Research & Teaching Tools, April 2007

Homewood Faculty eNews digests summarize some of the resources available to Homewood faculty from the Center for Educational Resources, The Sheridan Libraries, and IT@JH.

JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY

Research and Teaching Tools
A Homewood Faculty e-Newsletter

I Technology Fellowship Symposium
1G Thumb Drives for All Faculty Attendees!

II Classroom Technology Update II
Find a classroom that has the technology that you need.

III Equipment Reservation Available at the CER
Reserve digital cameras, audio recorders and laptops - available now!

IV Mediasite: Linking Knowledge
Record live events - and the slides that go with them - for instant broadcast or archiving!

V Hopkins Library Proxy Service - Remote Access Solution
Get easy access to Johns Hopkins' online resources.

VI Educational Software @ Johns Hopkins
Discounted software is available for Hopkins community.

VII Faculty Spring Survey
Express your opinions and concerns about information technology resources at Hopkins.

VIII Timeline Creator
Timeline Creator has been improved! Create your own timeline more easily than ever.

I Technology Fellowship Symposium

This year's Technology Fellowship Symposium will be held on Monday, April 30, from 2:30-4:30 pm on M-Level of the MSE Library. The event enables faculty-student teams to demonstrate projects they have developed together to enhance undergraduate instruction. Presented in an electronic poster session

format, projects include: Critical Moments in 20th Century American Radical Theater, and Remembering Vietnam from the Krieger School, Painless Radio Design from the Whiting School, and a Music Theory Workbook from the Peabody School. Resources were developed for many departments, including, Romance Languages, Political Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Music Theory, History, Mathematics, and Writing Seminars. Descriptions of current and past projects are available online, where they are grouped by division, year, or department. Information on the Technology Fellowship program may also be found on the CER site.

All faculty attendees will receive a free 1 gig USB drive, which includes information about the Technology Fellowship Program. Student attendees are also very welcome and for visiting at least 6 projects and getting their programs stamped, they are invited to have a free ice cream and a coupon for coffee from Café Q. Staff of the Center for Educational Resources, which administers the program, will be present to answer questions about this year's projects and the program in general.

For more information contact Cheryl Wagner at cwagner@jhu.edu or 410-516-7181.

II Classroom Technology Update II

New equipment installations and upgrades have been transforming instructional technology on the Homewood campus, and now a new web-based search tool allows instructors to search for classrooms that have the features they need for lectures and seminars. Try it now!

To use this tool, just click on the box or boxes that correspond to the type(s) of equipment that you needs. Then choose the "find a room" option at the bottom of the screen to see a list of available options.

For more classroom information and a list of the newest upgrades, visit the general site: http://www.jhu.edu/classrooms/.

III Equipment Reservation Available at the CER

A faculty multimedia lab is now available at the Center for Educational Resources, where instructors can reserve equipment such as digital cameras, digital audio recorders, video cameras, tablet PCs and other multimedia equipment. In addition to the equipment, instructors can request training sessions to familiarize themselves with their equipment of choice. These resources can help with presentations, teaching, short and long-term projects or creating CDs and DVDs. Here are a few examples of what you can reserve:

- Canon GL2 Professional Camcorder
- Digital Audio Recorder
- Digital SLR Still Camera
- JVC Everio Hard Drive Camcorder
- Dual Processor Apple Computers for Video Editing
- Dual Processor PC for scanning and Audio
- Mobile Classroom Computer Cart
- Tablet PC

For a complete list of available items and to make reservations, click here.

For more information, contact Brian Cole at bcole@jhu.edu or 410-516-5418.

IV Mediasite: Linking Knowledge

Mediasite, a hardware and software toolset that allows users to record and share audio and visual information, is now available for use on the Homewood campus. With these tools, instructors can record lectures or presentations (complete with accompanying slides that can be searched through thumbnail representations) and post them to the web for others to view either real-time or later, on-demand. This is a great tool for capturing faculty candidates' presentations for viewing by Hopkins faculty who may be on travel during candidate visits. Presenters can also conduct real-time polls and question and answer sessions, creating an interactive environment that digitally connects presenter with his/her audience better than ever before.

A portable recording device, capture card, and a license for five enterprise servers have been purchased by Johns Hopkins enterprise IT services to launch this program; and the equipment is ready for reservation. Material can be viewed from a live web-stream or from the server as it records. Previously recorded files can also be uploaded to the server.

For more information, visit www.sonicfoundry.com and contact Steve Frantz at srf@jhu.edu or 410-516-4031.

