

Editor's Note:

Welcome to the Fall 2005 issue of the EDTEConnect distance newsletter! We hope you'll find information to inform, entertain, and intrigue. As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions on how to make the newsletter more interesting. Please send feedback to edtec@mail.sdsu.edu. Thanks!

The Editors

Calendar

August 25— Registration begins
August 31— Fall term begins
September 14— Last day to register for Fall classes
September 21— Last day to drop classes
December 14 — Final Exams Begin
January 18 —Spring semester begins

EDTEConnect

*Distance Newsletter of the SDSU
Department of Educational Technology*

Volume 2, Issue 2

August 2005

Department uses Breeze to facilitate distance classes

More EDTEC classes have begun using Breeze, Macromedia's software and service for live meetings, presentations, and eLearning.

On-campus students have used Breeze to review pre-recorded PowerPoint presentations with narration before class (EDTEC 685), to hold class with instructors who are out of town (ED 791A), or to converse with guest speakers in other countries (EDTEC 670).

However, this technology has been even more helpful for distance students. You may have even used it in a recent class you've taken. If not, your time may come!

Suzanne Moore, a

student in Professor Marcie Bober's ED 791A class, says that class members gave presentations using Breeze.

"Marcie handed the controls over to us so we could run things. We used audio and PowerPoint and the presentation went quite well."

Students say they appreciate Breeze features such as live video that allows them to see their instructors, separate PowerPoint screens, text chat, and the ability to record a synchronized version of class proceedings with voice, slides and text chat.

Bober says that she used screensharing with one student in the class to troubleshoot problems the

student had with SPSS, a statistical software package students use to run data analyses on their evaluation projects.



While the program has come in quite handy, there is still some room for improvement. Michael Culligan, another ED 791A student, says that Macromedia should consider making the meeting recording feature more intuitive so that users don't forget.

Fall 2005 distance courses announced

The following courses will be taught online spring semester. Registration is now open.

EDTEC 540—Educational Technology

EDTEC 541—Web-Based Multimedia Development

EDTEC 544—Instructional Design

EDTEC 561—Advanced Web-Based Multimedia Development

EDTEC 570—Advanced Teaching with Technology

Note: The following are for students in the MA program

EDTEC 650—Advanced Distance Education

EDTEC 670—Simulation and Game

ED 791A—Evaluation Techniques

Note: These courses are subject to change. Check the course schedule at <http://edtec.sdsu.edu/distance/> for the most

Jan Wahl, director of dist ed programs, interview



Jan Wahl oversees development and implementation of extension courses, distance learning programs, conferences, and travel

Future Shock?

Bernie Dodge gave an address to the College of Education on "The Future(?) of Professing" as a means of kicking off its Emerging Trends Initiative.

Copy and paste this URL into your browser's address field to view the slides and a list of intriguing links that point to hot new trends in educational technology:

<http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/bdodge/>

The EDTEC 550 (Introduction to Distance Education) class interviewed Jan Wahl, Director of Distance Education in the College of Continuing and Extended Studies, in a Spring 2004 webcast. A condensed version follows:

EDTEC 550: Jan, tell us about your job.

Jan Wahl: The College of Extended Studies is one of eight colleges at SDSU, but it's self-supported, with no state funding, so we have to be very entrepreneurial in everything we do. We've been around for about 30 years, and this past year we served about 40,000 students through a variety of departments and services. The majority are non-matriculated students getting additional training online.

EDTEC 550: Some of those courses are EDTEC classes.

Jan Wahl: We have worked closely with the

department of Educational Technology to deliver those courses. I have to give the EDTEC dept a tremendous amount of credit because they had the vision, they knew the technology was out there to build these courses, and they had built an international reputation out there for delivering very high quality programs. They're very demanding. I've actually been in a few of these classes myself, so I know they're in some ways more rigorous than face-to-face delivery.

EDTEC 550: What direction is the college going?

Jan Wahl: Our academic credit and non-credit courses cover a range of topics, from leadership skills to learning Dreamweaver. About 30 percent of our non-credit courses are web-based. That's a huge increase in the last couple of years, but we're finding that adult learners are responding to that kind of delivery. They want to avoid getting in a

car and finding parking, and they like that they can learn at their own pace.

I think this trend will continue. People are becoming more demanding since they know they have a choice. We have to be as competitive as we can, because if we don't deliver this kind of training, someone else will. If our customers don't come take our classes, we're done for. So we work very hard to give students exactly what they want.

EDTEC 550: What are your goals for the program?

Jan Wahl: We'd love to see more growth in the academic area—academic certificates and degrees. That depends upon the departments and campuses. Because Extended Studies isn't an academic credit-granting college, we have to rely on academic departments here at the university to create those programs or

Faculty notables featured recently on the Web

SDSU's Instructional Technology Services (ITS) recently featured professor Minjuan Wang on its "Techstars" web page. Read what she thinks of using Blackboard as a classroom

tool at this URL: <http://its.sdsu.edu/techstars/wang.html>

SDSUniverse, a campus online publication, recently caught up with professor

Marcie Bober and interviewed her about her professional interests, her current plans, and a little about her personally. If you're missing having her while she's on sabbatical this semester, see this URL to get up to date! <http://www.sdsuniverse.info/>

M.A. gives Sherry Ryan a leg up in company restructuring

Sherry Ryan, a distance MA candidate in EDTEC, recently began designing web-based courses in the Information Technology division of Weyerhaeuser, one of the largest forest products companies in the world. However, unlike most new jobs, this one brought her back to a familiar setting—designing e-Learning programs where she got her start in educational technology 25 years ago.

