

UT TeleCampus Communiqué
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Innovations in Online Learning 2006 Conference

The registration form for the 2006 IOL conference is up and running. Please go to the following URL to find the registration form and sign up for the Early Bird registration rate.

http://www.telecampus.utsystem.edu/forms/iol_form.cfm

We are very excited about the 2006 IOL conference. Check out the pre-conference workshops at <http://www.telecampus.utsystem.edu/index.cfm/4,1413,82,56.html>. We're sure you can find one that fits your needs.

There is a wonderful opportunity for an evening dinner cruise to view the largest urban bat colony in the United States. Go to the website and see all of the wonderful activities planned for the 2006 IOL Conference. <http://www.telecampus.utsystem.edu/index.cfm/4,1350,82,32.html>

Award

Jen Chance, our new programmer in Course Development and Technology, recently received the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center Group Achievement Award from the Director in recognition of her work to design and implement the Work Authorization Document program for SPICE (Space Program Integrated Contract Environment). Jen worked at the Johnson Space Center before coming to the UT TeleCampus.

Spring Enrollment

UTTC is offering 153 courses this semester with enrollments of 4417. (For comparison, enrollments in Spring 2005 were 3622.) Some details are provided below.

Spring 2006 Enrollments by Program

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| ATCP | 277 |
| BAT-HS | 40 |
| Blood Bank Tech | 3 |
| Border Studies | 37 |
| CCJO | 873 |
| Chess | 19 |
| Dental Hygiene | 28 |
| GenEd | 957 |
| HRD | 68 |
| Kinesiology | 206 |
| Literacy Studies | 296 |
| MBA | 553 |
| Ed Tech | 174 |
| MIS | 54 |
| MPA | 192 |
| Nursing Ed | 15 |
| RN-BSN | 79 |
| UTOPS | 56 |

Spring 2006 Enrollments by Host Campus

| | |
|--------------|------|
| UT Arlington | 1450 |
|--------------|------|

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| UT Austin | 19 |
| UT Brownsville | 595 |
| UT Dallas | 133 |
| UT El Paso | 674 |
| UT Pan American | 257 |
| UT Permian Basin | 829 |
| UT San Antonio | 124 |
| UT Tyler | 274 |
| UTHSC Houston | 34 |
| UTHSC San Antonio | 4 |
| UTMB at Galveston | 9 |
| UTSWMC at Dallas | 15 |

Spring 2006 Enrollments compared to Spring 2005

- Total enrollment increased by 795 (22%)
- Although some programs had decreased enrollment, ATCP, CCJO and GenEd had big increases
- Enrollments are 57% undergrad and 43% grad (Spring 05 was 53% and 47%)
- All campuses had increased enrollments except for UTHSCSA and UTMB
- Added programs since Spring 05: BAT-HS, Blood Bank Tech, Border Studies Cert., Dental Hygiene

HorizonLive

After an extensive review of VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) products (see <http://komodo.utsystem.edu/coursetech/lsteffen/VoIP/index.htm>), UTTC has selected HorizonLive for an initial "live classroom" tool. While Blackboard offers a "virtual classroom," several instructors have requested a tool that incorporates VoIP technology to allow students to talk to each other (literally—not virtually) during group presentations to the entire class. HorizonLive plugs directly into Blackboard so students aren't forced to login to a second system. The Course Development and Technology team is in the process of developing training presentations on HorizonLive to cover suggested uses and best practices. We anticipate having this new service available for use in Summer 2006.

Fall 2005 Course Evaluations

The end-of-semester evaluation results for fall are now available to the campus representatives listed below. If you taught a UTTC course in the Fall and have not received your results, please contact your campus representative.

UTA – Janis Walkup, 817-272-2103
 UT Austin - Chuck Gaede, 512-232-4374
 UTB – Mrinal Mugdh, 956-882-8816
 UTD - Lawrence Redlinger, 972-883-6188
 UTEP - Pablo Arenaz, 915-747-5725
 UTPA - George Avellano, 956-381-3661
 UTPB - Doug Hale, 432-552-2873
 UTSA – Doug Atkinson, 210-458-4709
 UTT - Sherri Whatley, 903-566-7247
 UTMB - Poldi Tschirch, 409-747-2192
 UTHSCH - Chris McKee, 713-500-3246
 UTHSCSA – Ida Garcia, 512-567-2312
 UTSWMC - Josalyn Cicio, 214-648-1508

Also, there is a new feature in the evaluation system that allows the campus representative to generate a report to show what each student marked on each question. This allows you, for example, to see the trends in an individual student's responses. The evaluation system assigns random numbers to students so you will not know their names, but you can track them to see how they marked each question and what they included in their written comments. This new feature gives faculty a little more information from the end of semester evaluations. If interested, ask your campus rep to generate a "detailed" report for you. For more information, contact Frank Gonzalez at <mailto:fgonzalez@utsystem.edu>.

