAC decided to "walk the talk" and has developed a series of 5 workshops intended to help faculty achieve the mission outlined above. TAC is sponsoring a series of five workshops designed to help faculty in all disciplines integrate technology into their teaching and create technology-enriched learning experiences for their students. Participants who sign up and attend all five workshops receive 1/2 credit as well as an invitation (for themselves and a guest) to attend a Best Practices reception in May, 2005. Space permitting, drop-ins are welcome to attend any workshop. However, only registered participants who complete all workshops will receive the stipend.

Note: These workshops are not intended to teach basic technology or introductory Blackboard skills. It is suggested that faculty interested in learning these skills attend IRT Faculty Technology Curriculum workshops
(http://www.wpunj.edu/irt/ftc/)
or the Blackboard Institute
(http://www.wpunj.edu/irt/bbinst.htm).

The five workshops began October 14, 2004 and will run through April 28, 2004. They include Low Tech/High Tech Applications; Reusable Learning Objects; Weblogs: Facilitating Reflective Writing and Idea Sharing; Assessment and Evaluation with Technology Infused Classes, and Information Literacy Fundamentals. So, even if it's too late to make the entire series, you may want to attend the workshop of your choice just to learn more. Don't miss this outstanding opportunity to grow and learn with technology taught by engaging speakers from other institutions as well as from WPUNJ. Contact Dr. Hilary Wilder, Chair of TAC, at wilderh@wpunj.edu or call ext. 2410.
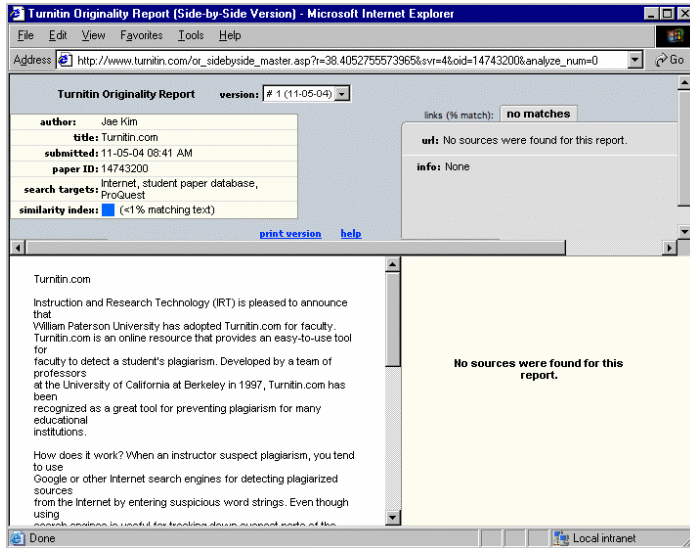

Photographs from Technology Across the Curriculum Workshop

Turnitin.com
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By looking at the results page, you will have a clear picture of what your students have done on their papers. See the following result pages captured from Turnitin.com.

One of the fascinating things of using Turnitin.com is timing of service. According to Turnitin.com, search results are usually available 24 hours after a paper is submitted, but it seems to be faster than that. For instance, upon submitting 10 papers, we received the search results within 10 minutes.

IRT has provided a workshop on Turnitin.com as a part of the Faculty Technology Curriculum (FTC). The FTC is a series of workshops designed to introduce faculty to various multimedia applications and pedagogical methods using technology. If you are concerned with Internet plagiarism in your class, this is going to be a great tool for you. Sign up now by clicking the following FTC link:
http://www.wpunj.edu/irt/FTC/default.htm

Kimberly Batti Joins IRT

Kimberly, a graduate student in Design Arts, joined the Instruction and Research Technology Department. She will be assisting the department in web/print design projects. She brings with her a working knowledge of design principles from her undergraduate courses at Rhode Island school of Design and past experience in the art department of a medical education company. Feel free to stop by room 111 in the Atrium if you need any assistance or just want to introduce yourself.

Fully Online Blackboard Institute
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"I feel that I am on the right track with regard to my online delivery. I realize that I already incorporate some of the elements listed in effective course delivery."

"I think that it is mostly about time. I wonder how everyone else manages to participate on the discussion board so much."

"I've learned how much discipline an Online class demands. When I create the course, I know where everything is and I get it done fast, besides I organize the course around my schedule. As a student, I have to adjust my schedule to the class, which might be hard for those who work and don't have much time."

"There is a great support team 'out there' to help me. This course is building a network of users for me to tap into if and when I need to."

In fact, we'd love to continue with our community of online instructors/students. If you are teaching an online course or soon will be and are interested in taking the Online Blackboard Institute this summer, please sign up by emailing millers@wpunj.edu or calling ext. 2659.

COMING SOON

Submit your proposal for
NJEDge.Net Best Practice Faculty Show.

