

IRM NEWS

MAY 2005

E-CLASSROOMS

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In 2005, IRM began to develop a program for installing permanent AV systems in classrooms across all of FAU's five major campuses. These rooms are designated as "E-Classrooms" and will adhere to standards designed to incorporate greater functionality and ease-of-use for FAU faculty. Because the classrooms are being built based on standard design and equipment, faculty who are familiar with one classroom should have no problem if they go to another classroom, even on another campus.

E-classrooms are complete multimedia rooms having components such as a desktop computer, LCD projector, document camera, DVD/VCR player, and complete sound system all permanently installed. Faculty will control these components from a multimedia teaching console. Although they share similar equipment, e-classrooms are not to be confused with VTC classrooms which IRM provides and manages for live interactive video courses.

Support for e-classrooms will be greatly enhanced by

new network monitoring and control features provided by each room's Crestron® Control System. AV staff will be able to monitor room and equipment usage, projector bulbs and other limited-life items. AV support staff will also be able to troubleshoot problems and assist faculty remotely.

This program will take place in phases with AV resources placed in the areas of greatest need first. IRM is covering the implementation and ongoing support of the four new e-classrooms: two on the Boca campus, one at the

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PREPARE FOR NEXT SEMESTER: REQUEST RESPONDUS-READY TEST BANKS

Test banks for hundreds of the leading textbooks in higher education are available in Respondus format. Instructors who adopt a participating textbook can download these test banks (at no charge) and use them with their Respondus

software. Respondus-formatted test banks can also be used with StudyMate, our new authoring tool for creating Flash-based activities and games. It's easy for an instructor to request a Respondus-formatted test bank for their textbook:

- Go to www.respondus.com/testbank
- Search for the textbook being used in the course
- Fill out the request form completely and submit it

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UPCOMING FEATURES IN BLACKBOARD

There are many exciting features that are going to be added to future Blackboard releases. Some of the new and enhanced features you can expect in our next Blackboard upgrade (anticipated for Fall 2005) include:

- Adaptive release of content – instructors can display content to certain users for a

limited period of time, or only after users meet (or fail to meet) predetermined requirements.

- Performance Dashboard – a course tool that allows instructors to see key information and outcomes for all course users. It displays the last time users logged in, their course role, content availability by

user based on adaptive release criteria, and a direct link to the gradebook.

- Syllabus Builder – an easy-to-use item that makes it simple for instructors to create an interactive syllabus.

- Advanced Assessment Questions – Ten additional question

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CUSTOMIZING CHANNELS IN MYFAU

Did you know that you can add channels to your tabs in MyFAU and that there are hundreds to choose from? To add channels, simply click on the tab to which you wish to add the channel, click the Content/Layout link in the upper left hand corner of the MyFAU screen, then select the “add channel” button

where you wish to place the new channel. There are several different categories to choose from when searching for channels to add.

Here are a few examples:

- Administrative Resources: includes a channel for the WOLF system (for travel reimbursement) and

Office Supply and Management (containing links to Office Depot and Corporate Express).

- Applications: includes a Dictionary and Thesaurus channel and a Weather channel.

- FAU: includes a number of useful FAU-related channels

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What's a Channel?

Channels are the blocks of text and information on MyFAU tabs (or pages). They have gray and tan borders, a title and a toolbar.

VIDEO TELECONFERENCING ROOM UPGRADES

The video teleconferencing (VTC) rooms across five of FAU's campuses are slated to receive upgrades this summer. All of IRM's academic videoconferencing rooms will be equally equipped and have the same functionality from campus-to-

campus.

University Learning Resources will conduct training and orientation sessions prior to the start of the fall semester. A full display chart of the simplified operations will be posted in each room and emergency assistance is

only a phone call away. Training of site staff and faculty will consist of a 2 ½ hour hands-on orientation and review of applications, policies and procedures. For specific training, please contact Malcolm McKinney at the scheduling office 7-3698.

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PERSONAL DRIVE SPACE

FAU offers personal drive space to all faculty, staff and students for storing documents and web pages. Your FAUNet ID and password will give you access to your personal drive when you login to any computer connected to the FAU network. This space is automatically mapped as the M: drive and is

also available on the web at <http://andi.fau.edu>.

