



ILCCO Newsletter: October, 2010

Jeff's Jargon

Jeff Newell, ILCCO Director

This school year ILCCO will have an emphasis on accessibility in online instruction. We've also arranged a number of interesting professional development opportunities. And, the archives of the Growing Online Learning online conference are available. Here's a look at some of the work we'll be doing this year...

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Carl Sandburg Community College: Silos of Opportunity – Online Education

Mike Walters, Dean of the Library

Our recently retired college president, Thomas Schmidt, was always encouraging the instructional leadership of the college to come up with career fields that the college could add to lead to an increase in enrollment for the twenty-first century. Ideas such as green technology, allied health fields, or some new area of computers and technology are some career areas that have come up for discussion.

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New and Specialized ICE Courses Available

19 new courses from College of DuPage.

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Coming Events

National and statewide events listed between October and January:

- ILCCO Webinars (October - November)
 - Resources for Achieving Accessible Online Instruction, Friday, October 15, 11 AM.
 - I Hate Discussion Forums, Tuesday, October 26, 12 PM.
 - Creating Your Personal Learning Environment using Emerging Technologies, Monday, November 8, 2 PM.
- ITC audioconferences
- SLOAN-C online seminars
- National Conferences

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Research to Read

Stephanie Phillips, John Wood

The Net Generation Unplugged

...there has been much talk and research on students that were born between 1980 and 2000. ... Many feel these students are different because they are the first generation to grow up with technology...

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Website Watch

Sarah Stark, Harper

Introduction to Social Media

Visit this great introductory site to learn more about key social media technologies and how they can be used to enhance learning...

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Tech Tool Talk

Lisa Dennis, Spoon River

Pearson Learning

Being familiar with CourseCompass, MyLabs, and course cartridges, I wondered how the acquisition of eCollege would fit into the big picture of Pearson services...

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Tip of the ICEberg

Chris Shelley, Sauk Valley

ICE Feedback

Have you used the feedback feature in ICE2? In the feedback area users can report an error, submit comments and suggestions ...

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Jeff's Jargon (full article)

A Look Ahead

This school year ILCCO will have an emphasis on accessibility in online instruction. We've also arranged a number of interesting professional development opportunities. And, the archives of the Growing Online Learning online conference are available. Here's a look at some of the work we'll be doing this year:

Accessibility: ILCCO's emphasis this year will be on addressing accessibility in online courses. ILCCO will be addressing its own accessibility policies for shared courses and is developing opportunities to work with colleges on enhancing their ability to enhance accessibility in online instruction.

Book Study: ILCCO will be conducting an online book study this spring. The book discussed will be Anya Kamenetz' "[DIY U: Edupunks, Edupreneurs, and the Coming Transformation of Higher Education](#)." The issues-oriented book will provide for interesting discussion on future trends in higher education.

Fall ILCCO Professional Development Webinar Series: ILCCO is presenting three professional development webinars this fall. Please see [Coming Events](#) for details about the sessions. Topics include resources for accessible online instruction, online discussion forums, and personal learning environments. Please email jeff.newell@illinois.gov to register for these webinars.

Growing Online Learning Archives

118 people registered for ILCCO's free online conference "Growing Online Learning" in July. Barry Dahl, Vice President of Technology at Lake Superior College, provided the keynote presentation "Users & Uses of Emerging Technologies in Higher Ed." Sessions included topics such as use of smart pens, Google Tools, wikis, and more. Archives of the keynote and the breakout sessions are available at <http://ilcco.net/ILCCO/GOL.cfm>. If you weren't able to attend the conference, please visit our archives and take a look at the sessions.

ILCCO-NILRC Reception at ICCCA Fall Conference

ILCCO and NILRC are again hosting the pre-conference reception at the ICCCA Fall Conference at Tinley Park. Please join us Wednesday, November 17, for refreshments and conversation.

A Look Back

ILCCO made significant progress in 2010 in accomplishing the goals of its strategic plan. Here's a look at some of ILCCO's work over this past year:

ILCCO's emphasis for the year was accreditation. ILCCO developed a resource website for ILCCO members with documentation from ILCCO colleges who have completed the institutional change process for online degrees. Relevant links and other information related to accreditation and HLC were included. ILCCO also secured a presentation by Karen Solomon of the Higher Learning Commission, providing information on coming changes at HLC and distance learning policy.

