

iterations

Innovation Grants: Classroom iPad Usage

The 2011 round of Innovation Grants sponsored by Information Technology Services will offer an iPad to twenty-five full-time faculty members.

Since Fall 2005, Information Technology Services has offered Innovations Grants to faculty members who wish to use technology in their teaching or to help their students learn. The program has been very successful, but this year we would like to try something different.

There has been and continues to be a lot of buzz about mobile devices and how they can enhance the classroom. We would like to see how such devices could help our faculty members. To that end, we would like to give 25 faculty members an iPad. Why an iPad? The iPad serves both as a media-creation and media-consumption device as it combines computational functionality, a large screen, and an integrated camera. Many applications have been developed for higher education elevating it beyond a personal entertainment device, and we need help identifying the most useful applications for our campus.

The iPad has several advantages over laptops and tablet PCs: its smaller size means it is easier to carry and an extended battery life means not having to worry about a wall outlet so frequently. The specialized applications built for the iPad extend its functionality in new and creative ways.

To be eligible, full-time faculty members must submit a written one-page proposal on how this device might enhance your teaching and research. Please address the following questions in your proposal:

- What value will your use of the iPad bring to your students? How will it enhance the student learning experience in your course?
- How do you plan to use the iPad to support your teaching? What courses?
- How would you like to use the iPad to interact with your students and colleagues?

Faculty members who receive an iPad must plan to attend regular meetings of the iPad Teaching Circle. Here, they share with and learn from colleagues about innovative uses

of the iPad and discuss which applications are appropriate to recommend to the UMSL community. In addition, those faculty members must present their experiences in a public forum such as next year's Focus on Teaching and Technology Conference (November 1-2, 2012) or at an informal Faculty Colloquium offered by the Center for Teaching and Learning during the 2012-2013 academic year.

Proposals are due January 6, 2012 and should be sent to Tempeste Reese, ITS, 451 ESH by campus mail or in-person. If you need help preparing your proposal, please plan to attend an upcoming informal meeting in the Center for Teaching and Learning to see a demonstration of possible uses for the iPad and for help with composing your proposal. For additional help, contact Keeta Holmes, Assistant Director the Center for Teaching and Learning (holmeskm@umsl.edu). Proposal winners will be contacted in mid-January.

Larry Frederick
Chief Information Officer
frederickl@umsl.edu

MyGateway Maintenance Schedule

ITS acknowledges the importance of MyGateway to the faculty, staff and students at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. To bring you the most robust MyGateway computing platform, we need to reserve time for planned maintenance outages. We will only use these outage periods when a need for maintenance or system updates is necessary. Notification for maintenance will be given by email two business days before the outage will take place. As ITS continuously improves its computing services, we appreciate your understanding and patience. Our goal is to deliver a stable MyGateway computing environment for you. For more information see <http://www.umsl.edu/technology/mgwhelp/fachelp/outage.html>

The MyGateway maintenance windows are as follows:

Monthly

1st and 3rd Wednesday	4:00 a.m. until 7:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Friday	Friday 5:30 p.m. until Saturday 6:00 a.m.
Every Sunday	12:01 a.m. until noon

Annually

Last week of December	Daily as announced
Sunday before Spring Break	Before Spring Break Sunday 12:01 a.m. thru Monday 8:00 a.m.
1st Thursday and Friday following the end of Summer Semester	Thursday 8:00 a.m. thru Friday 5:30 p.m.

Get Ready.....Here Comes Winter

With winter fast approaching, do you have a Plan B for teaching in the event of inclement weather? Please remember Wimba Classroom is a MyGateway solution that can keep you connected in situations which prohibit students from coming to class. Wimba is a live, virtual classroom environment with robust features that include audio, video, application sharing and content display, along with MP4 capabilities. Its pedagogical design and ease-of-use ensures that educators and students engage as if they were meeting face-to-face.

Advantages of using Wimba include:

- + Real time interactive audio and video interaction with the class
- + Course content can be pre-recorded or recorded during class
- + Sessions can be archived and used throughout the semester (great use of the tool for review of content!)

In addition, advanced features include the following: polling, whiteboarding, presenting on-the-fly, resizable chat areas and participant lists, usage analytics tools, and MP3 or MP4 downloads. These features enable further dynamic interaction between students and educators.

All that is required is an Internet connection and an up-to-date computer. Interested in learning more?

Visit <http://tinyurl.com/3s95hcd> or contact the Faculty Resource Center (FRC) for an individualized consultation or to discuss setting up a departmental workshop.

Jennifer Simms
Technical Trainer-Principal
jsimms@umsl.edu

New Technology in Your Smart Classrooms

It was not all that long ago that if you had access to a cassette or CD player, a transparency projector, film strip viewer or 16mm movie projector; you had all the technology you needed.

Today, instructors have a myriad of technologies available to them to enhance their teaching style. From SMART technology, Audio and Video Archiving, Distance Learning advances, and other ways to stimulate the learning experience. The number of choices instructors have at their grasp can sometimes be a bit overwhelming. The Instructional Computing team works hard to find the right balance of tools that can help save time for instructors and students, allowing more learning to take place.

