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WV Statewide Technology Conference 2011 is a collection of numerous technologies that advance the art of teaching. These include, but are not limited to, distance learning, the web, email, high tech classrooms, electronic books, information systems, high speed communications, and amazing computers. Technology is integral to the providing of a well-rounded education. It opens doors to opportunities that students could not access otherwise. Conference tracks this year include: statewide technology partnerships and resources; technology in education; digital citizenship; security and network management; telecommunications technologies; web development; distance learning; virtual learning; and cloud computing.

Conference committee members are: Kathy Musick (WVNET), Conference Coordinator and Vendor and Sponsorship Information; Phil Snitz (WVNET), Billing Information; Karen Saffron (WVNET), General Information; Brenda Morris (Dept. of Ed) and Kent Nowviskie (DHHR), Program; Cyndi Fizer and Pam Harless (Dept. of Ed), Registration; Brenda Williams (Dept. of Ed) and Mike Karolchik (WVNET), Speakers; Mike Karolchik, Conference Website.

Please check our web site and REGISTER NOW http://conference.wvnet.edu/attendee-registration You won’t want to miss the social event on Tuesday evening — Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise. Also, a wide variety of sponsorship opportunities, i.e., platinum sponsorship, gold sponsorship, silver sponsorship, conference bag, conference padfolio, conference program, guide, etc. are available for the discerning vendor http://conference.wvnet.edu/sponsorship See you at the conference!!

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF TECHNOLOGY

The 7th Annual West Virginia Statewide Technology Conference 2011 presents “Unlocking the Potential of Technology”. Conference Coordinator Kathy Musick reports this premier conference for technology in education in West Virginia http://conference.wvnet.edu will bring together sessions, exhibits and events to stimulate your mind and inspire your creativity. A wide range of constituents including K-12, higher education and state agencies will be in attendance. Also in attendance will be some 60+ vendors showing off their new technologies. This year’s conference is being held August 2-4, 2011 in Morgantown, West Virginia, at the Waterfront Place Hotel and the Morgantown Event Center http://morgantowneventcenter.com/ (which opened in 2010 and features state-of-the-art design and engineering).

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VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

In this issue continued:

WVVLN Advisory Forum Meets for First Time and Elects Chair/Dr. Roxann Humbert Hired Part-Time by HEPC
Dan O’Hanlon Named Chair, WV Broadband Deployment Council
Flying Under the Radar
The Wizardry of OZ

DID YOU KNOW...

The Blackboard World 2011 conference is open for registration now. To get more information, check out the following website: http://www.blackboard.com/BbWorld/2011/Home.aspx

The Banner Users Group meets monthly via conference call on the third Thursday at 2:00 p.m. to discuss a wide range of topics of interest to our WV community. Next call is May 19, 2011. To subscribe to this listserv list, email:
listserv@listserv.wvnet.edu with "subscribe wvnet-bug" in the body of the message or contact the WVNET helpdesk at 800-253-1558.

BEE FACTS...One bee needs to fly the equivalent of twice around the world to produce a jar of honey.
**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

"Beautiful job on the newsletter, Fran! But I have to ask... which stories did Katie Barnes do? She might need a byline from now on!"...Dr. Monica G. Brooks, Marshall University

I should have responded to the first newsletter you and Dan published. Now I am glad I waited. This edition is a great one as well; it is so bright and refreshing! I enjoyed the news from WVNET and hearing about all of the exciting activity in Morgantown. I have known Allen Daugherty and Kathy Musick forever. Also, I used to see others from WVNET at meetings here in Charleston. Keep up the good work. I hope to stop by the next time in the area"...Homer Sweeney, Client Executive, CDI IT Solutions

"Nicely done! This is a good way to keep folks informed about the work that WVNET is doing for the state!"...Dr. Kathy Butler, Vice Chancellor of State Colleges, Senior Director of Academic Affairs, HEPC

"Thanks Fran, and thanks for the picture. Now I know who I'm communicating with. Nice newsletter Madam Editor"...David Williams, CIO, WV State Auditor's Office, Chair, ITC

Quote for this issue...If you want to gather honey, don't kick over the beehive.

