

UT TeleCampus Communiqué
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Computerworld Recognizes UT TeleCampus

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TRACK's Continued Success

The redesigned TRACK website has been awarded the prestigious 2005 Gold Quill Award of Merit by the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC). The annual IABC Gold Quill Awards acknowledge and reward the best in communication programs around the globe. This past fall, the TRACK site was also awarded the IABC Silver Quill Award of Excellence, in their regional competition.

For the week of March 27th – April 2nd, 2005, users of the TRACK website surpassed the goals set for this year's campaign:

13,147 visits
1,878 visits per day (average)
7,275 unique visitors for the week

Other interesting stats on the redesigned site, diagnostics and learning materials:

New accounts: 35,687
Tests completed: 20,985
Tests begun: 53,370

UTTC Staff Presented at SXSW

Members of the UT TeleCampus staff participated in a panel discussion at the annual South by Southwest (SXSW) Interactive Festival in Austin in March. The panel, entitled "Low-Resource Rich-Application Development: Flash, .NET, & CSS" provided insight into how to build a lightweight asynchronous framework to minimize network load and maximize performance over the Internet.

During their panel, Michael Anderson, Ross Henderson, George Irwin and Mike Nowlin discussed their experience building a learning application for TRACK – TAKS Readiness and Core Knowledge. The application and supporting website were designed and built in 3 months by this team. For more information about their panel, visit: <http://www.telecampus.utsystem.edu/index.cfm/4,1223,html>.

UT TeleCampus Associate Director Receives Leadership Award

Rob Robinson of the UT TeleCampus recently received the Noflett Williams Up-and Coming Leadership Award for significant contribution to the field of distance learning.

The Noflett Williams award is presented by the University Continuing Education Association's Distance Learning Community of Practice. It is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the field of distance learning, and who is a current member of UCEA's Distance Learning Community of Practice. Candidates must have 15 years or less in the field of distance learning.

Guest View of Courses to Begin with the Summer Semester

Beginning with the summer term, potential students will be able to get a guest username and password from the UTTC website and use that to login to Blackboard, read information on a guest portal and view specified lessons in some courses. This new access will benefit TeleCampus faculty and programs by allowing non-registrants to see the quality of our courses – potential students can learn about the TeleCampus as well as “see” what it will be like to be an online student, and current students can use this access when selecting courses for registration. We have asked faculty teaching this summer to make the course syllabus and 2-4 lessons available to the public through this new guest access. If you are teaching this summer, would like to participate and haven't responded to our email request, please email your list of lessons to make available to Lori McNabb at <mailto:lmcnabb@utsystem.edu> by Friday, April 29.

Summer Registration Underway

TIS (TeleCampus Information System) registration opened Wednesday, March 23 to allow students to request registration at host campuses. The TeleCampus is offering 67 courses in the summer semester. Thank you to everyone who plays a part in the TIS registration process. Send questions regarding the TIS or registration to <mailto:telecampus@utsystem.edu>.

Bookstore Open for Book Buy-Backs and Sales

The TeleCampus bookstore opened for buy-backs of spring semester books and with the complete listing of course materials for sale for the summer semester on Wednesday, March 30. Thank you, summer TeleCampus faculty, for getting your course materials lists turned in for the bookstore to open. Information on the bookstore is available from Terry Barksdale at <mailto:tbarksdale@utsystem.edu>.

Library Resource Integration Award

The Directors of UT System Libraries will confer an award to a UT System faculty member at the Innovation in Online Learning (IOL) conference during the Library Round-Up, to recognize the efforts of the team involved in integrating library resources into course curriculum.

The UT System Library Directors are seeking nominations from within UT System of online, hybrid or web-enhanced courses that integrate library resources into their curriculum. Examples of library integration are:

- a course that includes a link to the library and/or to assigned readings;
- a course that has a librarian lead a discussion board exercise;
- a course that includes research in the library's digital collection.

To submit a nomination, complete the attached Word document, save the file, then email it to <mailto:uttclibrary@utsystem.edu>. To learn more about the award, visit <http://www.telecampus.utsystem.edu/index.cfm/4,1233.html>. Contact Terry Barksdale, <mailto:tbarksdale@utsystem.edu> or 512-499-4261, with questions.

Fall Faculty Training Scheduled

Mark your calendar for the Fall 2005 Faculty Course Development and Management training which will be held October 13 and 14 in Austin. Training is required for faculty with TeleCampus course grants and is encouraged for anyone teaching a TeleCampus course. For faculty developing new courses, attendance at training is recommended 9 to 12 months prior to the first offering of the course. For information on training, contact Lori McNabb at <mailto:lmcnabb@utsystem.edu>.

Upcoming Academic Affairs Committee meetings

The Kinesiology Online program will have an Academic Affairs Committee meeting in Austin on April 28 beginning at 1:00 p.m. and on April 29 beginning at 9:00 a.m. The MBA Online program will have an Executive and Academic Affairs Committee meeting on May 5 in Austin. Issues discussed at these meetings will include course scheduling, program policy issues, student issues, and future program expansion. Anyone needing more details about these meetings can contact Susan Smith at ssmith@utsystem.edu.

New Features Added to SafeAssignment

SafeAssignment has been upgraded and new features were added that are available for use by faculty currently piloting the plagiarism detection software in Blackboard. Most importantly, faculty can now type a message to students during grading that can be read in the gradebook. Faculty can also make comments on a student's paper and upload the marked-up paper so that the student can download and/or read it. In addition, a faculty member who is having students turn papers in without using the SafeAssignment tool can now bulk upload for review all their student's papers in a zip file. For additional information on SafeAssignment, the pilot project or use of the tool within Blackboard, contact Lori McNabb at <mailto:lmcnabb@utsystem.edu>.

