ITS News and Announcements for Fall 2009

Instructional Technology Services wishes you a successful Fall Semester 2009! Here are a few announcements about some changes made over the summer. As always, ITS is here to meet technology training and equipment needs for your classes and events on campus.

Technology Enhanced Classrooms

As part of on-going capitol projects, 5 TECs had major overhauls this summer with significant improvements to both aesthetics and the technological functionality. When you go upstairs in BC, you will see that four classrooms have been dramatically improved. BC 201, 202, 203 and 216 have all been redone aesthetically and upgraded to new Tier 3 classrooms.

In addition to new paint, carpeting and student seating, LC 28 is now a Tier 3 classroom that will support HD projection, Surround Sound audio, and has wired power and data in the seating to support student laptop use.

If you have specific questions about individual rooms, please see http://www.drew.edu/depts/its/tec/grid.php. The grid gives you an overview of the equipment in each room, and you can click on the room number on the left column for more information.

Introduction of New A/V Systems Specialist

We are pleased to announce that Steve Paddack, formerly of Telecom, joined ITS in July as our new A/V Systems Specialist. His primary duties will be A/V Systems installations, faculty assistance and maintenance in the Technology Enhanced Classrooms, but Steve will also be handling evening MRC setups, and answering both 1ITS and the MRC Event Support Line (973.665.2100) in the evenings during the week (Monday - Thursday). Please join us in welcoming Steve!

Faculty Lab

Moodle

We are happy to introduce our new design for https://moodle.drew.edu/. We hope it will make your experience easier and that you can find everything you need quickly.

As we enter the second full year of Moodle for Drew, we are glad to see that more and more faculty are taking advantage of the system and its features! Please let us know if you need a refresher. Workshops are posted at http://www.drew.edu/depts/its/training/calendar.php, or please let Sarah or Gamin know if you would like an individual appointment. Remember that all courses are unavailable by default, so make sure you make them available to your students. Instructions to do this are located here: https://moodle.drew.edu/mod/resource/view.php?id=26920

Laptop Loaners

The laptop loaner pool has been streamlined, and older machines that were no longer working very well have been removed. This is good news, of course, because it means the computers we will be loaning out are more reliable and will meet your needs. Although the computers are better, we now have fewer, so we need to emphasize that all loaner requests must be made online and in advance. Our student assistants will not be authorized to approve loans, so please be sure to plan ahead and fill out the form at: http://www.drew.edu/depts/its/loaners/loaners.php. Please see that link for further information about new criteria for loans of laptop computers.

Media Resource Center

Because we know that student club and other budgets have been cut, the MRC has updated its fee schedule. Some charges are lower than in the past, and we hope this will help you hold events this academic year. Please take the time to review our pricing categories as you plan your events for the year. The categories and the new price list can be found at http://www.drew.edu/depts/its.aspx?id=17351.

Additions to MRC Equipment

Digital Cameras

Digital cameras (for still pictures) that used to be housed in the FacLab/Staff Lab have been moved to the MRC.

Speaker phones

Speaker phones have been moved from Telecom to the MRC. You may want to arrange a phone meeting on campus with several people in one room. In such cases, it is often useful to rent a teleconference/speaker phone unit specially designed for this purpose. To arrange to rent a speaker phone, contact the Media Resource Center at x3342.

Please check the MRC web site for more new equipment!

theBoard

The MRC will be using a new reservation system this fall. Based on software that is custom-designed and written by our staff, this system will help streamline MRC requests and provide more efficient service to our customers. Each reservation that you make will be given a unique order number, and we ask that you make a point of using that order number when making any changes or have questions about the order. Please stop by to see theBoard in action at the MRC!

Scheduling Films on Drew TV

Just a reminder to schedule films for your classes early to ensure best viewing times. Please contact Jeannie Kosakowski at x3521.

Video Collection

We will continue converting the Drew film collection to DVD and match funds for new films on DVD for your courses. Please contact Jeannie Kosakowski at x3521 for more information.

Should you have any questions about items listed in this email, or anything relating to Instructional Technology Services, please write me at gbartle@drew.edu or call me at x3160.

Thanks for reading, and have a great semester!
Gamin Bartle
Director
Instructional Technology Services
973 408-3160
gbartle@drew.edu