ILCCO moved its Growing Online Learning Conference to an online format and sharply increased participation.

ILCCO examined what colleges were doing on student data collection and surveys, orientation for online students, and web accessibility and distance learning. ILCCO also developed a number of resource sharing wikis at its wiki site.

ILCCO conducted webinars on student retention strategies, facilitating online debates, active learning strategies in the humanities, and using Twitter and Facebook in online courses.

ILCCO held an online book study for "Empowering Online Learning: 100+ Activities for Reading, Reflecting, Displaying, and Doing" by Curtis Bonk and Ke Zhang. The book provided a wide range of online learning strategies and examples.

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ILCCO Featured College (full article)**Carl Sandburg Community College: Silos of Opportunity – Online Education**

Our recently retired college president, Thomas Schmidt, was always encouraging the instructional leadership of the college to come up with career fields that the college could add to lead to an increase in enrollment for the twenty-first century. Ideas such as green technology, allied health fields, or some new area of computers and technology are some career areas that have come up for discussion.

However, it is very expensive to start new career areas and to find faculty to teach the course matter. If, for example, you go into wind energy as a new field you need a windmill and lab equipment. You need to find a faculty member to teach the subject matter.

More online courses and programs have become a silo of opportunity for enrollment growth at Sandburg. If you look at the growth in Illinois and see that in 2000 a total of 9,403 enrollments were reported in the Illinois Virtual Campus reports and in 2009 the enrollments jumped to 72,253, figure online education is a silo for growth. If we look nationally at the for-profits like University of Phoenix, Ashford University, Walden University, and Kaplan University, the growth in enrollment is very remarkable. All of these institutions have students in our service region today.

It appears the classes are addressing a student need. In the fall of 2000 at CSC, only 167 students were enrolled in online courses. Nine years later, enrollments totaled over 900.

“It’s expanding exponentially,” CSC dean of the library Mike Walters said. He coordinates distance learning, which used to mean sending courses on stored media (videotape mostly) to students or completing courses via correspondence. Now, he said, it mostly means learning via the Internet.

“The big draw is, it’s kind of like shopping online like at Amazon.com,” Walters said. “You can get what you want, when you want it. If you want to take a class at 2 a.m., you can do that.”

CSC’s Chief Information Officer and Vice President of Administrative Services Sam Sudhakar said the school began offering online classes in 1998 to serve all the students in its district.

Carl Sandburg College located in Galesburg, Illinois, has a reported loss of eight percent of its population from the census data in 2000 to the new 2010 estimates. This drop in enrollment has been estimated to be about the same decrease in our ten-county service region that includes all of parts of Warren, Knox, Hancock, Henderson, Schuyler, Fulton, Mercer, McDonough, Stark, and Henry Counties. The district covers more than 3,000 square miles.

Again the IVC enrollment reports show that in 2009 about 88 percent of the enrollment for all the community colleges in Illinois is from in district, nine percent is from out of district, two percent from out of state, and less than one percent is from outside the United States. What if Carl Sandburg College together with the other community colleges in Illinois work to develop an accredited online degree? Back in the late 1990’s and early years of 2000, the Western Illinois Education Consortium (WIEC) attempted to do just that for the region. Could we all increase enrollment growth through getting more enrollments from out of district, out of state, and outside the United States? Could online education be a silo?

In interviewing our current online instructors I asked them to comment on the pros for online education and the cons. Almost every one of the eighteen online teachers said “online classes are not for everyone”. It takes a special student who is self-motivated and disciplined to work independently to keep up with the course work required. There are some technical issues as not all students own a home computer or have a broadband connection.

Mary Robson, professor of health and physical education at CSC, says “since she began teaching online classes in 1998, Robson said she’s noticed her digital classrooms full of nontraditional students—those that have jobs or children.

“These types of students submit their work very late at night,” she said. “They tell me that’s when they put the kids down, and that’s when they work best.”

When Robson started teaching online, not every student had a computer or Internet access in their home. She would take students to business labs in downtown Galesburg to complete computer work.

But those on either end of the Ethernet cable in an online classroom say the untraditional format isn’t for everyone.

“I like the convenience and flexibility, but at the same time, if you’re not a person that likes to be on the Internet a lot, you won’t like to teach an online class,” Robson said. She makes herself available at all times and checks her e-mail constantly, ensuring she responds to her online students within 24 hours.

