

**UT TeleCampus Communiqué**  
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**UT4Me is Live!**

The spring edition of UT4Me is live! Please visit [UT4Me](#) for a look at semester highlights and what's new in the UTTC community. Feel free to share your comments by emailing [ut4me@utsystem.edu](mailto:ut4me@utsystem.edu).

**New Brochure**

The new UTTC brochure is off the press. This brochure serves as an introduction to the services and programs offered via the UT TeleCampus. We have mailed a copy to our UTTC contacts, however if you did not receive one or would like to request additional copies, please email Maggie Galbreath at [mgalbreath@utsystem.edu](mailto:mgalbreath@utsystem.edu).

**TIS Summer Registration**

TIS Summer course registration is scheduled to begin on March 28. The TeleCampus is planning to offer 89 courses this summer. For information on TIS registration, contact Frances Nash at <mailto:fnash@utsystem.edu>.

**Registrar's Videoconference Scheduled**

UTTC registrar liaisons are scheduled to meet by videoconference from 2 to 4 p.m. on March 27. Additional videoconferences are in the works; we are planning one for financial aid, veteran's affairs and Hazelwood liaisons, as well as one for UTTC program advisors. For information on these liaison videoconferences, contact Frances Nash at <mailto:fnash@utsystem.edu>.

**Plagiarism Detection Software from SafeAssignment**

The UTTC now has a contract with SafeAssignment ([www.safeassignment.com](http://www.safeassignment.com)) for plagiarism detection services. Thank you to everyone who helped by trying out the service and giving us your feedback. SafeAssignment is integrated into Blackboard and is available to all UTTC faculty. For more information on SafeAssignment or to schedule a brief phone training, contact UTTC student services at <mailto:telecampus@utsystem.edu>.

**Changes for the UTTC Bookstore**

The UTTC started a bookstore project last year to provide a central source for books and materials for students studying on multiple campuses. We have decided to end our relationship with the online bookstore vendor eCampus, but our commitment to the goals of the project continues. The efforts we put into our BALI (Bookstore Adoption List Interactive) system provide us with lots of options, which we are currently reviewing. For the summer semester, we'll continue to use BALI and will provide students with book lists and links to sources on our website. If you are teaching this summer, please watch your email for instructions on how to use BALI to update or provide your materials list. For more information on the bookstore project, contact Margie Harris at [mharris@utsystem.edu](mailto:mharris@utsystem.edu).

**New Additions to the Digital Library Collection**

The Digital Library has added SPORTDiscus, a new full text resource. This database is a comprehensive full-text database covering sport, physical fitness, exercise, sports medicine, sports science, physical education, kinesiology, coaching, training, sport administration, officiating, sport law & legislation, college & university sport, disabled persons, facility design & management, intramural & school sport, doping, health, health education, biomechanics, movement science, injury prevention rehabilitation, physical therapy, nutrition, exercise physiology, sport & exercise psychology, recreation, leisure studies, tourism,

allied health, occupational health & therapy, public health and more. To access this new collection in the Digital Library ([www.uttc.org](http://www.uttc.org)), go to Materials & Resources/By Subject, and select Health & Kinesiology.

Additionally, working with the faculty in the Masters of Curriculum and Instruction program, we have identified and added several high-quality, free resources. These include:

- [www.ipl.org/div/kidspace](http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace): Kidspace is a special kids section of the Internet Public Library, a public service organization and a learning/teaching environment at the University of Michigan, School of Information.
- [www.icdlbooks.org](http://www.icdlbooks.org): At the international Children's Digital Library, you can explore a world of children's books. It is a public library for the world's children where you can read 914 free children's books written in 34 different languages.
- [www.sosspotlight.org](http://www.sosspotlight.org): S.O.S. for Information Literacy is a dynamic web-based multimedia resource for educators, currently in development, that promises to make a significant contribution to enhancing the teaching of information literacy skills to children.

To recommend public domain resources to be added to the UTTC library collection, contact Terry Barksdale at <mailto:uttclibrary@utsystem.edu>.

