

Commerce to Transfer .edu

In April, the U.S. Department of Commerce announced its intent to enter into a cooperative agreement with EDUCAUSE for the management of the .edu domain name. The transfer of responsibility for this top-level domain to EDUCAUSE will ensure the reliability and integrity of the .edu designation for institutions of higher education.

The agreement reached between EDUCAUSE and the Department of Commerce has been strongly endorsed by leading associations representing U.S. higher education. According to Dr. Stanley O. Ikenberry, president of the American Council for Education, "EDUCAUSE management of .edu represents an important step for the participation of colleges and universities in networked education. This proposal has our full support."

Under current rules for the administration of Internet names in the .edu domain, two-year colleges do not meet the criteria for obtaining .edu names. This means that community colleges cannot register for names in the domain, leaving them without Internet names in the domain that traditionally designates U.S. institutions of higher education.

As part of its agreement with the Department of Commerce, EDUCAUSE proposes that membership in .edu be expanded to encompass the community of regionally accredited U.S. institutions of higher education, including accredited U.S. community colleges. Dr. George R. Boggs, president of the American Association of Community Colleges, said, "Community colleges agree that admission to the .edu domain is very important, and we stand solidly behind the pro-

posed assignment to EDUCAUSE."

Dr. Brian L. Hawkins, president of EDUCAUSE, said that his organization "welcomes the chance to serve and advance the state of networking in the community of higher education through the stewardship of .edu." Institutions already in the .edu domain will retain their membership, and institutions applying for a .edu name will not be required to become members of EDUCAUSE. EDUCAUSE will manage the domain on a cost-recovery basis and without financial support from the U.S. government.

A new section of the EDUCAUSE Web site (<http://www.educause.edu/edudomain/>) contains information about the .edu domain, including answers to frequently asked questions and links to Department of Commerce Internet resources dealing with the agreement.

ECAR News

At their April meeting, the EDUCAUSE Board of Directors unanimously endorsed the program and financial plans for ECAR, the EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research. The new research center will sponsor four major research studies in its first year and will provide subscribers with more than 30 significant analyses annually. Certain ECAR subscribers will also have access to the research developed by Eduventures.com, the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based research firm that is partnering with ECAR.

EDUCAUSE Vice President Richard N. Katz will head ECAR. The center's work will be accomplished through a network of individual and institutional researchers. ECAR will also provide funding to encourage promising faculty to undertake research in areas of interest to EDUCAUSE members.

EDUCAUSE 2001 Hotel Reservations Online

New for EDUCAUSE 2001 is a system that allows you to make your hotel reservations online. This new Passkey feature shows you all of the EDUCAUSE 2001 hotels and their distances to the convention center on a map of the area. You can narrow the list of hotels based on room availability dates, price, or specific hotel brand, and for each hotel you can access information about amenities provided, optional services, cancellation policies, and more.

In order to access the hotel reservation system you will need first to register for the conference. This provides equal and fair access to the available rooms and ensures that those committed to attending EDUCAUSE 2001 will be able to reserve a room in the block. You can make hotel reservations at any time after your conference regis-

tration is submitted. Doing this guarantees up-to-date information from the automated system about room availability and prevents overbookings. This new system will also minimize future increases in conference fees that result from significant sections of the room blocks being reserved but left unfilled or cancelled at the time of the conference.

EDUCAUSE strives to have simple and efficient registration for its events. EDUCAUSE 2000 saw the introduction of a very successful registration desk and name badge process. With the added convenience of this new hotel reservation system, attending the EDUCAUSE Annual Conference just became one step easier. For more information, visit <http://www.educause.edu/conference/e2001/>.

Constituent Group Added

A new EDUCAUSE Constituent Group has been added to the list of more than two dozen special-interest discussion groups. The Web Portals group focuses on solution-independent portal technologies, including Internet strategies and home-grown versus commercial solutions. Discussions focus on such issues as Internet strategies involved in making a decision to move forward with a portal; which vendors, open-source products, and home-grown solutions work best for individual institutions; and integration with backend systems, such as Blackboard, WebCT, or PeopleSoft.

Like all Constituent Groups, this one meets each year at the EDUCAUSE annual conference and conducts online discussions throughout the year. Also recently added are the Change Leadership Group, which addresses the leadership and management challenges posed by the dramatic changes in higher education; and the Large Campus Change Group, focusing on the challenges facing large research institutions.

Constituent Groups are open to anyone interested. For a complete list of groups, or for information about how to join the lists, visit <http://www.educause.edu/cg/cg.html>.

EDUCAUSE Directors

Professional Development

EDUCAUSE has appointed Cynthia Golden as the Executive Director of Professional Development. In this newly created position, which she begins in August 2001, Golden will have responsibility for coordinating the content of all EDUCAUSE professional development activities.

Golden currently serves as Executive Director of Computing and Technology Services at Duquesne University. Prior to going to Duquesne, Golden was manager of business applications in the Information Systems division at MIT. She has served on the CAUSE Board of Directors and has been a frequent presenter at CAUSE, Educom, and EDUCAUSE events for more than a decade.

Communications

Peter B. DeBlois will join EDUCAUSE as the Director of Communications in late July 2001. Since 1985, DeBlois has been University Registrar at Syracuse University, where he has also served as Director of Registration and Records, Assistant Director of Freshman English, Faculty Visitor for Project Advance, and Development Editor for the Center for

Instructional Development.

As EDUCAUSE Director of Communications, DeBlois will work with the association's communications, information services and internet strategies, and publications teams to further strengthen member communications, develop new opportunities for interaction among focused practitioner communities, and build media and corporate relations, portal opportunities, and Web-based knowledge resources.

Publishing

In March 2001, Nancy Hays was appointed the Director of Publishing for EDUCAUSE. She joined the organization last fall as the editor of *EDUCAUSE Quarterly* following 15 years as an editor at the IEEE Computer Society. As a Group Managing Editor at the Computer Society, she oversaw editorial content and production of five peer-reviewed technical journals. In her new position at EDUCAUSE, she continues to manage *EDUCAUSE Quarterly* and oversees *EDUCAUSE Review*, the EDUCAUSE book program, white papers and monographs, and editorial support for all EDUCAUSE content, printed and online.

EDUCAUSE Quarterly Summer 2001 (ISSN 1528-5324; USPS 458-350). The journal is published quarterly by EDUCAUSE, 4772 Walnut Street, Suite 206, Boulder, CO 80301-2538. Periodicals postage paid at Boulder, Colorado, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address changes to EDUCAUSE, 4772 Walnut Street, Suite 206, Boulder, CO 80301-2538. The journal is also online at www.educause.edu/pub/eq/eq.html.

Circulation: 7,300. Subscriptions are available to individuals at EDUCAUSE member organizations at an annual rate of \$24 (\$40 outside North America); to individuals at non-member organizations at an annual rate of \$52 (\$72 outside North America); and to all academic libraries at a special rate of \$24 (\$40 outside North America). Questions about subscriptions, address changes, or membership should be directed to the customer service department of EDUCAUSE (info@educause.edu or 303-449-4430).

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