~Abraham Lincoln

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**ON A MORE PERSONAL NOTE, KATIE SAYS...**

⇒ Did I tell you the one about the woman that walks into a pet food store to buy a bag of cat food and walks out with a cocker spaniel? This was none other than WVNET coworker DBA-Lead Denise Gwinn. Actually, it wasn’t quite that quick but almost. Denise applied to and was approved by Animal Friends of North Central WV [http://www.animalfriendswv.org/index.html](http://www.animalfriendswv.org/index.html) before she could pick him up. "Blackie" is a happy, sweet little fellow who spent his first six years chained to a box. Denise highly recommends getting a rescue dog.

⇒ Some staff members will do just about anything anywhere to advertise WVNET. Check out the WVNET denim shirt Manager, Administrative Applications, Bonnie Lynch is wearing — and this results-oriented woman who shows off her catch of the day during a remote fishing trip with husband Rich. Rich, you out there somewhere, buddy?

⇒ WVNET coworker and IT Consultant-Senior Marcie Layman reports her American Bulldog "Spyke" turned one year old on April 23. Shown with his birthday hat, Spyke was anxious for the photo op to be over so that he could scarf up canine appropriate ice cream and treats and, he said, the fact of the matter was this particular newsletter had basically "gone to the dogs"!!!

⇒ Speaking of birthdays, a big HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following WVNET staff members with birthdays in May: Dan O’Hanlon, Lola Fincham, George Cook and Mike Karolchik : )
The members of the West Virginia Virtual Learning Network (WVVLN) and Instructional Technology Forums met via conference call on April 27. The first order of business was to combine the two forums into one group. The group decided to keep WVVLN as part of their name since the webpages already existed and a listserv has been created. The newly formed group will be called the West Virginia Virtual Learning Network Advisory Forum. The West Virginia Virtual Learning Network (WVVLN) is the distance education consortium of the 11 state colleges and universities and 10 community and technical colleges of West Virginia. The primary mission of WVVLN is to provide West Virginia citizens with access to educational programs from the state’s institutions of higher education by 100% online education technologies. Visit the WVVLN webpages at wvvln.org.

Dr. Roxann Humbert, Fairmont State University, was elected Chair. Dr. David Ayersman, New River Community and Technical College, was elected Vice-Chair.

The group identified three main areas of focus for the upcoming year and established a sub-committee for each. The first sub-committee will be focusing on the ruling regarding the federal government’s guidelines for state reciprocity for online classes. Dr. Sue Day-Perrault from West Virginia University is chairing the committee. Assisting Sue will be Connie Fox from Bridgemont Community and Technical College, Bill Bennett from Bluefield State College, Sherri Ritter from Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College and Crystal Stewart and Monica Brooks from Marshall University. The second committee will focus on identifying hardware, software, and other resources for statewide licensing. Cindy Hart from West Virginia University is chairing the committee. Assisting Cindy is David Ayersman from New River Community and Technical College, Eunice Masters from WV School of Osteopathic Medicine, and Shanna D’Utoya from Blue Ridge Community and Technical College. The third committee will focus on revising the WVVLN web site to make it easier for information to be submitted and viewed as well as the methodology for class approvals for the WVVLN site.

Roxann Humbert from Fairmont State University is chairing this committee. Assisting Roxann is Connie Fox from Bridgemont Community and Technical College, Amadiea Marks from Glenville, Chris Comas from Mountwest Community and Technical College, and Sherri Ritter from Kanawha Valley Community and Technical College. The West Virginia Virtual Learning Network Advisory Forum will meet again at the Seventh Annual West Virginia Statewide Technology Conference in August (see feature article on page 1).

Special Note

Dr. Roxann Humbert has been hired part-time by the HEPC as the Statewide Coordinator for Higher Education e-Learning. She will be helping to develop policy for distance education as well as working to improve the WVVLN website.

WV Broadband Deployment Council Continued...

Chair, West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council

Former Cabell Circuit Judge Dan O’Hanlon has been designated West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council Chair by state Commerce Secretary Keith Burdette who stepped down as the board’s chairman May 5th after appointing his replacement. Citing the reason for his action Burdette said the state Development Office, which he oversees, would help companies apply for broadband grant funds, while he would vote whether to approve the grants — creating a conflict of interest, said Burdette, who will no longer serve on the council. Earlier this year, the state Higher Education Policy Commission created a new position, vice chancellor of technology, and hired O’Hanlon for the job.