V Hopkins Library Proxy Service - Remote Access Solution

Hopkins library users now have two options for accessing online library resources from off campus. In addition to the JHSecure Virtual Private Network (VPN), the Sheridan Libraries now provide a new proxy service that operates with almost any current browser. This replaces the RAUL proxy that was discontinued last fall. Many

people will find the new proxy service convenient to use in remote locations where they aren't able to run JHSecure.

The new proxy service does not require any downloads or browser configuration. Simply click on the link to the database you wish to use through the Sheridan Libraries' website, and if you're off campus you'll be directed to the JHED login screen. Enter your JHED ID and password, and you will have instant access to the resource. After logging in, you can read online journals, search for articles and retrieve e-reserves as long as your browser window remains open.

If you are on campus, you won't need the proxy unless you are in a building that has a private IP address. It is also helpful to choose "enable cookies" on your browser, since both the proxy and certain databases send cookies when you connect.

For more information, [visit the Proxy FAQ website](#).

VI Educational Software @ Johns Hopkins

Need software for your course and/or Hopkins machine? Visit SPARS (https://spars.jhu.edu) to purchase software at educational discounts.
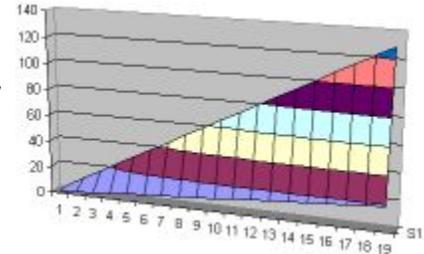
The Software Licensing Information Center (SLIC) is a cost recovery unit that offers a variety of software programs from companies such as Microsoft, Adobe, and Wolfram to faculty, staff, and students. Beyond mainstream products, the educational software department offers software that addresses specific research/educational uses or facilitates day to day administrative tasks at Hopkins. You can find live web conferencing software such as *Elluminate*, online data storage service with *U-Vault*, or, you can completely erase everything on your hard drive using *KillDisk*. Products are also available from *Design Science*, *RedHat*, *Abaqus*, and *Tecplot*, to name a few. Since these are products purchased in volume for educational use, they are often deeply discounted.

You might wonder how we decide which titles to carry. SLIC welcomes suggestions on software titles for our product line! Send us your suggestions, and we will email various Hopkins user lists to assess the breadth of user interest. When there is considerable response, we pursue a site license. If the usage wanes, we may remove it from our product line because it is not sustainable. Our products are listed online and can also be purchased online via our Software Procurement and Renewal System (SPARS).

Please keep in mind that software purchased via SPARS is NOT for personal use; only a few products are permitted for use at home. Products can be purchased using departmental budget numbers; students pay via check/money order or cash (not all products offered are available to students). For more information, contact the educational software department via email at software@jhu.edu or via phone at 410-516-7780.

VII   Faculty Spring Survey

The Biennial Homewood Faculty Technology Survey will be conducted this spring to obtain faculty opinions, issues, concerns, suggestions, and recommendations for JHU's information technology resources and their impact on the quality of teaching and research experiences offered by JHU.

Included on the survey will be questions asking about your technology-related research needs, how you use instructional technology; what you want to learn and how you want to learn to use digital technologies; and in the event of a prolonged emergency, where face-to-face interaction with students could not occur, which instructional elements would be essential to permit remote delivery of your course(s).

Incentives will be offered - please take this opportunity to make your priorities known!

For more information contact Deborah Savage at Deborah.Savage@jhu.edu or 410-516-2924.

VIII   Timeline Creator

The Center for Educational Resources (CER) developed Timeline Creator to enhance both instruction and presentations. Originally designed for the introductory art history courses, the tool has been revised to accommodate any discipline and it has been downloaded by over 10,000 individuals, including numerous Hopkins faculty members.

Timeline Creator allows the display of information in up to six relational tabs. For example, for an American History timeline, you might create a "presidents" tab and a "culture" tab to highlight cultural developments underway when specific presidents were in office. You could add an "economics" tab, a tab that contains demographic samples during various presidencies, or a tab devoted to diplomatic history. For each event on the timeline, you can post descriptions, digital images, and even audio and video features that illustrate the topics. A search feature is also available, which enables users to find text from events within the timeline.

To create your own timeline, download the software at http://timeline.cer.jhu.edu/. The Timeline Creator is available for both Windows and Mac operating systems. JAVA V 1.4.2 should be installed; it is freely available on the Timeline Creator website.

For more information, contact Reid Sczerba at (410) 516-5198 or rsczerb1@jhu.edu.