EDUCAUSE Award Winners for 2006

EDUCAUSE has just announced the recipients of three awards offered in 2006 through a newly revised recognition program sponsored by SunGard Higher Education, an EDUCAUSE Platinum Partner. Winners will be honored during the EDUCAUSE Annual Conference, October 9–12 in Dallas.

Leadership Awards

The highest honors that EDUCAUSE gives to individuals are its Leadership Awards. Two awards are being given in 2006, to Howard J. Strauss of Princeton University and Daniel A. Updegrove of the University of Texas at Austin.

Howard Strauss

At the time of his death in September 2005, Howard Strauss served as manager of Academic Outreach for Princeton University, providing education and outreach services for faculty and charged with raising the level of academic IT use and sophistication on campus. During almost 35 years at Princeton, he held a variety of positions in administrative, systems, and academic computing. As manager of Princeton's Advanced Applications group, he and his group found ways to turn the latest information technology into practical applications. They created Princeton News Network (PNN), one of the first campus-wide information systems and a precursor to Gopher and the World Wide Web. They also helped deploy the first fledgling "dormnets" on campus, put up some of the first Web cams, and turned a legacy student information system into a student-driven interactive advising tool.

Beyond Princeton, Howard was for five years the technical anchor for the CREN Tech Talk series of Webcasts. He was a member of Pearson's Online Learning advisory board and the Syllabus conference board, a NACUBO faculty member, and a founding member of Election Watch, a public advocacy group focused on integrity in electronic elections. He authored and presented numerous IT courses and served as an IT consultant for companies and universities. In 2000, his futuristic "Apple PIE" was the second-place winner in Apple's national competition to design the Computer of the Future.

Strauss was probably best known to his professional colleagues for his quirky and insightful writings and presentations. He published dozens of articles and was a regular contributing author to several computer journals. He was an institution at Educom, CAUSE, EDUCAUSE, and other higher education conferences where he regularly spoke to standing-room-only audiences. Attendees could count on him to highlight important new technology, offer a unique vision of the future, and articulate what he saw with humor and creativity. Iconoclastic and often contrarian, he was able to engage audiences spanning a range of technical backgrounds, making computing approachable and understandable while still challenging even the most technical members of the audience. In many ways, he served as a role model for the creative members of his profession.

Dan Updegrove

For nearly 30 years, Dan Updegrove has distinguished himself as a capable leader, trusted partner, and insightful contributor to initiatives at university, state, and national levels. In January 2001 he became the first vice president for information technology at the University of Texas at Austin, where he is also an adjunct faculty member in the UT School of Information. Previously he was CIO at Yale University, associate vice provost at the University of Pennsylvania, and vice president of Educom. According to a June announcement, he will leave his UT post to focus on the university's state and national network initiatives after a successor is installed.

Updegrove has brought original, important leadership to a broad variety of efforts. The clear intellect and coherent sense of strategy he brought to his role as cochair of the EDUCAUSE/ Internet2 Security Task Force from 2000 to 2004 helped the task force convince the Bush Administration that the higher education community is a trusted and respected partner in the National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace. Updegrove was a driving force behind the creation of LEARN, the Lonestar Education And Research Network, and served as the first board chair of this statewide networking organization. He also led the effort to connect LEARN to National LambdaRail (NLR), and represents LEARN on the NLR board. He represents UT on Net@ edu, Big-12 CIOs, Common Solutions Group, the Coalition for Networked Information, Internet2, and Southeastern Universities Research Association, and participates on higher education advisory committees for Apple Computer, Dell, Microsoft, and Network Appliance.

Updegrove is a frequent contributor to publications and programs of EDUCAUSE, where he has served on numerous advisory and conference program committees. He has also served on program committees for ACM SIGUCCS, Internet2, and the Seminars on Academic Computing; IT visiting committees at Carnegie Mellon, MIT, and Lehigh; and a number of university reaccreditation committees. He has consulted on IT strategic planning, networking, computer-based planning models, and computer gaming simulation at more than 75 colleges and universities in the United States and abroad, and has delivered well over 150 conference and seminar presentations.

2006 *EQ* Contribution of the Year Award

The *EDUCAUSE Quarterly* Contribution of the Year Award goes this year to an article by Dennis A. Trinkle, former CIO and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at DePauw University, for his article "The 361° Model for Transforming Teaching and Learning with Technology." The article, which

appeared in *EQ* volume 28, number 4, discusses how focusing technology initiatives on learning while aligning them with the institutional mission can transform teaching and learning. In the article, Trinkle tells some of the story behind the efforts that won DePauw the 2003 EDUCAUSE Award for Systemic Progress in Teaching and Learning. Trinkle recently became the chief information officer at Valparaiso University.

2006 EDUCAUSE Catalyst Award

This award, offered for the first time in 2006, recognizes innovations and initiatives centered on information technologies that provide groundbreaking solutions to major challenges in higher education, or that change prevailing conditions to allow new solutions to be deployed in remarkable, even watershed ways. The inaugural award goes to course management systems, a complex, far-reaching web of initiatives that has had broad impact on higher education in less than a decade. Over this time, course management systems (CMSs) have evolved from isolated good ideas for using technology to streamline course administration or enliven instruction into comprehensive, enterprise-level software systems adopted by universities world-wide. At the simplest level, CMSs convert paper syllabi, reading lists, and other handouts into coherent online resources that are always accessible and easily updated. At higher levels, they support rich, flexible learning environments in which students can work interactively and asynchronously with multimedia materials, instructors, and each other. Whether they constitute part of a blended course or the entire corpus of an online course, these functions align with the learning needs and styles of Net Generation students.

