



Spring 2008



eCampus Times – a Newsletter for us

When eCampus was born in the Fall of 2006, we started off with 30+ employees. We now boast over 60, and when we absorb eArmyU this fall, we will be over 80 strong. An almost 200% increase in just two years! With all of this growth, it is no wonder that when we walk down the halls at the ELC, we are not sure who some of these new faces are...as a "global campus" some of us have never even met our colleagues at the sites and campuses outside of our Alabama TROY University.

To better communicate within our eCampus crew, we are committed to publishing our *eCampus Times* in-house newsletter every term 5 times a year, when our *eCampus Update* newsletter goes out to the Troy system. Please send us information from your regions, campuses, and departments so we can keep the communication lines open in our group and continue to support each other during this tremendous change and growth. It is a pleasure to be part of this great eCampus crew for the past 2+ years, to witness its growth, and work with our quality group! *Gayle*



News from Dr. Gearhart

I just want to say thank you to all for all of your hard work. We keep growing and we are still going through growing pains. T1 through T3 our enrollments were up 51.75%, courses are up 44.13%, and new students are up 26.29%. T4 registration is up so far too. Sometimes we can't see the end of the workload, but we are doing a great job getting the courses up, students into their courses, and supporting them.

What's coming down the road? There will be a new program this fall, the Deaf Interpreter Training Program. The eArmyU program will be joining eCampus in T1. We are looking for a Director of Instructional Design and a Business Development Director. There will be other staff coming on board as needed.

The Colloquium will be here soon. Thanks to those working on it. It is our time to showcase what all you do. Keep up the good work and have patience while we continue to make changes in your life. *Dr. G*



Employee News

Welcome New eCampus Employees

Vanessa Woods (Operations) Operations Assistant
Donna Brown (Operations) Textbook Coordinator
Benita Wilson (Student Services) Admissions Specialist
Tara Dumas (Student Services) Academic Advisor
Paula Carpenter (Student Services) Academic Advisor
Shannon Langston (Part Time Student Services) General Office

Magdalena Pilichowska (Graduate Assistant) Special thanks and appreciation for all Magda's hard work in the area of testing.

Debbie Norton will be leaving the ACCESS group to take a new job at Edge Regional Medical Center in the Account department. We are sad to see Debbie go but wish her the best of luck in her new position.

Promotions

Zhanna Carolipio (Academics) Promoted to Assistant Director of Graduate Academic Testing

Terri Miles (ACCESS) Promoted from ACCESS Departmental Secretary II to ACCESS Help Desk Technician



Marriages

Lee Scarborough (Educational Technology) /Katrina Presley – May 31, 2008.





Department News

Academics

COMPASS Testing

Troy University has received a license for the COMPASS Placement Exam. The exam will be administered on Troy University campuses and University College sites and will determine the beginning placement of students in eCampus Math and English courses. If students currently have an ACT Math or English score, the University will accept these scores in place of the COMPASS. Troy University will also accept COMPASS scores from other colleges and universities.

In remote locations, student can take the paper and pencil ASSET or the computerized COMPASS at an approved ASSET, COMPASS or ACT location.

Dr. Echord and the Academics department is currently advertising for two positions: Assistant Director of Undergraduate Academic Testing and an Academic Assistant.

Educational Technology

Blackboard

The Troy University Blackboard System will be upgraded to version 7.3 in May.

Check out the newly designed Blackboard help site designed by Kim Shaver and crew:

<http://www.troy.edu/bbhelp/>

Remote Proctor



Aaron Carolipio and Scott Smith attended the CCME conference in San Francisco, California to promote the Remote Proctor and Troy University.

*Scott, Alicia, Eddie, and Aaron
at the CCME conference 2-08*

Instructional Design

Dr. Mac Adkins has given us his expertise helping eCampus launch its eCourse Redesign Project this past year. The Project is now in its second year and over 50 courses have gone through the redesign process with the academic committees thanks to Dr. Mac and this Instructional Design crew. Dr. Mac has taken a new job in Institutional Research with Dr. Dew beginning March 1st. We will truly miss Mac and wish him the best in his new endeavor with Troy University. An ad is currently running for a Director of Instructional Technology for eCampus.

Operations

The eArmyU program will be merging under the leadership of eCampus in Term 1, 2008. Loubna Zahri will take on the scheduling of faculty for eArmyU beginning in Term 1, 2008.

Faculty Contracts

Term 4 contracts are 136 for Graduate and 411 for Undergraduate for a total of 547.

Scheduling

The long term schedule for 2008-2009 has been posted to the website, and work will begin on the Term 1 & 2, 2008 schedule in the next few weeks.

Textbooks

Term 4, 2008 textbook submission for eCampus totaled 322.

Term 4, 2008 textbook submission for eArmyU totaled 98.

Quality Assessment

We Care What Students Think! eCampus is committed to making our student's educational experience the best it can be. So, we are continually looking for ways in which we can enhance our services and improve our courses to better meet student needs. In order to do this effectively, eCampus evaluates our courses each term. The most important form of evaluation that we can get is feedback from students on how we are doing.

Last semester, a new approach to our End of Course assessment was implemented. The report concludes the first electronic End of Course assessment sequence for the University. Over 16,000 electronic student course evaluations were received for classes offered around the globe during the fall semester. A copy of each report was forwarded to the dean of each respective college. No names or identifying information is available to instructors, but comments and overall results will assist faculty in understanding how their students felt about the course and where changes might need to be made. We hope that this method of evaluation will increase the number of students offering feedback by making it easier for them to submit results, especially for web based courses.

Term 4 Syllabi – Over 98% of the syllabi for term 4 have been reviewed and posted for student access. eCampus has a total of 17 mentors with 19 new instructors for term 4.

Student Services

New home for the FWB eCampus staff



On February 1st, the FWB staff was moved to a new location on Racetrack Road in the Sun Trust Bank building. Through the hard work and dedication of that team, the move was organized and accomplished without too much of a break in service. Staff members continued to work from home as much as possible while their supervisors worked with the contractors to have the furniture placed in their offices according to the wishing of the team. Within a couple of days, everyone was back in place.

We would like to thank Seth, Lynn, and John of the Southeast Region for their assistance in getting the wiring and installation of the phone systems and computers up and running. KUDOS to the team.

ACCESS

The ACCESS enrollments are up again for Spring 2008. We offered a record number of courses this semester. We have over 80 active classes this semester.

ACCESS will hold a three day teacher training session March 25, 26 and 27. We have trained over 300 teachers and expect to train at least 100 more before fall semester begins. We are preparing teachers for the expected increase in enrollments. We are expecting enrollments to double again in Fall 08.

The ACCESS staff participated in a two day Leadership Team meeting in Prattville February 27 and 28. The ACCESS staff will also attend the Task Force meeting with the Alabama State Department of Education March 4.



Dr. Gearhart at the Director's Council Meeting in Tucson 2-08