



CITations

May 9, 2003

No. 95

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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MAY/JUNE BLACKBOARD CLASSES

To enroll in any of these sessions, go to <http://help.unc.edu/tracs/> and click on the title of the course you're interested in. Then click on the [\[enroll\]](#) link for the session you want.

Blackboard 6: What Is New

This course focuses on becoming familiar with Blackboard 6.0's new features and is recommended for any instructor currently using Blackboard 5.5.1. Topics covered will include: easier ways to manage your course content, new customizing options, a new assignment tool to replace the digital dropbox, and improvements in the assessment and gradebook area. The format will be presentation followed by extensive time for hands-on practice with instructor guidance.

Introduction to Blackboard 5.5

For instructors, teaching assistants, and IT support staff with no prior Blackboard experience, this course should be taken before "Blackboard 6: What Is New." It focuses on the basics of 1) posting content to Blackboard sites, 2) using Blackboard's communication tools, 3) customizing sites, and 4) controlling access to them. Blackboard's strengths and limitations as a courseware platform will also be discussed. Attendees are encouraged to bring their course materials with them on disk.

ACCESSIBILITY SOFTWARE AVAILABLE AT UL COLLABORATORY

The House Undergraduate Library Collaboratories are designed to support faculty online course development and student digital and multimedia projects. They provide software, equipment, and consultative services for the digitization and editing of images, sound, and video. The Collaboratory in Room 130 of the Undergraduate Library has a computer loaded with several assistive technology software packages for users with visual disabilities. The software includes the ZoomText screen magnification package, the JAWS screenreader, and the Kurzweil scanning and reading system.

The Collaboratory is staffed with a student assistant trained to provide a basic level of assistance. Additional assistance is available by appointment. More details are available at <http://www.lib.unc.edu/house/collaboratories.html>.

If you have any questions, contact Kim Vassiliadis at kimv@email.unc.edu or 962-1355.

UNC DIGITAL LIBRARY PROJECT UPDATE

The next brown bag lunch meeting of the UNC-Chapel Hill Scholarly Communication Working Group will take place on May 13. The UNC Digital Library Project staff will update us on what has taken place in the project since their March 2002 brown bag lunch presentation. For background information on the project, link to <http://www.unc.edu/projects/diglib/>. All area faculty, staff, and students are invited to attend.

Date: Tuesday, May 13, noon - 1 p.m.

Place: 2nd Floor Conference Rooms, Davis Library

The Scholarly Communication Working Group is sponsored by the Odum Institute. For more information about the group, go to <http://www.unc.edu/schol-com/>.

CCI LAPTOP PRICES DROP

IBM has worked very hard with the CCI (Carolina Computing Initiative) to get the absolute lowest prices so that they can be passed on promptly to you. Effective immediately and applying to all pending departmental orders, the prices of laptops offered through the CCI are going down:

Model R-40 will drop from \$1550 to \$1475.

Model T-40 will drop from \$2050 to \$1999.

These price reductions apply to all current pending orders. You do not have to cancel and reorder.

The Student four-year warranty machines are also dropping in price. New prices represent a price reduction of over \$300 less than last year's prices. The prices for entering first-year students (includes the MS license fee, 4-year warranty, 4-year insurance, computer lock, and network cable) will be as follows:

ThinkPad R40 Bundle New Price: \$2,060

ThinkPad T40 Bundle New Price: \$2,679

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

-- Linwood Futrelle, ITS Director of Distributed Support

email: linwood@email.unc.edu

tel: 962-5265

MARCH/APRIL 2003 ISSUE OF UNC LINKS NEWSLETTER

UNC Links, published by The University of North Carolina's Division of Information Resources, offers a bi-monthly update on IT initiatives from the sixteen constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina. The publication serves as a vehicle for information technology dialogue among IT colleagues, chancellors, and others.

The March/April 2003 issue is now available online at <http://www.northcarolina.edu/ir/newsletter/newsletter.cfm>.

APRIL 2003 ISSUE OF CIT INFOBITS

CIT Infobits is an electronic service of ITS/CIT. Each month the CIT's Information Resources Consultant monitors and selects from a number of information and instructional technology sources that come to her attention and provides brief notes for electronic dissemination to educators. To subscribe link to <http://mail.unc.edu/lists/read/subscribe?name=infobits>.

Articles in the April 2003 issue (<http://www.unc.edu/cit/infobits/bitapr03.html>) include:

Online Versus Face-to-Face Courses

Reusing Online Resources in Education

AACE Digital Library Opens

Cyberspace Copyright Primer

Proposed Cuts To ERIC Services

All back issues of *CIT Infobits* are available on the Web at <http://www.unc.edu/cit/infobits/index.html>.

NC SYSTEM ADMINISTRATORS MEETING

The May meeting of the North Carolina System Administrators organization (NC*SA) will feature a talk by Bill Gavin of Secure Logic, LLC on the value of incorporating security assessment as a normal and routine monitoring function.

Date: Monday, May 12, 2003 at 6:00 p.m.

Place: Dreyfus Laboratory, Research Triangle Institute, Research Triangle Park, NC

NC*SA meetings are free and open to anyone with an interest in the topic of the evening and/or system administration. For more information about the meeting and the organization, and to get directions to the meeting site, visit the NC*SA website at <http://www.ncsysadmin.org/>.

ITRC TIP: HOW TO SEND A QUICK EMAIL

If you want to send a quick email message from a Windows computer, without going into your email program, perform one of the following:

-- Type mailto: in the Run: box selected from the Start menu.

-- Type mailto: in the Address box of Internet Explorer.

-- Create a shortcut (for starting a new mail message) by typing mailto: in the Location text box of the Create Shortcut wizard.

For more computing assistance, contact the Information Technology Response Center, Undergraduate Library.

Walk-in Hrs: 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Submit a help request on the Web: <https://www.unc.edu/ar-bin/websub/index.pl>

Tel: 962-HELP -- 24 hours/7 days a week

Email: help@unc.edu

ITRC website: <http://www.unc.edu/atn/itrc/>

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

Stay 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 at <http://confcal.unc.edu:8086/>.

2003 CITATIONS PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

January 10 & 24

February 7 & 21

March 14 & 28

April 11 & 25

May 9 & 23

June 6 & 20

July 11 & 25

August 8 & 22

September 12 & 26

October 10 & 24

November 7 & 21

December 5 & 19

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 11:00 a.m. the day before the publication date.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE OR UNSUBSCRIBE TO CITATIONS

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