### **PDO Update**

UT Southwestern recently added two professional development courses to their Blood Bank Technology Program:

- MT 5139 Advanced Case Studies for Summer 2006
- MT 5538 Serology Laboratory 2 for Summer 2006

Registration opens April 3rd for both courses. For information on UTTC's PDO (Professional Development Online) offerings, contact Margie Harris at <mailto:mharris@utsystem.edu>. To offer a course or program through PDO, contact Rob Robinson at <mailto:robinson@utsystem.edu>.

### **New Features Added to Blackboard**

The following new functions have been added to UTTC's Blackboard installation. Also, don't forget to try out Discussion Board Grader and SafeAssignment. For more information on any Blackboard functions or to schedule a brief phone training on a Blackboard feature, contact UTTC student services at <mailto:telecampus@utsystem.edu>.

**MERLOT:** This feature allows instructors to search for educational materials available through the Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) without exiting their Blackboard courses. MERLOT ([www.merlot.org](http://www.merlot.org)), a free and open resource, features more than 12,000 online educational materials and more than 25,000 members representing the higher education community. MERLOT Search allows instructors to search the MERLOT repository directly from Blackboard, saving time and additional steps. Instructors can apply search results to select specific learning resources and embed links to them in their Blackboard course Web site, streamlining the process of searching for and using learning objects cataloged by MERLOT from within the Blackboard environment. In addition, MERLOT developed a Blackboard taxonomy within the MERLOT learning directory to make it easier for MERLOT users to identify Blackboard-specific training materials.

**Messages:** This feature enables safe and secure communication within courses. The Messaging feature looks and acts like an email program, however, it limits communication to accounts in the course. Messages can only be read inside a course, there is no notification that you have messages (you just have to login and look), messages can only be sent to other course users and messages cannot be sent to any external mailboxes (you cannot forward messages to your email). In addition, communications can be sent to users who have been dropped from the course and if/when they are re-enrolled, the message will be there for them. No attachments are allowed, so this is not a good tool for exchanging course assignments (use the Assignments feature for that). Messages are kept in a Sent folder in an Inbox area and folders can be created to help you organization your communications. Please note that Blackboard messages are not backed up (the way your email is), but are archived with the course. If you are having trouble with emails due to spam filters or if you'd like to segregate your communications with your online students from your campus email, this may be a good option for you.

**Portal Course List:** Have you noticed the little pencil in the circle on the top bar of your courses list on your Blackboard portal? Just click on it to select which courses you have access to that you'd like to display on your portal. You can also select what information on the courses you'd like to view. Faculty and staff can change the list of courses listed on the portal at anytime using this feature.

### **Booth Update**

The UTTC Communication Services Department will be staffing a booth at the upcoming Association for Texas Professional Educators Conference in Austin, Texas March 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>. This conference is an excellent opportunity to showcase our programs to many of the professional educators in Texas. If you are attending, please be sure to stop by the booth and say hello.

### **Advertising Update**

UTTC programs are advertised in the following locations during the month of March. **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](mailto:jrees@utsystem.edu).

- Alcalde Magazine
- Ameriforce Texas Military Relocation Guide
- Billboard in O'Connor, Texas
- CareerBuilder.com
- Corpus Christi's CallerTimes.com
- Degree.net
- Distance-Educator.com
- GetEducated.com
- Google Adwords
- Gradschools.com
- HoustonChronicle.com
- JustColleges.com
- Longhorn Sports Network (UT Austin athletic programs)
- LubbockOnline.com
- MySA.com
- NewsweekDistanceLearning.com
- Peterson's Distance Learning Guide
- Petersons.com
- Policetraining.net
- Sloan-C.org
- Star-telegram.com banner and email sponsorship
- TAHPERD Journal
- TexasMonthly.com
- TexasSports.com
- UCEADirectory.org
- UT System Campus Newspapers (UT Arlington - Shorthorn, UT Austin - Daily Texan, UT Brownsville - Collegian, UT Dallas - Mercury, UT El Paso - Prospector, UT Pan American - Pan American, UT San Antonio - Paisano, UT Tyler - Patriot Talon)
- WacoTrib.com

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