She started work in 1979 at Weyerhaeuser's corporate training division after graduating from Tacoma, Washington's Pacific Lutheran University in broadcast journalism and communication theory.

At Weyerhaeuser, Sherry discovered a talent for designing instruction, and enjoyed pioneering interactive computer-based training using VHS videotape and an Apple IIe computer.

After a time, Sherry began to feel the technology side of the job had grown stagnant. She began taking EDTEC courses as a way to improve her skills and knowledge of the

"It shows that I am proactive in learning about the field and it has given me a level of professionalism and knowledge I wouldn't have otherwise"

field. "The program helped me stay current with technology while my job was standing still in that arena," Sherry explains.

Although she originally intended to finish with the EDTEC distance certificate, instability at work convinced Sherry to continue on into the Masters degree—a move that she feels gave her more credibility both at work and in the job market at large.

Sherry explains that the knowledge she has gained has made her more aware of effective instructional methods, and particularly helped her take a more holistic view of front-end analysis. "It has also given me more confidence in my abilities and skills," she notes.

When Sherry's work team was disbanded in a companywide streamlining effort, she worked for several years on classroom training projects at Weyerhaeuser before accepting her current position in on-line training.

She attributes her new instructional design position in part to her work at SDSU: "It shows that I am proactive in learning about the field and it has given me a level of professionalism and knowledge I wouldn't have otherwise."

With her new job and the



Sherry Ryan, a distance M.A. candidate from Tahoma, Washington, has already found her classes useful in the workplace.



Information about the EDTEC Certificates and Masters degree can be found online at <http://edtec.sdsu.edu/distance/>

"Educating people about the academic rigor and social interaction of a good online master's programs has been the biggest personal challenge."

—Jonathan Leavitt, M.A. candidate

First online M.A. cohort to graduate Spring 2005

Eight online masters candidates graduated in Spring 2005. This is the first group of online students to complete the EDTEC masters degree from San Diego State University.

The distance degree,

says department chair Donn Ritchie, is essentially the same in content, but with the added challenge of self-directed learning.

Jonathan Leavitt, a member of the graduating class, acknowledges that

distance course work is a challenge. His wife, then a graduate student in Boston, was skeptical about the online degree until she saw the amount of work involved in his first class. "Educating people about the academic rigor and social

DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATIONAL
TECHNOLOGYSAN DIEGO STATE
UNIVERSITY

North Education Room 280
College of Education
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-1182

Phone: (619)594-6718
Fax: (619)594-6376
Email:
edtec@mail.sdsu.edu

For information on
future faculty presenta-
tions, see [http://
edtec.sdsu.edu/
fac_pres.shtml](http://edtec.sdsu.edu/fac_pres.shtml)



Department of
Educational
Technology

Changes to course offerings

If you visit <http://edtec.sdsu.edu/distance/offerings.htm> you'll see that we've made a few changes in our course offerings.

Rather than offering the required EDTEC 544 only once a year, we now offer it in both fall and spring semesters.

EDTEC 561 and 572 will alternate with each other beginning in summer 2006.

EDTEC 570 will only be offered in summer beginning next year.

Finally, ED 690, a required course for master candidates, will move from only being offered in the summer semester to the spring semesters, beginning in 2007. We hope these changes will provide more flexibility to our students.

Our new Masters graduates

Our first group of students receiving their Masters degree in June included:

- John Andrews (Pasadena, CA)
- Rhea Borysiak-Fix (Little Rock, AR)
- Betsy Bruce (Seattle, WA)
- Michael Culligan (Baltimore, MD)
- Jonathan Leavitt (Washington, DC)
- Suzanne Moore (Canyon Country, CA)
- Daniel Roggenkamp (Kaohsiung, Taiwan)
- Sherry Ryan (Tacoma, WA)

All courses you complete for the Certificate can be applied to the Masters program. If you would like to apply to the Masters program, you must do so no later than the fourth week of the semester you begin your fifth course.

To learn more about the application process, visit <http://edtec.sdsu.edu/distance/>

EDTEC faculty travel the world

This year, EDTEC faculty members traveled the world promoting the field of educational technology.

Bernie Dodge circled the globe most this year, starting with a February consulting trip to Romania working with an international EU team on WebQuest creation. In May he gave keynote addresses in Hong Kong and Singapore and lectures in China and Taiwan.

In October, he presented at a conference sponsored by the New Zealand Ministry of Education and held workshops. Finally, Bernie visited Barcelona, Spain to give a keynote address at the IEARN Pangaea Conference.

Bob Hoffman visited



Barbara and Donn Ritchie visit with Professor Yu, head of the EDTEC program, at Beijing Normal University

Queretero, Mexico in July to help make a video for the BCLAD Certificate Program in Mexico.

Donn Ritchie worked in Singapore on an evaluation project in April, helped establish a collaborative effort with universities in China in June, and helped host an e-Agenda conference in Australia

this past August.

Minjuan Wang presented on various EDTEC-related topics at Beijing Normal University and met with university leaders about establishing a joint certificate program in EDTEC. She also visited with other universities and companies to negotiate student internships and continue e-learning collaboration efforts.

Allison Rossett visited the UK to conduct a workshop for a large global petrochemical company. She gave the closing keynote in Switzerland for ED-MEDIA 2004—World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia, & Telecommunications.

Allison returned to London to keynote for CIPD, Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, the professional