Tim Smith, an adjunct faculty member at CSC, has these comments on online learning. “The greatest need for new online learners is for them to be prepared with realistic expectations. They need to know that their success is in their control. Online learning isn’t necessarily a faster form of knowledge transfer, but it is more flexible offering the learner more options that will blend to their learning styles. For one student this may be 4 hour marathon sessions once a week, for another it may be working on class material in short 15 – 20 minute chunks several times a day. The difference between success and failure isn’t how you engage with the class, it’s that you do engage with the online learning experience.”

Jill Johnson, an associate dean at CSC, says the biggest advantage for the online learner is the flexibility. Students are not tied to a fixed schedule set by the college but can do their work at their convenience.

Tony Paris, a mathematics instructor at Sandburg, says that online education for many students have used online to avoid schedule problems, work around sports practices and medical problems since they could work more on their own schedule.

“With math I have found if you were not a good math student to begin with, online classes will probably be worse than taking a regular math course in the classroom.”

In summary, online education has helped Carl Sandburg College to grow enrollment. One in six higher education students in the United States are enrolled in online courses today, a number that is increasing every hour of every day. It appears this trend of using the internet to conduct classes is a silo of opportunity.

Some quotes were previously published by Lauren Rees in the Register-Mail newspaper of Galesburg on June 12, 2010.

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New ICE Courses (full article)

College of DuPage is now offering 19 new courses online:

- ACCOU 2280 – Forensic Accounting-Fraud Examination
- BUSNI 1120 – Fundamentals of Personal Investing
- CIS 1120 – The Internet
- CIS 2320 – JavaScript & Advanced HTML
- EARTH 1141 – Introduction to Earth Science
- EDUCA 1101 – School Procedures I
- ENGLI 1151 – The Novel
- ENGLI 2220 – British Literature to 1800
- FASHI 1151 – Principles of Textiles
- FIRE 2215 – Building Construction for the Fire Service

To learn more about ILCCO, contact Jeff Newell at jeff.newell@illinois.gov

- FIRE 2255 – Fire Service Instructor I
- LIBRA 1820 – Medical Reference and Research
- MATH 1432 – Pre-Calculus II: Trigonometry
- PHYSI 1201 – General Physics I
- PLGL 1150 – Drafting Legal Documents
- POLS 2203 – Comparative Politics
- POLS 2220 – World Politics
- PSYCH 2240 – Social Psychology
- TRAV 1122 – Introduction to World Destinations

Contact Min Pan, Panmin@cod.edu, for more information.

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Coming Events (full article)

ILCCO Fall 2010 Webinars:

Contact Jeff Newell, jeff.newell@illinois.gov, to register for the sessions.

Resources for Achieving Accessible Online Instruction

Friday, October 15, 11 AM

Christopher Dobson

Curriculum Content Graphic Illustrator

Harper College

This information session will provide an introductory overview and a brief demonstration of several resources and tools faculty may use to learn, evaluate, and provide a more engaging and inclusive online learning environment. Topics to be discussed include authoring and evaluation tools, Universal Design for Instruction, and Web accessibility.

I Hate Discussion Boards

Tuesday, October 26, 12 PM

Michelle Stephens

Coordinator, Theatre and Speech

Richland Community College

In this Webinar, Michelle Stephens will walk you through some time saving tips and ways of maximizing quality student interactions in your online course. Then, after exploring some common misconceptions and pitfalls, the Webinar will focus on alternative ways of using the discussion forum tool to create dynamic, interactive assignments that keep students engaged in course content and active in the course.

Creating Your Personal Learning Environment using Emerging Technologies

Monday, November 8, 2 PM

Brandy Thatcher

Instructional Media Developer

Illinois Central College

Creating and managing a personal learning environment is easy when you know what it is, why it is valuable and how to do it. A Personal Learning Environment (PLE) is a system that helps a learner take control of and manage their own learning. The web offers some great tools and resources for professional development and networking. Learn about resources and tools that can help you achieve your own goals for professional development. Get an overview of some of the best web based tools for networking and professional development. Discover tips and tricks for organizing and utilizing these tools to create your own personal learning environment.

