Faculty Technology Tips e-Newsletter

An eNewsletter from Information Services   September / October, 2013

Welcome to the Fall 2013 Semester!

D2L Resource Site:

As you begin a new semester, be sure to visit our D2L Resource Site where you will find a collection of helpful information including training opportunities, forms, documentation, student training videos, instructional video of the week series, and much more!

**Don't Forget --
Activate Your D2L Courses:**

All D2L courses are set as "inactive" upon creation. *Students DO NOT have access to "inactive" courses.* The process below MUST be followed for *each course section at the start of every semester*:

1. Click on "*Edit Course*"
2. Click "*Course Offering Information*"
3. Check the "*Active*" checkbox
4. **Click Save**

Is this Email Legit?

During the semester you will receive messages from the Help Desk reminding you to *never share your password or provide any personal information* when solicited via email. How can you tell if an email message you receive is legitimate? Here is a simple step you can take: Look at the sender's email address or hover over the sender's information – if it's not from @wcupa.edu, it is not from anyone at WCU.

Digital Corner:

Theresa Boppell, the educational technologist in the Digital Corner provides individualized training and assistance in support of a wide range of faculty initiatives. You will find Theresa in A 002. Stop in!

New Turning Technologies Turning Point Software Available for Clicker Users:

For those who are using clickers, there has been a new software update released. Check the Clicker website for download instructions.

myWCU Redesign: When you sign in to myWCU, you will notice some changes. An updated version of myWCU was implemented over the summer. Your myWCU page will have a new look, but you will still have all the functions and features from the previous version. Click here to see an overview of the new features.

Faculty Technology "To Do" List: Information Services has compiled a *Faculty Technology "To Do" List*, which might be useful. The "to do" list has items to consider before, during, and after the semester. Click here to print a copy of the list and you can "check-off" the items that you have already completed.

DEDOOSE – Qualitative Data Analysis Software:

Taking into strong consideration requirements and feedback expressed by faculty, WCU Information Services recently selected Dedoose, a mixed methods research tool to meet the needs of faculty requiring qualitative data analysis software. There is an increasing demand for the software by faculty that perform research and that teach qualitative methods. The decision follows a one and a half year pilot of another popular qualitative data analysis product that did not offer a cost effective solution that met key requirements. Dedoose is a cross platform web based tool accessible from anywhere with a computer connected to the internet. It provides an encrypted, backed up solution with an intuitive interface that supports project teams working simultaneously in real time. These key features match the critical needs of faculty that want to work with the software both on and off campus, collaboratively with other project team members sometimes using different computer platforms. Learn more about Dedoose and try a one month free trial! Faculty and staff that perform qualitative data analysis or teach qualitative methods are eligible for an account. Questions? – Send an email to qda@wcupa.edu.

Monthly Maintenance Schedules:

Information Services Data Center Maintenance -

Information Services will be performing routine maintenance on the computer systems in the WCU Data Centers the **third Saturday every month from 7 a.m. through Sunday 5 p.m.** The maintenance is for installation of recommended software and operating system patches to address the latest known security vulnerabilities and keep our computer systems working efficiently. During this time, various systems may become unavailable for short periods (up to 15 minutes) - **Email, Internet and Desire2Learn (D2L) services should not be affected**.   Contact Networking and Telecom at WCU Networking and Telecommunications or call 610-436-3535 if you have any questions or are aware of an event that needs computing and campus network connectivity on the third weekend of the month.

D2L Monthly Maintenance -

Please be advised that the Desire2Learn Hosting Facility performs **scheduled server maintenance between 1:00AM and 7:00AM on the 2nd Sunday of every month**. During this time, the system will not be available; please try to access the site again at 7:01am EST or shortly thereafter. If you have any questions, please send D2L Services an e-mail.

ACC Lab upgrade: The next time you're in the ACC (ground floor of Anderson Hall) be sure to check out the recently renovated student labs and classrooms!

RamNet Wireless Network:

Over the summer changes were made to the WCU wireless network "RamNet" which will require you to update the certificate on your wireless device. See steps below on how to reconnect your wireless device to the WCU network.

Windows:
1. Connect to wireless network "RamNet"
2. Enter your network user name and password
3. Select connect when presented with the "Connect" or "Terminate" options

Mac:
1. Connect to wireless network "RamNet"
2. Enter your network user name and password
3. Accept the certificate request (May require entering local user credentials)

iOS Devices:
1. Connect to wireless network "RamNet"
2. Enter your network user name and password
3. Select the join option at the top right of the screen
4. Select "accept" to accept the new certificate

Android Devices:
These devices should automatically reconnect to the new certificate.

Security News: WCU's Office of Information Security publishes a newsletter focusing on computer security and actions you can take to stay safe. Click here for the latest edition.