ILCCO Newsletter: July, 2008

Jeff's Jargon - Jeff Newell, ILCCO Director

Innovation… Development… Collaboration… These were the themes of the ILCCO Steering Committee's retreat at the end of June. I never cease to be amazed at the creativity and passion of the distance learning professionals at Illinois community colleges. As always, it was an energetic meeting teeming with ideas and a desire to see Illinois community colleges grow in delivery and quality of online learning. Notable developments from the retreat are in the full article.

Full Article

ILCCO Featured College: City Black Hawk College –
Molly Baker, Director of Center for Distance Learning

For many years, Black Hawk College has been growing its collection of online courses according to student demand, viewing the 80+ online courses as a learning option for our students. As interest in online courses grew and overshadowed some of our other delivery options, students started asking about doing their entire program online, so the College began intentionally developing specific courses that would allow a student to complete their degree objective entirely online.

Full Article

New and Specialized ICE Courses Available

Harper College: E-Learning Tools and Technology, E-Learning Instructional Systems Design, Network Security Fundamentals, Network Systems Security, Network Defense and Countermeasures, Ethical Hacking and Computer Security Incident Response courses online

Full Article

Coming Events

July: 4 events in online seminar and audioconference formats!
- ITC audioconference: visit http://www.itcnetwork.org
- LERN online course: visit http://www.lern.org/edctr/upcoming_online/upcoming_online.htm
- SLOAN-C online seminars: visit http://www.sloan-c.org

August: 4 events in online seminar and conference formats!
- LERN online courses: visit http://www.lern.org/edctr/upcoming_online/upcoming_online.htm
- SLOAN-C online seminar: visit http://www.sloan-c.org
- 24th Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning: visit http://www.uwex.edu/disted/conference

September: 4 events in online seminar format!
- LERN online course: visit http://www.lern.org/edctr/upcoming_online/upcoming_online.htm
- SLOAN-C online seminars: visit http://www.sloan-c.org

October: 7 events in online seminar and audioconference formats
- LERN online courses: visit http://www.lern.org/edctr/upcoming_online/upcoming_online.htm
- SLOAN-C online seminars: visit http://www.sloan-c.org
- 2008 Teaching and Learning Excellence Conference: visit http://www.iccfa.org/ for information   Full Article

Research to Read
Emily Vescogni, Illinois Valley

Title: Adult Learners' Emotions in Online Learning

How does emotion impact the learning process for adults in online courses? Through the use of monthly emotion journals, the author identifies positive and negative emotions related to the new online learning experience and how the emotions evolve throughout the experience.

Full Article

Website Watch
Tim Moore, Elgin

Topic: Web 2.0

Whether or not you buy into the idea of "Web 2.0" – the 2nd generation World Wide Web or a slick marketing term – its implications are changing the way that people consume and develop information. For a good review of the history and definition of "Web 2.0" see the YouTube video of the same name: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsa5ZTRJQ5w

In a nutshell, Web 2.0 is about creating, contributing, sharing, commenting, tagging, and a whole lot of other things. Notably, the technologies that make up Web 2.0 can be utilized in a number of ways to create or enhance online learning environments.

Full Article

Tech Tool Talk
Sarah Stark, Harper

Topic: Sketchcast

Merge your sketches or drawings with broadcasting your voice, and you have the newer Web 2.0 tool named Sketchcast! This free online tool can be used to quickly merge an audio file with a visual to create small learning objects that assist distance learners master difficult topics.

Full Article

Jeff's Jargon (full article)

ILCCO Retreat

Innovation… Development… Collaboration… These were the themes of the ILCCO Steering Committee's retreat at the end of June. I never cease to be amazed at the creativity and passion of the distance learning professionals at Illinois community colleges. As always, it was an energetic meeting teeming with ideas and a desire to see Illinois community colleges grow in delivery and quality of online learning. Notable developments from the retreat are below.

An Innovations committee was developed to bring emerging technologies and strategies to ILCCO members on a quarterly basis. Exploring the "new" as well as the "fun" with distance learning and education technologies will keep our colleges at the forefront of best practices.

Professional development continues to be an important area for ILCCO. An instructional technology conference was started to provide cutting edge training for staffing in instructional technology, faculty development and distance learning. The conference will be held in the summer of 2009. A slate of professional development events is being also planned to provide training, demonstrations on vendor products, and information about best practices at colleges.