New Course Developer

Please join us in welcoming Danny Hummel who joined the UT TeleCampus in March as a course developer, replacing Chris Jennings who is now the Associate Director for the Center for Innovation, Teaching and Learning at NYU. Since graduating from The University of Texas at Austin with a BA in Mathematics, Danny designed multimedia Flash tutorials and animations for online high school courses at UT Austin's Distance Education Center. Danny holds a Level III certification in Flash and a Level II certification in ActionScript from Macromedia. At the DEC, he was the lead developer for an algorithm tutorial engine (called Unlimited Practice) for Algebra and Geometry, and also designed and developed tutorials in Physics and Chemistry.

Advertising Update

UTTC programs are advertised in the following locations during the month of April. **Please note that some placements are booked year round and will appear each month. For example, we index once for the year with searchable databases.** To make a suggestion, please email Jennifer Rees at jrees@utsystem.edu.

- Alamo Cinema Calendar Guide
- Alcalde Magazine
- Ameriforce Texas Military Relocation Guide
- ASTD (American Society for Training & Development) Link eNewsletter
- ATPE (Association of Texas Professional Educators) News Magazine
- Degree.net
- Distance-Educator.com
- GetEducated.com
- Gradschools.com
- Insight Magazine (Texas Association of School Administrators)
- JustColleges.com
- Longhorn Sports Athletic Program
- NewsweekDistanceLearning.com
- Online University Consortium
- Peterson's Distance Learning Guide
- Policetraining.net
- Sloan-C.org
- TexasMonthly.com
- Texas Nursing Magazine
- Texas Study Magazine (Texas Association of Secondary School Principals)
- Tribal College Journal
- WorldWideLearn.com

Embanet Statistics

Summary for December 2004

Phone Calls	61	54.5%
Emails	16	14.3%
Web Forms	35	31.3%

Average time to complete email request	08 minutes
Average time to complete phone request	13 minutes
Average time to complete webform request	37 minutes

2004 Summary

Phone Calls	1,534	54.1%
Emails	276	9.7%

Web Forms 1,028 36.2%

Average time to complete email request 08 minutes
Average time to complete phone request 11 minutes
Average time to complete web form request 53 minutes

Summary for January 2005

Phone Calls 318 57.7%
Emails 58 10.5%
Web Forms 175 31.8%

Time to complete email request 06 minutes
Time to complete phone request 08 minutes
Time to complete webform request 43 minutes

Summary for February 2005

Phone Calls 104 53.6%
Emails 24 12.4%
Web Forms 65 33.5%
Chats 1 0.5%

Time to complete email request 09 minutes
Time to complete phone request 07 minutes
Time to complete webform request 30 minutes

Summary for March 2005

Phone Calls 44 46.3%
Emails 15 15.8%
Web Forms 37 38.9%

Time to complete email request 42 minutes
Time to complete phone request 08 minutes
Time to complete webform request 2 hours 12 minutes

2005 Year-to-date

Phone Calls 466 55.5%
Emails 97 11.5%
Web Forms 277 33.0%
Chats 1 0.1%

Time to complete email request 13 minutes
Time to complete phone request 08 minutes
Time to complete web form request 52 minutes

**UT TeleCampus Nominated by Macromedia for
2005 Computerworld Honors Collection**

Case study will be archived in 36 countries as part of IT Global Archives

UT TeleCampus (UTTC) has submitted a case study on its online Emergency Room Psychiatry and Ethics project that officially became part of the Computerworld Honors Collection presented to the Global Archives last week. UTTC was presented with a Medal of Achievement at San Francisco City Hall. The case study is now part of a collection of informational technology studies from 54 countries. Macromedia nominated UT TeleCampus for the recognition.

The 2005 Collection, which will be archived in libraries, museums, and academic and research institutions in 36 locations around the world, will serve as primary source material for scholars and as a resource for individuals who hope to use information technology to create solutions to multiple challenges.

The emergency room psychiatric case study module (ER Psych) developed by the UT TeleCampus and the UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, provides web-based training for healthcare workers, medical students and interns.

The multi-media self-paced ER Psych module consists of an interactive case presentation created in Macromedia Flash MX 2004. The case deals with a patient who suffers from bi-polar disorder. A student logs on, views the patient video, reads the case history online, selects and orders various tests to be run (with feedback on both cost and appropriateness), arrives at a diagnosis, and considers treatment modalities. The video includes discussion of multiple ethical issues associated with the case. At any point the student can access a Web-based Psychiatry Emergency Guide provided by the Southwestern Medical Center Library. Successful completion of the quiz at the end of the case generates a certificate for Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit from UT Southwestern.

The module provides online training in diagnostic, ethical, legal, and public-safety issues related to diagnosing an emergency room patient exhibiting psychotic behavior. Because the case is fully online, ER Psych brings the latest medical training to healthcare workers in rural areas who may not be able to travel to classes in major metropolitan areas. Because the case is able to work with any SCORM-compliant learning management system, ER Psych may be deployed at multiple locations with no loss of functionality. And because the case is built on reusable XML-based components via the case simulation engine created by the UT TeleCampus, additional cases may be brought online by medical educators with no programming background who simply add a video, case history and test documents to create an entirely new case.

“Each year, Computerworld identifies and recognizes individuals around the world whose visionary use of information technology produces and promotes positive social, economic and educational change,” said Bob Carrigan, CEO and publisher of Computerworld. Computerworld is a business unit of International Data Group (IDG), one of the world’s leading technology media, research and event’s company

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