

Issue 11

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About INFOBITS

Infobits is an electronic service of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill ITS Teaching and Learning's Center for Instructional Technology. 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.

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STUDENTS RATE FACULTY BY THEIR WEB PAGES

Students who are technology-literate are increasingly expecting faculty to be familiar with and to use computer technology. A recent article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* ["Students Say They Check Courses' Web Pages Before Deciding to Enroll" by Jeffrey R. Young, May 27, 1999 issue] reports that some students believe that "the best professors are the ones who bother to make Web pages for their courses. And a growing number of students use the quality of course Web pages as a deciding factor when picking classes."

The article is available on the Web at <http://chronicle.com/free/99/05/99052701t.htm>

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NEW SERVICES FROM ERIC CLEARINGHOUSE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

The ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education (ERIC-HE) is offering two new services. "ERIC Higher Education News" is ERIC-HE's new quarterly electronic newsletter featuring items of interest to the higher education community. The first issue is available on the Web at <http://www.eriche.org/new/letter1.html>

ERIC/HE has introduced a search tutorial for ERIC database users. The tutorial covers everything from

Boolean operators to relevance ranking, and even includes nine search exercises. The tutorial is on the Web at <http://www.eriche.org/workshops/searching.html>

ERIC-HE is one of sixteen clearinghouses in the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC), a federally-funded national information system provided by the U.S. Department of Education. For more information about ERIC-HE, contact ERIC Clearinghouse on Higher Education, The George Washington University, Graduate School of Education and Human Development, One Dupont Circle, Suite 630, Washington, DC 20036-1183 USA; tel: 202-296-2597; fax: 202-452-1844; email: mkozi@eric-he.edu; Web: <http://www.eriche.org/>

The ERIC database is a service of AskERIC, a "personalized Internet-based service providing education information to teachers, librarians, counselors, administrators, parents, and others throughout the United States and the world." AskERIC and the ERIC database are accessible on the Web at <http://ericir.syr.edu/>

JOURNAL OF DIGITAL INFORMATION

JoDI (Journal of Digital Information), a peer-reviewed Web journal supported by the British Computer Society and Oxford University Press, publishes papers on the management, presentation and uses of information in digital environments. Articles in recent issues have had a strong focus on hypertext and hypermedia systems. The journal is free, but readers must register before getting access to individual articles. *JoDI* is available at <http://jodi.tamu.edu/>

For more information, contact: Cliff McKnight, Editor-in-Chief, Department of Information and Library Studies, Loughborough University, Leicestershire LE11 3TU, United Kingdom; tel: +44 (0)1509 223050; email: c.mcknight@lboro.ac.uk

WIRED FOR BOOKS

The Ohio University Telecommunications Center's Website, "Wired for Books," contains not only published works of local and canonical authors, but also the voices of authors and actors reading selections. By downloading Real Network's free software, RealPlayer, you can hear the works while reading along with the texts on the Website. (A link to the RealPlayer software is included on the Website.) Authors currently included are poets Emily Dickenson, Terry Anderson, Bonnie Proudfoot, and Rabindranath Tagore. One of the site's most frequently-visited features is an animated slide show of Beatrix Potter's "The Tale of Peter Rabbit." The site also includes audio segments of Ohio University scholars discussing the works of Raymond Carver, Zora Neale Hurston, Toni Morrison, and Leo Tolstoy.

You can access "Wired for Books" at <http://www.tcom.ohiou.edu/books/>

For more information about the Ohio University Telecommunications Center, see their Website at <http://www.tcom.ohiou.edu/>

JOURNAL FOR EDUCATION GRADUATE STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS

The Source is a new, free peer-reviewed online journal from the University of Southern California's Department of Education. Graduate students and professionals in all areas of education can use *The Source* to exhibit the latest research and ideas in areas of instructional technology, higher education, educational psychology, international/intercultural education, K-12 education, counseling, and curriculum and instruction. The publication will endeavor to link active researchers and scholars with interested

students and professionals. *The Source* is available at <http://www.usc.edu/dept/education/TheSource/>

For more information, contact: Mehmet Dali Ozturk, c/o The Source, University of Southern California, Rossier School of Education, Waite Phillips Hall, 1100C, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0031 USA; email: source@usc.edu

TECHNOLOGY AND CULTURE PUBLICATIONS

Three free publications tackle issues on the impact of technology and culture and society:

M/C/T (Media, Culture and Technology) is a new electronic journal from the Department of Media and Communication, Karlstad University, Sweden. The journal will publish "articles, debates, reviews, multimedia, digital art, and just about anything that concerns media, culture and technology." The first issue (published in English) is available at <http://www.kk.kau.se/mct/start.html>

For more information, contact *M/C/T* - Journal of Media, Culture and Technology, Media and Communications, Karlstad University S-65188 Sweden; email: robert.burnett@kau.se; Web: <http://www.kk.kau.se/mct/>

A sister journal, *M/C*, is published by the Media and Cultural Studies Centre, University of Queensland, Australia. *M/C* is a mix of peer-reviewed academic writing and popular culture "concerned with the goings-on in today's media and culture environments, whatever form they take." The latest issue is available at <http://english.uq.edu.au/mc/indexmain.html>

For more information, contact: *M/C* - A Journal of Media and Culture, Media and Cultural Studies Centre, Department of English, The University of Queensland Qld. 4072 Australia; email: mc@mailbox.uq.edu.au;
Web: <http://english.uq.edu.au/mc/>

iMP: The Magazine on Information Impacts, published by the Center for Information Strategy and Policy (CISP) of Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), "seeks to promote discussion of timely issues arising from new information technologies and their development . . . [and] offer a forum for members of numerous communities interested in advanced information technologies and their social, economic, and political impacts." Recent issues focus on e-commerce/e-business and IT and international relations. The current issue, along with links to back issues, is available at http://www.cisp.org/imp/may_99/05_99contents.htm

For more information, contact: *iMP*, Center for Information Strategy and Policy, Science Applications International Corporation, 1710 Goodridge Drive, McLean, Virginia 22102 USA; Web: <http://www.cisp.org/>

TECHNOLOGY IN ADULT AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

In "Using Technologies Effectively in Adult and Vocational Education" [ERIC Adult, Career, and Vocational Education Clearinghouse Practice Application Brief No. 2, 1999], Susan Imel presents information about educational applications of technology and provides some guidelines for its use in adult and vocational education. Imel shows how some of the aspects of educational technologies -- providing more opportunities for learner-centered instruction, affording more active and interactive

modes of instruction, facilitating collaborative and small group work -- have particular advantages for adult learners.

The document is available on the Web at <http://ericacve.org/docs/pab00011.htm>