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CITations

July 27, 2001

No. 53

CITations is a report featuring information technology-related news of interest to UNC-Chapel Hill faculty members, graduate instructors and the staff who support them. *CITations*, published twice a month, is an electronic service of the ITS Center for Instructional Technology.

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REMINDER OF INTERRUPTION IN BLACKBOARD SERVICES

From Tuesday August 7 to Friday August 10, we will be upgrading UNC-Chapel Hill's Blackboard services from CourseInfo 4.10 to Blackboard 5.5.

During this time, faculty, staff, and students will not be able to access CourseInfo sites. All materials on CourseInfo will be copied and moved to Blackboard 5.5, and the CourseInfo software currently used will be taken off-line. No course contents will be deleted, and all materials will be backed up.

Blackboard services will resume on Saturday, August 11. Please direct any questions to your department or school's IT support staff or contact Suzanne Cadwell (cadwell@unc.edu; 962-7842).

BLACKBOARD 5.5 UPDATE

Blackboard 5.5 isn't available until Saturday, August 11, but that doesn't prevent you from working on your Fall 2001 course site(s) now. Request a Blackboard CourseInfo 4.10 site. Any materials you add to a CourseInfo site will be transferred to Blackboard 5.5 during the upgrade (August 7-10).

Submit your request via our online form, linked from the ATN-CIT Blackboard CourseInfo information site, at <http://www.unc.edu/cit/tools/courseinfo/>

We'll create your site within two working days of your request.

AUGUST CIT CLASS: OPTIONS FOR CREATING A COURSE WEB SITE

Have you considered creating a course web site but don't know where to start? Are you thinking about making significant changes to your current course site and want to consider new options? This demonstration course will acquaint faculty and teaching assistants with current resources available for (1) setting up course web space and (2) creating content for the web. The differences between building customized, homegrown course sites and Blackboard 5.5 course sites will be covered. Beginners welcome!

Tuesday, August 14; 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.; Course # CI05-004; 246 Davis Library

or
Wednesday, August 15; 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.; Course # CI05-005; 246 Davis Library

To register call the ATN Training Center at 962-1160 and give the registrar the following information: your complete name, department, affiliation (faculty, staff, or student), daytime phone number, and the course number.

The registrar will call to remind you the day before your scheduled classes. Please call the registrar if you can't attend a class so your spot can be given to a person on the waiting list.

AUGUST CIT CLASS: BLACKBOARD 5.5 OVERVIEW

This demonstration course targets instructors and teaching assistants who have either (1) used Blackboard's CourseInfo or (2) have attended "Options for Creating a Course Web Site" and wish to learn more about Blackboard 5.5. The course highlights Bb 5.5's new features, as well as the program's strengths and weaknesses for supporting face-to-face and distance learning.

Dates and times:

Thursday, August 16; 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.; Course #CI104-006; Hanes 02
Thursday, August 16; 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.; Course #CI104-007; Hanes 02
Friday, August 17; 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.; Course #CI104-008; Hanes 02
Friday, August 17; 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Course #CI104-009; Hanes 02
Monday, August 27; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.; Course #CI104-010; 256 Davis Library
Tuesday, August 28; 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.; Course #CI104-011; 256 Davis Library
Wednesday, August 29; 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Course #CI104-012; 256 Davis Library
Thursday, August 30; 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.; Course #CI104-013; 256 Davis Library

To register call the ATN Training Center at 962-1160 and give the registrar the following information: your complete name, department, affiliation (faculty, staff, or student), daytime phone number, and the course number.

The registrar will call to remind you the day before your scheduled classes. Please call the registrar if you can't attend a class so your spot can be given to a person on the waiting list.

SIRCAM COMPUTER VIRUS WARNING

The Information Technology Response Center (ITRC) is starting to see more instances of the Sircam email virus on our campus. Sircam propagates itself via email. The subject of the virus email message changes every time the virus propagates. In some cases the filename of the email attachment changes: the attached file can have filename extensions such as .bat, .com, .lnk, or .pif added to it.

Damages caused by Sircam include: deleting files on your computer, emailing itself to names in your email address book, degradation of system performance by creating files that consume space on your hard drive, and exporting random documents from your hard drive by appending the files to the email messages. Email users who are suspicious of any email messages that they receive should delete the email and any attachments without opening the attachments.

See the following links for more information:

<http://help.unc.edu/virus/sircam.html>

http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/venc/data/w32_sircam_worm@mm.html

If you have any questions about removing a virus from your system, contact the ITRC at 962-HELP.

UNC-CHAPEL HILL AND INTERNET2

Read about how some campuses are using Internet2 technology in teaching and research activities. Internet2 was launched in 1996 to provide super-fast connections, to "defeat geography and circumvent the barriers of time and space," allowing people to collaborate and access information in ways not possible using today's Internet. The article, "Internet2: The Once and Future Net" (by Daniel Tynan, *Technology Review*, July 10, 2001), features two UNC-Chapel Hill campus projects: the Department of Computer Science's nanoManipulator and the Graphics and Visualization Center's tele-immersion lab. The complete article is available on the web at <http://www.technologyreview.com/web/tynan/tynan071001.asp>

ITRC TIP: QUICKLY RESTARTING WINDOWS 9X

If you support a lot of systems, you know how often it's necessary to restart Windows. Watching a system restart is

like watching paint dry but it doesn't take long enough to go for coffee.

Most of the time it's really not necessary to completely restart the system. All you really need to do is restart Windows. Here's a trick that will save a little time if you're using Win 9x. (This tip doesn't work with Windows 2000.)

When it's time to restart:

1. Click Start --> Shut Down --> Restart.
2. Hold down the <Shift> key as you click OK.

If you have any questions about ITRC tips, contact Jim Storey in the ITRC at 962-HELP.

For more computing assistance, contact the Information Technology Response Center, Wilson Library, Suite 300
Walk-in Hrs: 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Phone: 962-HELP - 24 hours
Email: help@unc.edu

CITATIONS TIPS ARCHIVE

The ITRC, CBT, and Lyris tips published in *CITations* are archived on the Web so you can locate tips without having to search through all the back issues. The tips archive is at <http://www.unc.edu/cit/citations/tips.html>

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Keep informed about technology conferences with the CIT's "Education Technology and Computer-Related Conferences" at <http://www.unc.edu/cit/guides/irg-37.html> and "Calendar of World-Wide Educational Technology-Related Conferences, Seminars, and Other Events." The calendar is on the Web at <http://confcal.unc.edu:8086/>

2001 CITATIONS PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

August 10 & 24
September 7 & 21
October 5 & 19
November 2 & 16
December 7 & 21

CITations welcomes announcements from all UNC-Chapel Hill campus organizations involved in instructional and research technology. To have an announcement considered for publication in *CITations*, send email to Carolyn Kotlas, kotlas@email.unc.edu or call 962-9287. The deadline for submissions is noon the day before the publication date.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE OR UNSUBSCRIBE TO CITATIONS

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For more information about the CIT, see our Website at <http://www.unc.edu/cit/> or contact our office at 962-6042.

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