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October Events:

- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Retention Strategies in Online Education
 - Dates: October 6 - 15, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Using the Quality Matters Rubric to Improve Your Online Course
 - Dates: October 6 - 22, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Conference Networking with Social Media
 - Dates: October 6 - 29, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Webinar (ITC): Supporting and Retaining Your Best Online Teachers
 - Date: October 12, 2010
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>
- Conference: 2010 EDUCAUSE Annual Conference
 - Dates: October 12 - 15, 2010
 - More Information: <http://www.educause.edu/E2010>
- **ILCCO Webinar: Resources for Achieving Accessible Online Instruction**
 - Friday, October 15, 11 AM
 - Contact Jeff Newell for registration: jeff.newell@illinois.gov
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Using the Quality Matters Rubric to Improve Your Online Course
 - Dates: October 6 - 22, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Preparing Faculty for Blended Teaching and Learning
 - Dates: October 13 - 22, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Getting Started – First Steps Toward Online Teaching
 - Dates: October 13 - 22, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Webinar (ITC): Innovative Techniques for Teaching a Hands-On Lab Course Over the Internet
 - Date: October 19, 2010
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Beginning Second Life
 - Dates: October 20 - 29, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): MERLOT101 – An Introduction to Merlot
 - Dates: October 20 - 29, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Teaching and Learning with Online Labs Across Science Disciplines – Making a Case for Greater Acceptance
 - Dates: October 20 - 29, 2010

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- More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- **ILCCO Webinar: I Hate Discussion Forums**
 - Tuesday, October 26, 12 PM
 - Contact Jeff Newell for registration: jeff.newell@illinois.gov
- Webinar (ITC): Teaching Science Online Part 1 - Biology
 - Date: October 26, 2010
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>

November Events:

- Webinar (ITC): Design Online Courses that Align with Course Objectives, Goals and Outcomes
 - Date: November 2, 2010
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>
- Conference: 16th Sloan-C International Conference on Online Learning
 - Dates: November 3 - 5, 2010
 - More Information: <http://sloanconsortium.org/aln>
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Fair Use and the Teach Act – A Closer Look
 - Dates: November 3 - 12, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Getting Started – First Step Toward Online Teaching
 - Dates: November 3 - 19, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- **ILCCO Webinar: Creating Your Personal Learning Environment using Emerging Technologies**
 - Monday, November 8, 2 PM
 - Contact Jeff Newell for registration: jeff.newell@illinois.gov
- Webinar (ITC): Teaching Science Online Part 2 - Chemistry
 - Date: November 9, 2010
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Intermediate Second Life
 - Dates: November 10 - 19, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Workload Management Strategies for Online Educators
 - Dates: November 10 - 19, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Using Moodle to Create Online Courses
 - Dates: November 10 - 19, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Video and Audio Tools for Teaching and Learning
 - Dates: November 10 - 19, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Webinar (ITC): Tips and Tricks for Teaching Math Online
 - Date: November 16, 2010

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- Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
- More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>

December Events:

- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Advanced Second Life
 - Dates: December 1 - 10, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Online Workshop (SLOAN-C): Academic Integrity in Online Education
 - Dates: December 1 - 10, 2010
 - More Information: http://www.sloanconsortium.org/2010_workshop_schedule
- Webinar (ITC): Reducing Math Anxiety in an Online Classroom
 - Date: December 7, 2010
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>
- Webinar (ITC): Get on the Fast Track – Online Accelerated Programs for Adult Learners
 - Date: December 14, 2010
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>

January Events

- Webinar (ITC): A Blueprint for Quality Online Instruction
 - Date: January 11, 2011
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>
- Webinar (ITC): Evaluating Quality and Effectiveness in Online Learning – Regional Accreditation Principles and Practices
 - Date: January 18, 2011
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>
- Webinar (ITC): Focus on Instructional Design – What Elements to Include in a Quality Online Course
 - Date: January 25, 2011
 - Time: 1:00 - 2:00PM
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=563>

February Events

- Conference: eLearning 2011
 - Dates: February 19 – 22, 2011
 - More Information: <http://www.itcnetwork.org/mod/resource/view.php?id=214>

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Research to Read (full article)

The Net Generation Unplugged

The past several years there has been much talk and research on students that were born between 1980 and 2000. You hear terms such as digital natives and the millennial generation to describe these students. Many feel these students are different because they are the first generation to grow up with technology and the internet. They have spent thousands of hours playing video games, searching the internet, talking on cell phones, listening to ipods, etc. Many experts believe that these students learn differently and even think and process information differently from previous generations. It is believed that these students are very savvy when working with any form of technology or the internet.

