

Committee Update

Four members of the *EDUCAUSE Quarterly* Editorial Committee finish their three-year terms in 2001: Patricia Keir of San Diego Miramar College, Cheryl Kester of John Brown University, Larry Levine of Dartmouth College, and Shirley Payne of the University of Virginia. Levine served as chair of the committee for 2001, and Payne was chair for 2000. Continuing committee member Judy Caruso of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, will serve as chair for 2002.

The *EQ* Editorial Committee carries out the peer review of material submitted to the journal for publication. In addition to evaluating the quality and appropriateness of the submissions as feature articles in *EQ*, the reviewers provide comments and suggestions to the authors to help them strengthen their exposition.

At the end of a July-to-July yearly cycle, the *EQ* Editorial Committee members select the best contribution to the journal from among the eligible features published in the preceding four issues. The winners of the *EDUCAUSE Quarterly* Contribution of the Year

award are honored at the *EDUCAUSE* Annual Conference and split a \$1,000 stipend sponsored by SCT, An *EDUCAUSE* Platinum Partner. The editorial committee members are likewise honored for their service at the Recognition Breakfast held during the conference.

New members joining the *EQ* Editorial Committee for three-year terms starting in 2002 will attend the *EQ* meeting at the annual conference in Indianapolis. This formal turnover of committee membership gives the new participants a chance to meet the 2001 committee and learn about the management of the journal.

Joining the *EQ* committee for 2002 are Mary Doyle of Washington State University, John O'Brien of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, Jeff Overholtzer of Washington and Lee University, Pamela Snelson of Franklin and Marshall College, and Warren Wilson of the University of South Dakota. *EQ* welcomes their participation in the vital peer review process and thanks the departing members for contributing to the consistently high quality of editorial content in the journal.

Transfer of the .edu Domain

In a brief ceremony at the U.S. Department of Commerce, Assistant Secretary of Commerce Nancy Victory met with Brian Hawkins, president of *EDUCAUSE*, and other leaders in the higher education, to recognize the awarding of management of the .edu



Karl F. Brevitz, Brian L. Hawkins, Nancy J. Victory, George R. Boggs, and Michael A. Baer at the Department of Commerce

top-level domain to *EDUCAUSE*. Present at the event, in addition to Victory and Hawkins, were Michael Baer, senior vice president of the American Council on Education; George Boggs, president and CEO of the American Association of Community Colleges; Karl Brevitz, director of legal resources of the National Association of College and University Attorneys; and Mark Luker, vice president of *EDUCAUSE*. Under *EDUCAUSE*'s management, the domain is now open to U.S. regionally accredited, degree-granting institutions of higher education, including community colleges and other two-year schools. More information can be found at <<http://www.educause.edu/edudomain/>>.

NSF Award

EDUCAUSE is part of a group of university-led organizations and research centers that will work together to create and deploy a standardized set of middleware tools.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded the groups \$12 million in a three-year cooperative agreement to fund the project, called the NSF Middleware Initiative (NMI). The goal of NMI is to integrate emerging middleware components into a well-tested, comprehensive, commercial-quality, middleware distribution package that runs on multiple platforms. These middleware distributions will be disseminated to research labs and universities worldwide.

The NSF award is divided between two teams. A team formed by Internet2 includes *EDUCAUSE* and the Southeastern Universities Research Association (SURA). A second team will establish the GRIDS (Grids Research Integration Deployment and Support) Center.

The GRIDS Center will have two main functions: developing and integrating the NMI architecture, and packaging, testing, and supporting the NMI software distributions. The Internet2 team will develop an NMI architecture that focuses on interrealm directories, security, and naming, and will integrate these services into a variety of key applications. The team will also promote widespread, consistent, and rapid deployment of these technologies to the higher education and research communities. *EDUCAUSE* will provide broad public promotion for project events and disseminate the resulting products, including an overall project work plan, white papers, new directory and object class standards, best practices, and links to other sites involved in the project. For more information, see <<http://www.educause.edu/nmi/>>.

EDUCAUSE Welcomes New Board Members

This year saw the first all-electronic election for the EDUCAUSE Board of Directors. Platform statements, bios, and responses to a set of election questions were available online, and ballots were cast at the Web site.

The two newly elected Board members are Kathy Christoph and Perry Hanson. A third new member, David Ward, was appointed by the current Board. All new members will serve four-year terms beginning January 1, 2002.

Kathy Christoph is director of the Division of Information Technology (DoIT) Academic Technology Solutions at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where she has also served as assistant vice chancellor and directed DoIT Learning Technology and Distance Education. Christoph has been a frequent presenter at EDUCAUSE and Educom events, and currently serves on the board of Seminars on Academic Computing.

Perry Hanson is CIO and associate

provost for educational technology at Brandeis University. Hanson previously was the chief technology officer at Williams College. For the past decade, he has been very active in the community, serving in a variety of roles with EDUCAUSE, CAUSE, NERCOMP, and Seminars on Academic Computing.

David Ward is the president of the American Council on Education, having come from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where he served as provost, chancellor, associate dean, and professor. Ward has also served the University Corporation for Advanced Internet Development, and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

EDUCAUSE also extends its sincere thanks to the three departing members, Ronald D. Bleed, William H. Graves, and Donald R. Riley. EDUCAUSE is grateful for their commitment to higher education and for their service on the Board.

ECAR Research Contracts

In late September the EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research (ECAR) awarded its first two contracts for research studies. ECAR research studies are substantial reports, reflecting significant research efforts on topics of strategic importance to higher education.

One of the contracts was awarded to INPUT, whose research study will address "The Outlook for ASP and IT Outsourcing in U.S. Higher Education." The goals of this research are to identify the current state of outsourcing and use of application service providers (ASPs) in higher education, to determine the levels of current satisfaction and of anticipated institutional investment for the next two years, and to analyze ASP services in the context of other forms of IT outsourcing.

The other contract was awarded to

IDC, which will study "Directions in Wireless Communications in Higher Education." The IDC report will identify the state and rate of adoption of wireless communication technologies; determine the conditions under which wireless communications will replace the wire-based infrastructure; and address how wireless communications infrastructures influence the way in which higher education constituents socialize information technologies.

Both studies will use a variety of qualitative, quantitative, and case study methodologies to produce detailed reports that will help higher education leaders make more informed decisions about directions for information technology on their campuses. For more information, visit <http://www.educause.edu/ecar/>.

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