Podcasting Arrives

Podcasting—delivering online audio content (usually in MP3 format) through Web feed—not only has become a hot topic but is emerging as a useful tool within the EDUCAUSE community. In January, EDUCAUSE teamed with the University of Missouri–Columbia School of Journalism, the Penn State IST Solutions Institute, and Apple Computer Inc. (an EDUCAUSE Gold Partner) for its first podcasting, from the National Learning Infrastructure Initiative (NLII) Annual Meeting. Students from the University of Missouri journalism school recorded and produced several podcasts from the meeting, reporting on the top events and issues discussed. In March, the University of Missouri, Apple, and EDUCAUSE again joined to podcast from the NLII Spring Focus Session and EDUCAUSE produced podcasts from its Midwest Regional Conference.

Also in March, the EDUCAUSE Live online seminar series featured a discussion with NLII Fellow Cyprien Lomas and University of Missouri’s Jennifer Reeves exploring the possibilities for podcasting within higher education. To complement the seminar topic, EDUCAUSE soon afterward produced an experimental podcast of the seminar. The podcasts appear in the EDUCAUSE Community Blog Service at <http://blog.educause.edu/>; general information about podcasting is available at <http://www.educause.edu/Browse/645?PARENT_ID=788>.

Supporting Municipal Broadband

EDUCAUSE has joined a coalition of organizations working to stop the spread of state-level legislation that impedes city, county, or state entities from providing public broadband networks. High-quality and affordable broadband access has proven critical to the educational services EDUCAUSE members provide, and EDUCAUSE supports the continued availability to local communities of municipal networks for providing these services. To this end, the coalition released an open letter in February to state and federal policymakers at a Congressional briefing in Washington D.C. In addition, EDUCAUSE has asked members in key states to raise this issue with their government relations offices and urge their institutions to oppose such legislation in their states. Learn more about this issue at <http://www.educause.edu/policy>.

Pocket Guide New in 2005

The 2005 edition of the EDUCAUSE Pocket Guide to U.S. Higher Education has been released. The publication features easy-to-scan statistics on the higher education environment—including institutions, students, faculty, college stores, meetings, publications, technology issues, organizational behavior, and more—drawn from the EDUCAUSE Core Data Service, the Campus Computing Project, the U.S. Department of Education, and other leading sources. The guide also includes listings of higher education associations, events, and resources.

The Pocket Guide is compiled annually in partnership with the Campus Computing Project. The 2005 edition is sponsored by Cisco Systems, Inc. (an EDUCAUSE Platinum Partner). Obtain the guide free of charge in PDF format or purchase as a hard copy at <http://www.educause.edu/pocketguide>.

Ryland Fellows Named

This year’s Jane N. Ryland Fellowships have been awarded to 13 information technology professionals in recognition of their past achievement, personal and institutional commitment, potential benefit, and financial need. The fellowships are an EDUCAUSE grant program that expands opportunities for IT professionals to attend EDUCAUSE events. It 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. Names of this year’s recipients and, in September, application information, can be found at <http://www.educause.edu/fellow/>. To see the events from which recipients could choose, visit <http://www.educause.edu/EligibleEDUCAUSEEvents/1580>.

EQ Editorial Committee Changes

Jeffrey C. Cepull of Philadelphia University has been appointed the 2005 chair of the EDUCAUSE Quarterly Editorial Committee. In addition, Timothy Chester (Texas A&M University at Qatar), Katherine F. Gates (University of Mississippi), Bill Green (Capilano College), James A. Jorstad (University of Wisconsin–La Crosse), and Deborah Keyek-Franssen (University of Colorado at Boulder), joined the committee at the beginning of 2005. EDUCAUSE extends its thanks to Warren J. Wilson, outgoing committee chair, and Mary M. Doyle, John O’Brien, Jeffrey L. Overholtzer, and Pamela Snelson, outgoing committee members, for their dedicated service.
Also in the News

EDUCAUSE 2005 Speakers: Scott McNealy, Chairman and CEO of Sun Microsystems, and Karen A. Holbrook, President of the Ohio State University, have been announced as keynote speakers at EDUCAUSE 2005, October 18–21 in Orlando, Florida. Also lined up is a general session panel discussion entitled “Right and Wrong in Cyberspace,” moderated by Randy Cohen, columnist for the New York Times Magazine.

New Constituent Groups: Two new online discussion groups have been established, the Enterprise Electronic Content Management and the Research Mission Support Constituent Groups. They, like the other EDUCAUSE constituent groups, are open, informal communities of practice that enable exchange of information online throughout the year. Join these groups and search their online archives at <http://www.educause.edu/groups>.

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