



# Educational Technology News

Fall 2008, Edition II, November 14, 2008

## Distance Learning Support Staff

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November 26, 2008:  
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New Online & Hybrid Classes  
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Desk

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New Staff: Sandra Couture

## Contact Us



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## Office Hours



Monday to Friday  
8:30 am - 4:30 pm

## What's New?

### Instructional Technology Day

Instructional Technology Day is on Wednesday, November 26. Presentations include Copyright 101, SyncronEyes, READI, and Web 2.0 Technology. To learn more about presentations, see the back of our newsletter.

### Spring 2009 New Online/Hybrid Courses

For Spring 2009, one new online course and two new hybrid courses will be offered.

ENG 232, British Literature II (online)

HLT 103, Investigations in Health Careers (Hybrid)

HSE 101, Intro to Human Services (Hybrid)

### READI Test for Online Students

Starting November 15th, READI will be available for potential and registered online students. READI stands for Readiness for Education At a Distance Indicator. It is a self-diagnostic tool that assesses students' likelihood for success in learning online. From the test results, students are able to identify strengths and weaknesses in the areas of self-motivation, time-management skills, self-discipline, reading comprehension, availability of time, ability to use computer and accessories, typing speed and accuracy. For more information about READI, visit

[www.mxcc.commnet.edu/distance/readi.shtml](http://www.mxcc.commnet.edu/distance/readi.shtml)



### Welcome Sandra Couture



Sandra Couture, Educational Technology Specialist, started on November 7th. She received her B.F.A. in Graphic Design from UConn and is pursuing a Masters in Counseling at CCSU. She has worked in educational technology support at Manchester CC and CCSU. Her expertise with Blackboard Vista, Web 2.0, graphic, multimedia, and web design will be a great asset to distance learning and educational technology support at MxCC. She enjoys hiking, rowing and wine tasting. Please stop and say hello to Sandra.



## Switching Blackboard Host, New Help Desk for Spring 2009

As the contract with the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium ends in December 2008, the host for administrating the Blackboard Vista server will be changed to Blackboard, Inc. **During this transition, the Blackboard Vista server will be down a few days during the winter break.** The specific dates for the server downtime will be announced. A new technical help desk will be implemented in Spring 2009 by Presidium. Presidium provides 24/7, year round (365 days) technical help for students and faculty.

Planned  
Outage



# Instructional Technology Day

Wednesday, November 26th , Chapman Hall



8:45 am – 9:00 am, **Breakfast Social (808D)**

9:00 am – 9:15 am, **Welcome and Announcement (808D), President Nieves**

9:15 am – 10:45 am, **Copyright 101 (808D), Tom Clark, System Center**

10:15 am – 11:00 am, **Break**

11:00 am – 11:45 am, **Breakout Sessions (628, 629, 630, 631)**

- **Questions & Answers on Copyright, 628**
  - Tom Clark, System Center
- **SynchronEyes, Classroom Management Software, 629**
  - Joseph Macknicki, IT Service
- **Web 2.0 Tools: Blogs, Wikis and Facebook, oh my! 630**
  - Sandra Couture, Educational Technology Specialist
- **READI, a Self-Assessment Tool for Online Students, 631**
  - Yi Guan-Raczkowski, Director of Distance Learning

## Presentation and Breakout Sessions

### Copyright 101

The session will address the legal basis for, and parameters of, copyright, including what is protected and what is available for common use, as well as offering practical guidelines in the application of the fair use doctrine. A brief discussion of the Technology, Education and Copyright Harmonization Act (TEACH Act) and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) will be presented, which will be the focus of subsequent planned sessions. The intent of this session is to be practical and useful.

### SynchronEyes, Classroom Management Software

Demonstrate SynchronEyes, a classroom management tool in computer software training. It has the ability to observe, control, capture and lock your students computer activities as well as broadcast your desktop to their screens, send files to them, create and distribute quizzes, conduct a vote, and send messages to any or all students.

### Web 2.0 Tools: Blogs, Wikis and Facebook, oh my!

Come see how Web 2.0 tools can enhance teaching and learning and make some of your everyday uses of technology quicker and easier. This session will present a variety of new tools that can be used individually or can be combined to solve a variety of technical challenges.

### READI, a Self-Assessment Tool for Online Students

READI stands for Readiness for Education At a Distance Indicator. It is a self-diagnostic tool that assesses students' likelihood for succeeding in learning online. The session will demonstrate the questions in the READI test and how to interpret a test report. Discussions will be taken place on how to implement READI for MxCC online students.