Over two dozen classrooms are equipped with either a SMART Board or a SMART Podium, enabling instructors to annotate and capture anything presented via the computer. Webcams and microphones that are currently being installed in various classrooms combined with software tools such as Panopto, enable for simple archiving and class distribution. Document cameras allow users to digitally display, manipulate and capture notes, articles, and other 3D objects, effectively minimizing printing and note taking.

Interactive Video Classrooms and other Distance Learning environments enable remote users to have the full classroom effect that they may not be able to obtain, given travel and other limitations, if they had to travel to a higher learning institution.

Instructional Computing brings you these options to enhance your teaching style. We hope you will embrace the various options and explore new ways in which to use them. Since you may want certain technologies for the way you teach each course, it is important to request the technology you need or hope to use when submitting your course for the semester to your department and/or the Office of the Registrar. For a listing of specialty hardware and software in Instructional Computing classrooms, please visit: <http://www.umsl.edu/technology/instructionalcomputing/>.

If you would like to learn more about any of the above, contact Instructional Computing at ic@umsl.edu. IC always looks forward to your feedback and the new ideas you bring to the table. Thank you!

Christopher Boyce
Site Supervisor, Instructional Computing
boycech@umsl.edu

David Maczynski
Site Supervisor, Instructional Computing

UMSL TritonApps Launches

TritonApps is now open to all students and faculty members! This service enables use of Microsoft Office, SPSS, and MathCAD along with other applications through a browser with *no* installation required. Users can also access their K: drive through these applications - even when they are connecting from off-campus.

TritonApps requires Internet Explorer and Microsoft Windows for now, but Mac support is in the works and will be available shortly.

New software is being added all the time, so ITS welcomes instructors to contact them with requests for any additional software that they would like to see added.

TritonApps is reliable with a scalable design that allows for easy expansion in the future as more students take advantage of it.

For additional directions or help connecting to the service, please see: <http://tinyurl.com/3h8315u>

Triton Apps is located at <https://tritonapps.umsl.edu>, and remember to check out blogs.umsl.edu/tritonapps for upcoming announcements and to send us your feedback!

Benjamin Davis
System Administrator
davisbs@umsl.edu

Upgrades to Faculty/Staff Email

Email is critical to University business, and it is about to get better. Beginning in December, all University of Missouri campuses will migrate faculty and staff mailboxes to a Microsoft Exchange 2010 solution. As part of UM's Shared Services Initiative, this solution has been collaboratively designed and built with high-availability in mind, with the primary systems on the Columbia campus and a failover site on the S&T (Rolla) campus.

New and improved features of Exchange 2010 include the following:

- Mail quotas are increased to 15GB, approximately 30x the current quota.
- An improved Outlook Web experience provides convenient web-based access to mail. Better compatibility with browsers other than Internet Explorer.
- Improved ability to manage emails subject to retention policies.
- Reduced need to use PST files for archiving email. By moving the contents of your PSTs back into your mailbox, you can browse or search for those items through OWA.

Most faculty and staff will not need to do anything to prepare for this upgrade. Once your mailbox moves to the upgraded system, Outlook 2007 and 2010 (Windows-based clients) will automatically recognize the change. ITS is currently working to contact users with Outlook 2003, in order to assist with upgrading Outlook prior to mailbox migration.

The Technology Support Center will continue to support Outlook and a number of other popular desktop and mobile clients. Once mailboxes have been moved to the upgraded system, Outlook 2011 will be offered for Mac users.

Please visit <http://www.umsl.edu/technology/emailmigration> for up-to-date information and instruction for configuring your desktop and mobile clients.

Mike Toohy
System Administrator
toohym@umsl.edu

Mathematics and Writing Academic Center

UMSL opened a new learning space for the Fall 2011 semester. The Mathematics and Writing Academic Center, located in 222 Social Science & Business Bldg (SSB), is a state of the art facility that contains features to help promote learning, collaboration, comfort, and access to technology.

The facility was constructed over the summer with the assistance and feedback of various campus entities, including students, staff, and faculty. The Mathematics and Writing Academic Center combined the Math and Writing areas that were housed on the fourth floor of SSB into the new second floor space. The areas on the fourth floor were converted to new classrooms with computer, SMART Podium, and projection capabilities; SSB 410 and 411. SSB 222 offers a variety of features to allow students from all majors to get assistance with math and writing, study outside of class, work in groups, or to just take a break between classes. The space includes mobile furniture to allow for multiple configurations, soft seating, as well as traditional and mobile white boards.

In addition to the Instructional Computing Windows computers located throughout the room, users are encouraged to bring their own laptops or electronic devices where they will have access to the Internet via TritonNet.

The room features the ability to connect your electronic devices to the ceiling mounted projector or SMART Board to practice presentations, or work on a group project using one of the two collaboration stations; Media:scapes, which allow up to six people to share content on two LCDs from their laptops or tablets.

The Mathematics and Writing Academic Center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday and Thursday; 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday; 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday; 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday; and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Chris Scheetz
Instructional Computing
scheetz@umsl.edu