Institute for Computer Policy and Law Established

At a time when colleges and universities are working to align their information technology policies with evolving legislation and cybersecurity initiatives, EDUCAUSE and Cornell University have formed the EDUCAUSE/Cornell Institute for Computer Policy and Law (ICPL), bringing together EDUCAUSE policy initiatives, online resources, and professional development activities with Cornell’s Computer Policy and Law program.

The new ICPL Web site (http://www.educause.edu/icpl/) includes a library of nearly 750 institutional computing policies, which are searchable by topic, keyword, and type of institution. In addition, the site provides a list of recommended links on current topics, including academic integrity and computer-assisted cheating, the USA PATRIOT Act, the Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act, and spam.

Beyond the offerings of the Web site, the ICPL will hold an annual seminar at Cornell University, where technologists, attorneys, judicial administrators, managers, executives, and others will gather for discussion of campus technology policies. The EDUCAUSE Policy and Law Constituent Group, an open-subscription discussion group, offers an additional opportunity for discussion of policy developments and appropriate institutional responses to legal issues. Additionally, leading-edge thinking and effective solutions that come from the work of the ICPL will be disseminated through workshops and seminars coordinated with EDUCAUSE national and regional conferences.

New Board Members, Officers

EDUCAUSE welcomes three individuals who have joined the association’s Board of Directors for four-year terms beginning January 1, 2003. Jeffrey Noyes and Robyn Render were elected by primary representatives of member institutions during the latest board election, and George Strawn was appointed by the current board as the one member appointed each year from the IT sectors critical for advancing higher education.

Jeffrey Noyes is CIO and associate vice president for Information Technology at the University of Texas at San Antonio. He has held IT leadership positions at The George Washington University, Mercer University, Old Dominion University, and Southern Methodist University. He has served on EDUCAUSE, CAUSE, and Educom advisory and program committees, including the CAUSE board, and has recently led the EDUCAUSE CIO Constituent Group. He has also served on program committees and the board of the Seminars on Academic Computing, and has been active with the Association of College and University Telecommunications Administrators (ACUTA). He holds a master’s degree in computer science and electrical engineering and a bachelor’s degree from Southern Methodist University.

Robyn Render is vice president for Information Resources and CIO at the University of North Carolina Office of the President. Her previous leadership and management positions have been at North Carolina Central University, the University of Cincinnati, and AT&T. She has served on a variety of committees for EDUCAUSE, CAUSE, and Educom; has presented at EDUCAUSE and ACUTA national conferences and regional meetings; and has written on quality improvement and technology in teaching and learning. She is also active in the Advanced Networking Project with Minority-Serving Institutions (AN-MSI). She holds associate’s and bachelor’s degrees in information systems from the University of Cincinnati.

George Strawn is the executive officer of the Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) at the National Science Foundation (NSF), overseeing programs for computer science research and for the creation and use of advanced supercomputing and networking facilities. His previous positions include director of the CISE Division of Advanced Networking Infrastructure and Research, NSFNET program director, and Computer Science Department chair and Computation Center director at Iowa State University. He holds a Ph.D. in mathematics from Iowa State and a bachelor’s degree from Cornell College in Iowa.

In addition to the new members, new board officers began their terms on January 1. Elected by the board at the 2002 EDUCAUSE annual conference in Atlanta, the 2003 board officers are Joel L. Hartman, Chair; Joanne R. Hugi, Vice Chair; Kathy Christoph, Secretary; and Perry O. Hanson III, Treasurer.
Core Data Service Launched

To help institutions benchmark, plan for, and make decisions about information technology, EDUCAUSE has launched the Core Data Service to provide ongoing data on campus information technology environments and practices. Now in the initial data-collection stage, the service will offer a full range of services by the spring of 2003.

The fully developed Core Data Service will include an annual Web-based survey through which eligible institutions will be asked to provide data about information technology on their campuses. The cumulative survey findings will be shared with all who complete the survey through a secure, Web-based, interactive database. It will allow retrieval of data using tools that enable comparison of like campuses, the cross-tabulation of data elements, and the creation of on-the-fly ratios. In addition, aggregated reports on specific topics of interest will be developed and made available to the public. More information about the service is available at <http://www.educause.edu/coredata/information.html>.

Forum Publications Available through EDUCAUSE

EDUCAUSE and the Forum for the Future of Higher Education have established a partnership to develop ways of sharing Forum publications—which spotlight new thinking on issues likely to affect the future of higher education, particularly economics, strategy, learning, and technology—with the EDUCAUSE community and higher education at large.

Among the first fruits of the partnership was the publication by EDUCAUSE of The Internet and The University: 2000 Forum, a book exploring the ways that new learning media and technologies can improve the quality and condition of higher learning. The book is a collection of papers from the first symposium of the same name under the Forum’s aegis.

In their latest initiative, EDUCAUSE and the Forum have introduced a Web site (http://www.educause.edu/forum/) that makes accessible in PDF format and free of charge 12 collections of summaries and full-length papers presented by academic leaders and scholars at the Forum’s annual Aspen Symposium since 1997.

The Forum for the Future of Higher Education is a community of campus leaders from prominent private and public colleges and universities as well as foundation officers, corporate leaders, and scholars with an interest in higher education. It is an independent, nonprofit organization founded in 1984 at Columbia University and presently resident at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.