Your personal drive is made up of two folders: a root folder known as your Home folder and a sub-folder known as your Web folder.

Your Web folder can be accessed on the Internet. While you have full read and

write access to both your Home and Web folders, others who view your Web folder via the internet will have read-only access meaning they cannot modify any of your files.

Personal Drive

Web Folder

Address:

STUDENTS

<http://student.fau.edu/yourusername/web>

STAFF

<http://home.fau.edu/yourusername/web>

VIDEO TELECONFERENCING ROOM UPGRADES

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Scheduling of academic videoconferencing rooms must be made in advance with ULR Scheduling at 7-3698.

IRM invested in these upgrades in order to achieve parity of equipment and operation which will provide faculty and staff with greater ease-of-use while providing supe-

rior graphics and sound quality for all end-users.

The new videoconferencing rooms will provide greater reliability, be easier to operate, and allow faculty to move from room to room and experience the same operational procedures. Additional videoconferencing systems are seen

as one method to reduce travel time and distances for both faculty and students. Support and management of these VTC rooms will be greatly enhanced with new remote management software. For more information contact Douglas Trabert 7-2373 or David John 7-2079.

RESPONDUS-READY TEST BANKS

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The request is immediately sent to the publisher for confirmation and approval. Once approved, the publisher will email the instructor the File Code and password for downloading the test bank using the Respondus or StudyMate software. Once

you have the questions in Respondus or StudyMate you can edit them or select which ones you'd like to publish to your Blackboard course space as quizzes or exams.

If you have not yet installed Respondus or StudyMate on your

computer go to <http://itss.fau.edu> and click on the appropriate link to request your own copy.



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E-CLASSROOMS

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Davie Campus, and one at the Jupiter Campus. These classrooms will be fully operational by the Fall 2005 semester.

For more information on these rooms go to <http://eclassrooms.fau.edu> or contact:

- Northern Campuses – Joanne Julia 6-8514
- Southern Campuses – Susy Quiggle 6-1205
- Boca Raton – Audiovisual Services 7-3707

BLACKBOARD

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calculated questions, numeric response questions, file response, hot spot, multiple fill-in-the-blank, jumbled sentence, opinion scale, short response, either/or, and quiz bowl. Ability to randomize multiple choice questions.

- New Course Map – provides an option to see a detailed view of the course and provides a clickable link to each item.
- What's New Module – alerts users to any key changes or updates since the last time they logged in to Blackboard.

MYFAU CHANNELS

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such as Campus Maps and Personnel Services.

Other categories contain channels that will allow you to select customized news feeds, book and movie reviews, games, and TV listings.

For more information on customizing tabs and channels in MyFAU go to: <http://www.ecs.fau.edu/training/downloads/CustomizingMyFAU.pdf>.

ONLINE TRAINING FOR POPULAR COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

Do you want to learn how to create brochures or flyers in Word? Or maybe you need to figure out how to tweak some digital photographs you've taken.

You can learn how to do all of these things and more in your own time at your own pace by using Element K online training. IRM has licensed online training modules that faculty and staff can use free of charge.

For most software packages there are beginner, intermediate, and advanced level courses on both the Windows and Mac OS platforms. Here is a sample of what's offered:

All Microsoft Office products
Adobe Acrobat Professional
Authorware 5: Level 1
Corel products

Digital Photography
Director & Director MX
Dreamweaver MX
Fireworks MX
Flash MX
FreeHand MX: Level 1 (Mac)
FrontPage
GoLive 6.0: Level 1
Home Publishing 2000
HTML Web Authoring
HTML Programming
Illustrator 10: Level 1
PageMaker 7.0: Level 1
Photoshop 7.0
Premiere 6.0: Introduction
QuarkXPress 4.0

The full list of modules is available on the web at <http://www.ecs.fau.edu/training/onlinetopics.htm>. To sign up to take one of the

online courses, send an e-mail to 3999@fau.edu stating what module you want. You'll then get the license key for the module and will be able to use it whenever you want for 3 months. At the end of the 3 months, you can renew the license as long as no one else wants to take the course.

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