Move To District Blackboard Server  
*By Bonnie Slager*

This summer, we moved from the CVC Blackboard server to a RSCCD based server.

**What does this mean to you?**
1. We are no longer limited on the number of Blackboard sites available for faculty.
2. ITS will upload students into the sites the day after students register with our Admissions Office. Faculty will no longer need to request adds be processed.
3. All students at Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College will be using the same server.

**How are your sites affected?**
1. If you are currently using the CVC server your course(s) have probably already been duplicated on the District server.
2. For Intersession and the Spring semester all courses will be on the District server.
3. All your sites on the CVC server can be archived for you if you wish. We have all of the spring semester to save these courses.

**What do you need to do?**
1. Contact me (Bonnie) for login information to the District server.
2. Check your sites on the District server to make sure that all of your materials are available.

I know that there is no such thing as a seamless transition however the new server has worked well this fall. You can depend on my help as always for you and your students. Please email me if you have questions or concerns.

slager_bonnie@sccollege.edu

**Hot Potatoes**  
*By Odette Borrey*

Hot Potatoes software allows you to easily create interactive Web-based teaching activities and games. Your creations can then be delivered to any Internet-connected computer that is browser equipped. The program instantly scores a student’s work for immediate feedback.

Don’t fear! Programming skills aren’t needed. All you do is input your data to create subject-specific activities. The program will create the Web pages for you, and you can then upload them to your site.

There are five basic programs in the Hot Potatoes suite:
The IT Department has announced a plan to implement a secure Wi-Fi network throughout the campus so laptop users can connect to the Internet. They have identified 24 locations as possible "hotspots" to provide Wi-Fi access in the A, B, D and U Building. In addition, all the new buildings will be equipped with Wi-Fi capabilities.

What is Wi-Fi? Short for "Wireless Fidelity", it's a local network that uses high frequency radio signals to send and receive data without cords and cables. The technology enables the owners of mobile devices such as a laptop, PDA, pocket PC or other handheld device to surf the web or check e-mail at a designated location or "hotspot".

More and more students are now carrying laptop computers to classes or the library. They are accustomed to a world of emails, instant messaging and chat rooms. The Wi-Fi enabled environment will provide them with freedom and convenience to stay connected. In addition, students will be able to work together with fellow students on projects or have a brainstorming session almost anywhere on campus. This leads to cooperative learning and enhances the overall learning experience.

Many colleges and universities have integrated wireless networking with their existing network on the campus because it is robust and provides convenience and flexibility. Besides, it's available for students and faculty 24 hours a day.

Do You Wiki?
By Connie Wilson

Just as there’s a meaning and a story behind common words and phrases such as “guru,” “hot potato,” “skunk,” and “all over but the shouting,” there’s a meaning and story behind a relatively newer technology word currently being added to our dictionaries; i.e., the word “wiki” correctly pronounced either “wee kee” or “wick-ey.”

What’s a wiki anyway? It’s a technology term referring to a collaborative web site comprised of collective works of many authors. The site allows anyone, even you, to add, delete or modify its content, including all content placed by previous authors. This might sound very risky, but integrity of the site can be kept by the users themselves. Authors contributing to wikis are encouraged to make them better. Most do, but should someone accidentally delete or intentionally abuse a wiki, today it’s relatively simple to acquire earlier versions of the site. The overriding success of wikis today can be contributed to their simplicity, freedom and power.

The story told is in 1995 Ward Cunningham created the first collaborative web site or internet community and called it a wiki (pronounced “wee kee”) after the first Hawaiian term “wiki wiki” (quick) he remembered he heard while traveling to the Islands. His WikiWikiWeb site has a “Sandbox” where wiki novices can play, explore and learn to use the
Wiki, Continued

For educators, wikipedia.com is an impressive wiki site to visit. Wikipedia is an encyclopedia written collaboratively by its readers and has information on politics, science, history, music, religion, pop culture, sports or just about any other subject. Anyone, including you, can edit almost any article there. Sounds fun, doesn’t it? If you read something you really like, you can write a note on the article’s talk page. If you're having difficulty finding what you’re looking for, you can ask the reference desk or add the topic to the list of requested articles. You can even write an article yourself. It’s a wonderful site to get legal educational resources as well as give back to the learning community. Enrich your educational technology experiences by exploring and using the wikipedia.com site!

At the Orange Education Center, the technicians used MediaWiki software to create a wiki for their internal technology use. The wiki, in combination with the District IT documentation web page, provides a reference for technical information and procedures. The wiki allows for contributions and/or modifications by the entire IT staff from any computer with a web browser. It enables IT personnel to quickly find and use the information stored on the wiki while in the field. It’s hoped that as staff expands the wiki, it will help with training/familiarizing new personnel with the idiosyncrasies specific to the Orange Education Center computing environment.

Grow with technology and become a wiki user. You might have fun!

Announcing Technology Day
By Cari Cannon

The technology committee is currently organizing a technology day featuring vendors, speakers and trainers. Some of the featured presentations include:

- Interactive Whiteboards
- California Virtual Campus Project
- Advanced Google
- Online Course Design Power Tools Workshop (e.g., Captivate, Camtasia, Dreamweaver, MindManager and more!)
- iPod and Podcasting
- Digital Photography
- Internet Security
- Kenote speaker Dr. Robert Bramucci—Bob is Dean of the Open Campus at Riverside College and recent winner of the Excellence in Technology Leadership Award from the State Chancellor’s office.

State-of-the-art Classrooms
By Joe Yorba

Upon entering the room one cannot help but notice the tiered amphitheater style seating, large display screens, digital audio system, and modular design. The desks, chairs, and other furnishings are ergonomically sound, and easily reconfigured for small group activities. The screens are at multiple angles, and provide “front row seating for each participant”, whether they are in the room or at an extended site. Is this a set for the next Star Wars thriller? No, it is the state-of-the-art classroom.

These “instructional studios” can be found at such varied institutions as Dartmouth, UC Santa Cruz, and Arizona State University’s College of Law. The result is an interactive learning environment with advanced display technologies. Utilizing a digital projection system (DPS), computer generated materials such as graphics and scientific simulations are easily demonstrated. The instructor may hand-write lecture notes with a tablet PC, or display traditional sources such as DVDs. The wireless facility provides internet access.
The Technology Committee promotes the use of technology to increase efficiency of college operations and to support teaching and enhance learning.

State-of-the-art, continued

to students with Wi-Fi laptops. Any material displayed by the DPS may be downloaded to their PCs, and the audio (including the oral presentations) can be downloaded to an i-pod. Desk-top computers are recessed to maximize workspace. A broadcasting system will accommodate two way interactive audio and video teleconferencing, and provide live shots of the professor and the students. Presentations may be archived as instructional videos, promoting extended class instruction and/or faculty training. Audio recordings are available via podcasting.

Today’s state-of-the-art classroom is a presentation laboratory, enriched by cutting edge technologies and a dynamic furnishing design.

Look for the next issue of this newsletter in February. If you’d like to submit an idea for an article, please contact Cari Cannon (714) 628-4833 or cannon_cari@sccollege.edu.