

## New in Teaching and Learning

EDUCAUSE has released *Educating the Net Generation*, edited by Diana G. Oblinger, EDUCAUSE vice president, and James L. Oblinger, North Carolina State University chancellor. This new e-book takes a look at the unique characteristics of the next generation of learners, called the Net Generation or Millennials, who have grown up with information technology.

The book is intended to help college and university administrators, faculty, trustees, and directors not only better understand these learners but also evaluate the efficacy of their current programs and practices. The implications for different types of institutions are considered, and illustrative cases provide tangible examples of how institutions have changed to meet the needs and expecta-

tions of this unique group. The book can be accessed via the EDUCAUSE Resource Center by looking up the title at <<http://www.educause.edu/Search/644>>.

Also touching on the topic of teaching and learning are two new online discussion groups, the Instructional Technologies Constituent Group and the Learning Space Design Constituent Group. They, like the other EDUCAUSE constituent groups, are open, informal communities of practice that enable exchange of information online throughout the year and in person at the EDUCAUSE Annual Conference. You can join these groups and search their online archives in the Teaching and Learning section of the Constituent Group page at <<http://www.educause.edu/groups>>.

## Also in the News

The EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research has released *Information Technology Funding in Higher Education*, a comprehensive study of the state of IT funding in college and university environments. Written by Phil Goldstein, the study assesses overall trends in IT funding, gauges the adequacy of future funding, and identifies a set of best practices in the financial management of technology. Publicly accessible key findings and the complete study (available through subscription or purchase) are found at <<http://www.educause.edu/ResearchStudies/1010>>.

EDUCAUSE has entered into a partnership with the Center for Internet Security (CIS), an organization that develops consensus security-configuration benchmarks for the most widely used operating systems, software applications, and network devices, as well as software tools that enable comparison with benchmark recommendations.

The relationship gives each EDUCAUSE institutional member a free license to redistribute CIS tools on college- and university-owned systems. In addition, it entitles these members to redistribute them to students, faculty, and employees for use on computers they own. For more information about the CIS tools and the requirements for redistribution, visit <<http://www.educause.edu/CISDownloadFiles/2634>>.

The National Science Foundation has awarded a four-year, \$3.25 million grant to support the launch of the National Center for Women and Information Technology, a project of the Alliance for Technology, Learning and Society (ATLAS) Institute at the University of Colorado at Boulder, in partnership with the Anita Borg Institute. In 2003, the ATLAS program was honored with the EDUCAUSE Award for Systemic Progress in Teaching and Learning. More information about the center is available at <<http://www.ncwit.org/>>.

## Blogs Added to Web Site

In the fall of 2004, EDUCAUSE introduced blogs to its Web site to capitalize on their ability to capture day-to-day developments and trends in the profession and to develop a stronger online community. The blogs launched at that time have been giving a regular voice to leading figures within EDUCAUSE on topics that span teaching and learning, federal policy developments, cybersecurity, technology news, and beyond. Among the regular featured bloggers are Steve Worona, EDUCAUSE Director of Policy and Networking Programs; Cyprien Lomas, 2004 NLII Fellow and Director of the Learning Centre at the University of British Columbia; and Rodney Petersen, EDUCAUSE Policy Analyst and Security Task Force Coordinator.

Recently, EDUCAUSE blogs have expanded into what is now called the EDUCAUSE Community Blog Service. This pilot project not only encompasses the earlier blogs but also enables EDUCAUSE members with technological savvy and a spirit of adventure to establish their own blogs. The aims of the project are to give association members an opportunity to explore this emerging technology and to create a new, vibrant medium for professional information sharing. The Community Blogs offer customary blog features, including syndication and podcasting, as well as cataloging and archiving of postings within the EDUCAUSE Resource Center.

You can browse the blogs, sign up for blog feeds, and find out about participation in the Community Blog Service at <<http://www.educause.edu/blogs>>.

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