Information on the rollout of XP for faculty desktop during the semester.

Ray Schwartz Joins Cheng Library

On October 9, Ray Schwartz joined the Cheng Library Information Systems department as Systems Specialist Librarian. Ray comes with a Masters in Library Science from Columbia and a Masters in Media Studies from the New School.

Ray's responsibilities will include management of the Library's Voyager integrated library system, analysis of Voyager data for the creation of circulation and bibliographic reports, and participation in the planning and development of library systems and applications to further the mission of the Library and serve its users.

After his first month on the job, getting acquainted, Ray says of his new surroundings: "I feel like this is a good fit, professionally and personally. I enjoy my colleagues and feel that there are plenty of challenging tasks ahead."

Ray is a seasoned traveler, having lived in Europe and made trips to South America, Greenland, Australia and China. He is also an avid runner, recently completing his third New York City marathon.

Housen Maratouk Joins IRT Department

Joining the IRT Department this semester is Housen Maratouk, the newest Instructional Technologist. Coming to William Paterson from Rutgers University, where he had served as the Newark campus' Coordinator of Academic Technology, Housen is pleased to be joining the IRT's Academic Technology team in their efforts to provide faculty and students with the first-rate support and assistance they've come to depend on.

As someone who is not only a techie, but also an educator and a life-long student and learner, Housen has based his career on the belief that working together enables us all to reach our fullest potential. So whether you need assistance with a problem or just need another person to bounce ideas off of, always feel free to visit Housen in room 105 of the Atrium or call him at x2220.

Hobart Hall Graduate Students

Woohyuk Choi, Alex Stein, and Randy Cline are graduate students working in the Hobart Hall television studios as Technical Assistants for television classes, WPBN-TV shows, and BPS productions. They also assist in maintaining the facility. Their presence in classes and shows has allowed for more productivity not only in the classroom but also for the full time staff they work with, as they are able to take on other tasks.

Guest Login Required

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password whenever they use a computer lab workstation. The Library has always provided its resources not only for the use of William Paterson students, staff and faculty but also for the surrounding community and alumni. The new login requirement has created the need for some new policies and provisions for a guest login.

Alumni and non-WPUNJ visitors to the Library need to obtain a guest ID by visiting the Lending Services or Reference Desk. They will need to show some form of identification to verify their name and address. A guest login and password will then be issued for the duration of their visit. A guest login will allow the use of any workstation in the Library Electronic Resource Center, access to the Internet, web-based research databases, and use of Office application software. The guest ID must be surrendered at the time the user is finished. The guest ID are not intended for use at other WPUNJ computer labs. These facilities are strictly for currently registered students, faculty and staff. Additionally, a guest ID will not function for remote access to the Library's online resources.

IT Management regrets that the tightening of access to computing at the University may be seen as an inconvenience. The staff of the Cheng Library will make every effort to ensure that guest access is easily obtained and trouble free.

Questions about guest access may be directed to Kurt W. Wagner, Head of Library Information Systems, at 720-2285 or wagnerk@wpunj.edu.

Professional Development, FY2005

Sandie Miller, IRT, presented at the NJ/NY Blackboard Users Group on the newly designed fully online Blackboard Institute at WPUNJ last August.

Sandie Miller and Len Bogdon, IS/NHS, attended Educause 2004 in Denver, CO last October with 4,500 other faculty and Information Technology administrators.

Jane Hutchison, IRT, attended the National Media Market in Las Vegas, Nevada in October. Not only did she view over 70 titles, but received substantial discounts on purchases.

Jane Hutchison and Bob Murphy, IRT, attended the Consortium of College and University Media Centers annual conference in Cincinnati, Ohio the last week in October. Jane presented a workshop on teaching faculty to use Blackboard in their courses. Bob Murphy was the Editor of the Conference "Proceedings," and Jane moderated a panel on Copyright. The conference focused on technology integration in teaching and facilities as well as effective management strategies and service.

Sandie Miller, Jane Hutchison, Robert Harris, IRT, Jae Kim, IRT, and Bill Shaw, IRT, attended the NJEDge.net Annual Conference in Princeton. Sandie was part of the program committee for the conference. Robert presented a session on "Ask-an-STC" and Sandie presented a DVD demonstrating our collaborative efforts with NJEDge.net in expanding our Blackboard Institute through videoconferencing.

Bob Murphy and Bill Shaw attended Extron training in California from Nov. 7-10th, courtesy of Extron to update their skills and expertise in maintaining and installed Extron equipment in the classroom workstations.

Kris Anne Kinney and Chris Alaya of Information Systems are participating in a Project Management Certificate Program.

Jae Kim, IRT attended the Blackboard Users Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona last March.