O’Hanlon who didn’t previously serve on the Broadband Council, led Thursday’s meeting after Burdette left. The West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council is expected to distribute more than $4.4 million in grants. The Council voted unanimously Thursday to work with the Legislature during an upcoming special session—most likely in August—to change a state law that includes at least 18 requirements for grant applicants. Council members also voted to start developing “emergency rules” for grant applications in case the Legislature doesn’t change the law. They also plan to ask the Legislature to allocate additional broadband funding—presumably about $5 million a year—on an annual basis. Also, the council unveiled the state’s first “broadband mapping” website, www.wvbroadbandmap.org. The interactive map is designed to show areas with and without high-speed Internet service. The website allows people to type in their addresses and get a list of telecommunications carriers that offer broadband, DSL or wireless, in the area. The council’s next meeting is June 15.

Verne Britton Elected WVNET Representative to ACCE

Systems Programmer-Lead Verne Britton has been elected as the WVNET Representative to the Advisory Council of Classified Employees (ACCE) for the period July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013. Congratulations, Verne!!

News You Can Use ☀

2011 Interim Committee Meetings

May 16-18, 2011
June 13-15, 2011
July 11-13, 2011
August 1-3, 2011
September 12-14, 2011
October 11-13, 2011
November 14-16, 2011
December 12-14, 2011
January 8-10, 2012
FLYING UNDER THE RADAR

At the speed of light, and a lot of times quite transparently:

- Manager, Administrative Applications, Bonnie Lynch reports the P20 Project will be using various IBM Cognos Business Intelligence Suite products and we may be able to take advantage of extending user licenses and possibly some Cognos training in conjunction with this project. Business Intelligence tools like Cognos facilitate development of in-demand institutional dashboards for administrators, particularly when combined with Banner ODS. The P20 Project is the Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLED) being developed to help PK-12, higher education, workforce development, legislators, parents and students make sense of the various data about educational outcomes by tracking student progress from pre-school through graduation and into the workforce.

- Blackboard Learn 9.1 development is underway at WVNET and Fairmont State. WVNET is excited to be deploying this new courseware version with our existing WebCT customers and other campuses previously hosted at FSU.

- WVNET has contracted with Global Knowledge to conduct a VMware vSphere: Advanced Fast Track [4.x] training. The class is scheduled for the week of June 13-17, 2011 at WVNET, can accommodate 15 students and is full. The cost for an individual attending this course would be $5,100 not including out of state travel. Attendees are from K12, higher education and state agencies. WVNET is able to provide the training for:

  $8,375

THE WIZARDRY OF OZ

Do you need OZ?

⇒ Does your organization have many problems and many tasks that need to be organized and completed? Do you have numerous people working on different things and you need a way to coordinate what they are doing? Do all of your problems get resolved or do some fall through the cracks? Do you remember who did what, when, how? These are the kinds of things that OZ can help you with. OZ creates and manages documents that describe every piece of work at your organization from first report to completion.

⇒ WVNET OZ Tracking System provides a convenient, intuitive and versatile interface for logging and tracking problems, projects and other things. Managers can easily find out what their staff are doing and what has been accomplished. Technicians and Help Desk Staff can access an extensive knowledge base including past problems, solutions, stored documentation and web-based information. OZ will also manage any kind of data you like, including problems, tasks and projects. It also provides some facilities management capabilities. OZ further provides many personal management functions including notes, links and schedules.

Getting OZ for your institution.

⇒ A growing community of educational and government institutions are using OZ to track their problems and tasks. WVNET offers OZ as a subscription service. We run it on our server, you connect and use from anywhere on the Internet. You can manage your own configuration or we can help you. We maintain our Linux-based server at the highest possible level. Our operation includes 24x7x365 helpdesk and tech support, uninterruptible power, and daily backups with offsite copies for disaster recovery.

Pricing.

⇒ Just fifty dollars per month for five supporter seats.

For more information, contact Mike Karolchik at 304.293.5192 x284 or mike@mail.wvnet.edu