Collaboration remains a continuing theme for ILCCO. Embedded throughout the retreat's discussions was the need and desire to collaborate with other colleges. Throughout our work this year we will continue to see collaboration play out through the sharing of information, resources, and courses.

Five years have passed since ILCCO completed a strategic planning process. The committee agreed that it was time to create a new strategic plan. Over the course of this year, ILCCO's Governance and Finance Committee will lead the development of a new strategic plan.

The redevelopment of ICE will be completed and implemented for use in the spring 2009 semester, providing us a much needed update in the software plus additional flexibility to accommodate course sharing in flex start courses.

ILCCO is off to a great start and we look forward to a great year.

ILCCO Membership

Illinois community colleges have already received information on becoming an ILCCO member for 2009. If you did not receive information or would like to know more, please contact me at jeff.newell@illinois.gov.

ILCCO Featured College (full article)

Black Hawk College's Online Initiatives

For many years, Black Hawk College has been growing its collection of online courses according to student demand, viewing the 80+ online courses as a learning option for our students. As interest in online courses grew and overshadowed some of our other delivery options, students started asking about doing their entire program online, so the College began intentionally developing specific courses that would allow a student to complete their degree objective entirely online. In 2007, Black Hawk College applied for and received accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission to make its AA and AS degrees available entirely online. As the College worked toward meeting HLC expectations and launching/marketing the degrees, we formed what is affectionately called our "Ducks-in-a-Row Committee." This group is comprised of key people who support online faculty and students in a variety of ways: advising, tutoring, counseling, Compass testing, registration, marketing, academic planning (deans), library reference support, faculty training and support (TLC), IT/Help Desk, bookstore, financial aid, student activities/engagement (dean), etc. This committee represents our distributed distance learning support system, collaboratively focused on refining our support systems, expanding some of them to be more responsive to the needs of entirely online students, and creating a one-stop-shop Web page with all information pertinent to online learning at BHC, whether or not

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students are pursuing their degree entirely online or in a more blended format: http://www.bhc.edu/OnlineLearningCenter A few of these initiatives are still in development or awaiting final budgetary approval this summer, as we prepare for the official launch of our online degrees this fall.

The faculty have also been working to address issues related to teaching online. For example, the Alternative Delivery Committee of the Faculty Senate has developed a *Best Practices in Exemplary Online Instruction* guide: http://facweb.bhc.edu/tlc/learn/onlinelearning/exemplary.html and a database of online course evaluation items that online faculty can use to create customized evaluation instruments for their classes: http://facweb.bhc.edu/tlc/events/ondemand/classroomassessment.html. This committee is also examining the key variables that the literature says affect online retention, comparing them to how BHC is doing in each area, and making recommendations to the Senate and the Ducks committee for services and activities that they believe can strengthen the retention of our online students. We are also participating in the ILCCO Online Retention special interest group. Meanwhile, the Teaching/Learning Center (1) provides faculty assistance for developing high-quality online courses; (2) offers face-to-face and online training options on a variety of topics pertinent to teaching online (http://facweb.bhc.edu/tlc/events/qccalendar.html); (3) coordinates a learning community for online instructors; (4) works with individual faculty on skill development or other support for utilizing WebCT and other technology tools that can enrich their online classes; and (5) serves as a resource to the academic and technical community.

Finally, Black Hawk is actively participating in course sharing through ILCCO/ICE. Not only has this effort provided some of our students with access to additional online classes that we do not offer, but it has also provided additional enrollment in some of our sections.

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New ICE Courses (full article)

Harper College is now offering E-Learning Tools and Technology, E-Learning Instructional Systems Design, Network Security Fundamentals, Network Systems Security, Network Defense and Countermeasures, Ethical Hacking and Computer Security Incident Response courses online:
- EIT 200: E-Learning Tools and Technology (3 credit hours)
- EIT 220: E-Learning Instructional Systems Design (3 credit hours)
- NET 280: Network Security Fundamental (3 credit hours)
- NET 281: Network Systems Security (3 credit hours)
- NET 282: Network Defense and Countermeasures (3 credit hours)
- NET 283: Ethical Hacking (3 credit hours)
- NET 284: Computer Security Incident Response (3 credit hours)

Contact the Department of Instructional Technology at 847.925.6805 or send email to sstark@harpercollege.edu for more information.