Course management systems were conceived and developed among faculty in pockets of innovation throughout the world. Their widespread adoption, in only a decade, is testimony not only to the vision and persistence of a few, but to the effective interplay of faculty innovators, persistent commercial entrepreneurs, visionary campus IT leaders, risk-taking faculty adopters, and impatient students. The developers of these systems pulled together many strands of technology to create digital educational platforms that could reach mass audiences without requiring more than basic technical skills from either instructors or students. This vision of a network-based instructional tool arose simultaneously in many quarters, and its evolution into a ubiquitous, mission-critical enterprise system is a case study in the way new ideas spring up, coalesce, interact, and advance.

EQ Editorial Committee Changes

Deborah Keyek-Franssen of the University of Colorado at Boulder has been appointed the 2007 chair of the *EQ* Editorial Committee. In addition, William J. Allen (Arkansas State University), Brian Atkinson (The University of Arizona), Kimball B. Kendall (Santa Fe Community College), and Joseph A. Starratt (Southern Illinois State University Edwardsville) are joining the committee this coming year. EDUCAUSE extends its thanks to Fredrick Miller, outgoing committee chair, and Gail McMillan and Pamela McQuesten, outgoing committee members, for their dedicated service.

The rise of CMSs shows the higher education IT community at its best, drawing on its specialized tools, creativity, service focus, and ability to collaborate both within and outside the campus walls to help put powerful tools in the hands of students and faculty and to create important new components of our enterprise infrastructures. Course management systems epitomize the spiral of innovation made possible by the confluence of opportunity and need, mutual enthusiasm, and collaboration among various communities. With the Catalyst Award, we celebrate an innovation and a process that now touches virtually every institution of higher education and most classrooms and is expanding its reach to the K–12 space.

Also in the News

Cultivating Careers E-Book Released

Cultivating Careers: Professional Development for Campus IT is a new EDUCAUSE e-book offering an overview of current principles and practices for mentoring and developing the next generation of IT leaders in higher education. The e-book was edited by EDUCAUSE Vice President Cynthia Golden and written by IT leaders who have distinguished themselves and their organizations by sharpening the skills, ability to lead others, and institutional savvy among their own managers.

Like other books in the current EDUCAUSE publishing program, *Cultivating Careers* is free and publicly accessible online. Audio files complement the e-book's more traditional elements, in which leading figures in higher education IT offer their advice for future leaders and talk about how they overcame challenges and moved ahead in their own careers.

The e-book is available in HTML and PDF formats; print copies are available at a nominal cost from a third party print-on-demand service. Visit the book's Web site at <http://www.educause.edu/cultivatingcareers/>.

October Is Cybersecurity Awareness Month

National Cyber Security Awareness Month is an annual effort to increase awareness and prevention of online security problems, spearheaded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the National Cyber Security Alliance. The EDUCAUSE/Internet2 Computer and Network Security Task Force is again promoting and participating in the annual campaign, joining forces with a range of organizations from the public and private sector to expand cybersecurity awareness on campuses across the country. The Security Task Force is offering a range of programs and resources. Among them are a National Cyber Security Awareness Month resource kit for colleges and universities, a cybersecurity video contest for students, and a cybersecurity awareness resource library. Access the Security Task Force's resources at < http://www.educause.edu/security>.

Net Neutrality Update

During the past quarter, Congress introduced several bills offering protection for "network neutrality," or neutral, open access to all lawful content and services on information networks. EDUCAUSE and Internet2 have vocally supported such legislation, recognizing that an open Internet is critical to many technologies already in use in higher education and essential to the future development of more advanced, potentially life-changing online services like telemedicine and distance learning.

A robust resource page on the net neutrality issue, which includes links to proposed federal legislation, is located at <http://www.educause.edu/netneutrality>

Mark C. Sheehan Appointed ECAR Fellow

Mark C. Sheehan has been named a research fellow for the EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research (ECAR). In this capacity, he will work on a variety of research studies, case studies, and other ECAR products. Sheehan has come to ECAR from Montana State University in Bozeman, where he served as Executive Director for Information Services and Chief Technology Officer. More on ECAR research is available at <http://www.educause.edu/ecar>.

Updated Student Guide to Campus IT

The Student Guide to Evaluating Information Technology on Campus is designed to increase awareness among students about campus technology environments and help them develop the right questions to ask when looking for a school or settling into campus life. Offered as both a Web site and printed brochure, the guide was developed by EDUCAUSE in cooperation with the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers and the National Association for College Admission Counseling. A newly updated version of the guide is now available at <http://www.educause.edu/studentguide>.

New Leader and Focus for Web Professionals Group

Melissa Meehan, Director of Web Administration at Buffalo State College, has joined Sara Clark, Director of Web Services, Missouri State University, as coleader of the EDUCAUSE Web Professionals Constituent Group (formerly the Web Administrators Constituent Group). The group has recently refocused on the use of the Web to enhance institutional productivity and public relations efforts. The group supports project managers, administrators, developers, designers, and other Web professionals. Subscribe to or search the archives of the group's listserv at <http://www.educause.edu/groups/web>.

Balanced Scorecard

EDUCAUSE has completed the latest cycle in its ongoing organizational assessment, with continued high marks throughout. View the assessment findings online at <http://www.educause.edu/BalancedScorecard/853>.