Leadership Changes

This spring, EDUCAUSE underwent a transition in leadership within the area of teaching and learning. It also launched a new content initiative with the appointment of its first director of information management and strategy.

Diana Oblinger has joined EDUCAUSE as vice president, assuming responsibility for the association’s teaching and learning activities and direction of the National Learning Infrastructure Initiative (NLII). She comes to the association with a distinguished career in teaching, learning, and information technology. Most recently she has been executive director of higher education for Microsoft Corporation (An EDUCAUSE Gold Partner). She also serves as an adjunct professor of Adult and Community College Education at North Carolina State University. In addition, she has held a variety of management positions within IBM focused on strategy and academic consulting, has served as vice president for information resources and CIO for the 16-campus University of North Carolina system, and has been a member of the faculties of the University of Missouri–Columbia and Michigan State University.

Known for her leadership in teaching and learning with technology and distributed learning, Oblinger serves on such bodies as the advisory board for the University of Texas TeleCampus, Western Governors University, and the editorial board of Open Learning. She chairs the National Visiting Committee for the National Science Digital Library project of the National Science Foundation. She also is the author of many articles and books, including What Business Wants from Higher Education, which received the 1999 Frandson Award for best literature in continuing education.

Before accepting her current position at EDUCAUSE, Oblinger was involved with the association in various roles. Among them was her place on the original committee that established NLII as well as a long tenure on the NLII planning committee. She also has served as a consultant and senior fellow for the EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research (ECAR), in which position she directed the development of bi-monthly research bulletins that synthesize current issues for college and university executives.

Carole Barone, formerly vice president and head of NLII, has transitioned into a position as EDUCAUSE senior fellow, honoring her desire to work on a reduced time basis. Barone has a reputation as a leader who engages the practical and humanistic challenges of applying technology to teaching and learning. She is noted for thinking and acting creatively and for inspiring others to do the same, on their own campuses and in national partnerships. For more than five years, she helped NLII emerge as a leading-edge contributor to thought and action in the realm of instructional technology.

Joining EDUCAUSE as its first director of information management and strategy is Catherine Yang. In this position, Yang is undertaking a pivotal role in executing the evolving EDUCAUSE content strategy, described in the association’s 2004 Program Plan.

Yang brings to the association extensive experience with information management and content creation. She most recently served as director of client services within the Division of Information Technology at Bentley College and before that as the manager of desktop computing strategies within that division. Prior to her work at Bentley, Yang served as manager of the Department of Planning and Consulting within Computing and Information Services at Brown University. She also worked as a technology consultant and analyst within higher education and beyond, as well as a technical writer and quality assurance engineer.

Award and Fellowship News

Brewster Kahle, founder and chairman of the board of the Internet Archive, has been named the recipient of the 2004 Paul Evan Peters Award, presented by the Coalition for Networked Information (CNI), EDUCAUSE, and the Association of Research Libraries. The award honors Kahle’s rare combination of strategic vision, technical innovation, and humanitarian outlook. It also recognizes his lasting achievements in the creation and use of information resources and services to advance scholarship and intellectual productivity.

A long-time proponent of the transformative power of digital libraries for human culture, Kahle founded the Internet Archive Project in 1996 to provide “universal access to all human knowledge.” More recently, Kahle’s devotion to bringing the world’s cultural heritage to as broad an audience as possible has sparked another innovative project—the deployment of “Internet bookmobiles.” The bookmobiles use satellites, laptops, and
Research and Resources

EDUCAUSE recently introduced several new online resources concerning the use of information technology in higher education, some of which address the most common current information technology challenges identified in the 2004 EDUCAUSE Current Issues Survey (see related article in this issue).

Funding Information Technology, an executive briefing released by EDUCAUSE in cooperation with the National Association of College and University Business Officers, presents a set of four general principles and effective practices for funding IT on campus, as well as a list of references to recent supporting literature. The briefing is available at <http://www.educause.edu/asp/doclib/abstract.asp?ID=PUB4002>.

The EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research (ECAR) has released Information Technology Leadership in Higher Education, the most comprehensive effort to date to chronicle, analyze, and evaluate the professional community of IT in higher education. The study is available for purchase or through an ECAR subscription. Also, ECAR has made publicly available some research publications that formerly were accessible only through subscription, including two full-scale research studies and nine related case studies on wireless networking and IT outsourcing and 20 research bulletins; more studies and bulletins will be made public in the future. See the ECAR Web site at <http://www.educause.edu/ecar/>.

The issues of identity theft, the use of Social Security Numbers as identifiers, spam, and peer-to-peer file sharing are treated in recently created online resource pages. Each page offers a focused list of annotated links to key resources from federal and state governments, nongovernmental organizations and associations, universities and colleges, and the EDUCAUSE online library. For links to these resource pages, visit <http://www.educause.edu/issues/index.asp?page=campus>.

Valuable information on various aspects of middleware deployment is available from the proceedings of this winter’s Campus Architectural Middleware Planning (CAMP) Directory Workshop and other CAMP events. The proceedings are online at <http://www.educause.edu/conference/nmi/>.

awarded to 10 information technology professionals in recognition of their past achievement, personal and institutional commitment, potential benefit, and financial need. The program bears the name of Jane N. Ryland, who, as president of CAUSE from 1986 to 1998, recognized the importance of educational programs to support and develop IT professionals throughout higher education. It has honored 76 individuals since its inception in 1998, with grants totaling nearly $100,000.

For more information on EDUCAUSE awards and fellowships, visit <http://www.educause.edu/awards/>.

The Paul Evan Peters Award honors the memory and accomplishments of Paul Evan Peters (1947–1996). Peters was a visionary and a coalition builder in higher education and the world of scholarly communication. In 1999, he was named one of the 100 most important leaders in 20th-century librarianship by the American Library Association. Previous recipients of the award are Vinton Cerf (2002) and Tim Berners-Lee (2000).

In fellowship news, this year’s Jane N. Ryland fellowships have been awarded to 10 information technology professionals in recognition of their past achievement, personal and institutional commitment, potential benefit, and financial need. The program bears the name of Jane N. Ryland, who, as president of CAUSE from 1986 to 1998, recognized the importance of educational programs to support and develop IT professionals throughout higher education. It has honored 76 individuals since its inception in 1998, with grants totaling nearly $100,000.

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