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Coming Events (full article)

July Events
- ITC Audioconference (http://www.itcnetwork.org):
  - Teaching Diversity Awareness Online (July 22, 2008)
- LERN Online Course (http://www.lern.org/edctr/upcoming_online/upcoming_online.htm):
  - Building Online Learning Communities (July 21-25)
- SLOAN-C Online Seminars (http://www.sloan-c.org):
  - Academic Integrity in Online Education (July 16-25)
  - Open Educational Resources – Build It and They Will Come? (July 23-August 8)

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August Events
- LERN Online Courses (http://www.lern.org/edctr/upcoming_online/upcoming_online.htm):
  - Advanced Teaching Online (August 25-29)
  - How to Teach Adults (August 25-29)
- SLOAN-C Online Seminar (http://www.sloan-c.org):
  - Workload Management Strategies for Online Educators (August 13-22)
- 24th Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning (http://www.uwex.edu/disted/conference):
  - Madison, Wisconsin (August 5-8)

September Events
- LERN Online Course (http://www.lern.org/edctr/upcoming_online/upcoming_online.htm):
  - Building Online Learning Communities (July 21-25)
- SLOAN-C Online Seminars (http://www.sloan-c.org):
  - Academic Integrity in Online Education)July 16-25)
  - Open Educational Resources – Build It and They Will Come? (July 23-August 8)

October Events
- LERN Online Courses (http://www.lern.org/edctr/upcoming_online/upcoming_online.htm):
  - Advanced Teaching Online (October 20-24)
  - Generational Learning Styles (October 20-24)
  - Saving Faculty Time Conference (October 29-30)
- SLOAN-C Online Seminars (http://www.sloan-c.org):
  - Preparing Faculty for Blended Teaching and Learning: Basics for Faculty Developers and Trainers (October 1-10)
  - Using the Quality Matters Rubric to Improve Your Online Course (October 1-24)
  - Toppling Global Barriers: The Emerging Culture of the Online Classroom (October 15-24)
- 2008 Teaching and Learning Excellence Conference (http://www.iccfa.org):
  - Springfield, Illinois (October 9-10))

Research to Read (full article)

Adult Learners' Emotions in Online Learning from Distance Education. Vol 29, No. 1, May 2008, 71-87

How does emotion impact the learning process for adults in online courses? Through the use of monthly emotion journals, the author identifies positive and negative emotions related to the new online learning experience and how the emotions evolve throughout the experience. This article could be useful in an online faculty development program to illustrate the anxiety adult students can bring to a course and the growth students experience when support is provided to help them overcome the technical and emotional barriers to learning new communication methods. Read it online through your library's access to EBSCO Academic Search Premier.

Web Site Watch (full article)

Whether or not you buy into the idea of "Web 2.0" – the 2nd generation World Wide Web or a slick marketing term – its implications are changing the way that people consume and develop information. For a good review of the history and definition of "Web 2.0" see the YouTube video of the same name: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nsa5ZTRJQ5w

In a nutshell, Web 2.0 is about creating, contributing, sharing, commenting, tagging, and a whole lot of other things. Notably, the technologies that make up Web 2.0 can be utilized in a number of ways to create or enhance online learning environments.

To that end, Go2Web20.net provides a compilation of tools that are available that can be used in these learning environments. Although the list is not comprehensive (it doesn't include Wikipedia), it

does include a number of the more common sites (Facebook, Twitter). Plurk intrigues me.
http://www.go2web20.net/

Tech Tool Talk (full article)

Merge your sketches or drawings with broadcasting your voice, and you have the newer Web 2.0 tool named Sketchcast! This free online tool can be used to quickly merge an audio file with a visual to create small learning objects that assist distance learners master difficult topics.

Sketchcast automatically creates a URL that you can send to others and a code you can embed in your own Web site or blog post if you wish. Sketchcast also gives you your own channel where you can store your sketches so other people can view them or subscribe to your RSS feed. View a video on this tool at http://sketchcast.com/view/9q1zvgj or head right to the Web site at http://www.sketchcast.com to get started with your own account!

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