TRACK

The UT TeleCampus recently launched the 2006 version of TRACK (TAKS Readiness And Core Knowledge). TRACK is a Web-based application that includes diagnostic tests and interactive tutorials keyed to the 11th grade learning objectives required for high school graduation. TRACK was originally launched on the Blackboard learning management system in 2004 and then rewritten in 2005 to run on UT System servers, utilizing a Flash/.NET AJaX design. The unique architecture allowed a single TRACK server to handle more network traffic in 2005 than all other UT System applications combined.

TRACK offers students multiple versions of diagnostic assessments in each of the four subject areas on the TAKS test. The diagnostic stores students' multiple test attempts and builds a personalized menu for each student based on the last diagnostic results for each subject. The 2006 version also tracks time on task for each tutorial and provides detailed reports for each student, including study time and tutorial practice results. This allows teachers to use TRACK more effectively as an in-class personalized study plan.

TRACK has been honored with awards from WCET (WCET Outstanding Work, 2005) and South by Southwest (Interactive Multimedia, 2005 and 2006) and has been used by more than 100,000 students and teachers since it was launched two years ago. TRACK is operated by the TeleCampus under direction from the Institute for Public School Initiatives (IPSI).

TCEA Booth

The Communication Services department exhibited the UTTC booth before an estimated crowd of 13,000 conference attendees at the Texas Computer Education Association Conference February 8th – 10th in Austin. Attendees who visited the booth expressed an elevated interest in the M.Ed. in Educational Technology program as well as a wide use of TRACK in their schools. As always, it was wonderful to meet some of our current and past students who were attending the conference.

Effort Reporting

The UT TeleCampus was selected by the UT System Office of Health Affairs to produce a System-wide Web-based training course on Effort Reporting. This critical initiative was designed to insure that all campuses who receive Federal grants comply with reporting regulations. The six sections provide a thorough but modular compliance training course in time and effort accounting.

The project's most challenging requirement was that a portion of the content was fixed (to insure a common knowledge transfer) while a large portion of the content was dynamic and specific to each campus (one campus refers to the process as "effort reporting" while another campus uses the phrase "time certification" to mean the same thing). In addition, each campus needed to brand the course with its own logo and color scheme. This goal was achieved by building an object-oriented Flash application which reads the campus-specific data files at the moment the course is launched, allowing an unlimited number of distinct variations to be produced simply by modifying text files.

A second challenge was the requirement that the modules must reside on and connect to each campus' SCORM-conformant Learning Management System, as well as to non-conformant databases. This goal was achieved through multiple JavaScript functions that can "talk" to any database.

Finally, because of the length of the training, learners needed a menu which automatically kept track of individual progress. A mastery test generated randomly from a pool of questions was required with the ability for each campus to define the question distribution and mastery threshold for each group of employees.

Effort Reporting is now being rolled out to all campuses and will be required for all UT System employees who record time spent on federally funded projects.

Advertising Update

UTTC programs are advertised in the following locations during the month of January. **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.

- [Ameriforce Texas Military Relocation Guide](#)
- [Degree.net](#)
- [Distance-Educator.com](#)
- [GetEducated.com](#)

- Google Adwords
- Gradschools.com
- HoustonChronicle.com
- JustColleges.com
- Longhorn Sports Network (UT Austin athletic programs)
- MySA.com
- NewsweekDistanceLearning.com
- Peterson's Distance Learning Guide
- Petersons.com
- Policetraining.net
- Sloan-C.org
- Star-telegram.com banner and email sponsorship
- Texas Monthly
- TexasMonthly.com
- TexasSports.com
- UCEADirectory.org
- Vault.com email sponsorship
- WacoTrib.com
- WashingtonPost.com email sponsorship

Embanet Help Desk – January Report

| | | |
|-------------|-----|---|
| Phone Calls | 339 | average time to complete request – 4 minutes |
| Emails | 50 | average time to complete request – 5 minutes |
| Web Forms | 254 | average time to complete request – 21 minutes |
| Chats | 2 | |

Trends:

1. Request user ID/password
2. Access to course area
3. Access to Blackboard
4. Missing course
5. Request for information

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