This article, The Net Generation Unplugged, provides a different perspective. The article discusses whether it is useful to assume that members of Generation Y are particularly adept with Internet and digital technologies. Maybe their technical skills are no better or worse than other generations?

To read the full article, search your library for: Economist; 3/6/2010, Vol. 394 Issue 8672, Special section p10-10.

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Web Site Watch (full article)

Introduction to Social Media

Visit this great introductory site to learn more about key social media technologies and how they can be used to enhance learning. Various tools are categorized and include areas such as social course management systems, personal dashboards, and social and collaboration platforms along with the more commonly discussed wikis, blogs, RSS feeds and more.

Check out <http://c4lpt.co.uk/academy/ism/index.html> today!

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Tech Tool Talk (full article)

Pearson Learning

Although Pearson acquired eCollege in 2007, I only learned of the acquisition earlier this year. Being familiar with CourseCompass, MyLabs, and course cartridges, I wondered how this acquisition would fit into the big picture of Pearson services. I recently had the opportunity to interview the CEO of Pearson eCollege, Matt Leavy, to find out more about Pearson's acquisition and the other learning solutions that they provide.

Renamed from eCollege to Pearson LearningStudio, customers can now purchase the Pearson-managed Learning Management System (LMS) solution that provides 24/7/365 technical support to students and faculty. For those who are familiar with or have used CourseCompass, Pearson LearningStudio is a stand-alone LMS that utilizes a next generation, Software-as-a-Service-based (SaaS) model, also referred to as *cloud computing*. This system is completely customizable by the institution and integrates with the Student Information System. "Courses are typically built by the institution or instructor and do not require a Pearson textbook. A high percentage of courses currently contain no commercial content," said Leavy. For those who have used course cartridges with access codes, these will also work the same

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way. Depending on the institution, the cost of course codes can be packaged with the textbook or are included as part of a technology fee.

A Learning Management System solution that utilizes SaaS will also minimize the costs associated with an in-house hosted solution such as upgrades, hardware installations, software licenses, storage, and repeated maintenance downtime. This year alone, Pearson has hosted 7.8 million courses with an average network up-time of 99.99%.

Leavy commented that Pearson's interest in purchasing eCollege was based on the desire to better impact student learning and then be able to demonstrate that impact. "We felt that being able to show how student learning has improved would be very valuable in the marketplace", said Leavy. Demonstrating improvements in student learning are done through the use of data analytics, which can apply to Pearson content or personalized content.

Pricing for Pearson LearningStudio is obviously a heavily customized solution. However, the overall structure for determining price is based primarily on usage. Fully online students will require more usage and more support; therefore, this area of pricing is determined by number of students and number of courses. On-campus students require less usage so this area of pricing is by number of students per year.

A recently added solution to Pearson's services is a Learning Object Repository called EQUELLA. Pearson acquired EQUELLA in the summer of 2010. "This service put Pearson into the open-source world, providing the opportunity to mash up content that's commercial, personal, or located at another institution. This is what gives EQUELLA such a huge amount of flexibility," said Leavy. *Florida and Kentucky use EQUELLA for their digital repositories.* To see how it works, go to www.theorange grove.org/ or <http://kylearningdepot.org/> and click on **Login as Guest**.

For more information about the SaaS model, see the article "Top Ten Reasons to Use SaaS" by Jeffrey Kaplan: <http://itmanagement.earthweb.com/netsys/article.php/3877746>.

Pearson recently held two "Learning Day" events, September 21st in Oakbrook, and September 22nd in Springfield.

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Tip of the ICEberg (full article)

ICE Feedback

Have you used the feedback feature in ICE2? In the feedback area users can report an error, submit comments and suggestions, and view the status of changes and updates. In ICE2, click on Operations, then ICE2 feedback to access the three feedback options.

- **Report an error** - When you see an error message while using ICE, use the feedback feature to report it. Be sure to provide as many details as you can and submit a screen shot of the error if possible.
- **Submit comments and suggestions** - If procedures at your College require additions to an ICE2 feature, users can offer suggestions in the feedback area. Brian Kai has been very accommodating when it comes to implementing our suggestions.
- **View a report on additions and changes** - Brian has provided an area (Progress Report) where users can monitor the status of additions and changes to the system.