

# EDUCAUSE Award Winners for 2007

EDUCAUSE has announced the recipients of its three 2007 awards. Winners will be honored during the Annual Conference, October 23–26, in Seattle. The award program is sponsored by SunGard Higher Education, An EDUCAUSE Platinum Partner.

## Leadership

The highest recognition that EDUCAUSE gives to individuals is its Leadership Award. This year the association is making one such award, to **Gregory A. Jackson**, vice president and CIO of the University of Chicago.

A respected advocate for higher education information technology for many years, Jackson has excelled in management posts at Harvard, MIT, and the University of Chicago and achieved wide recognition as a communicator and volunteer of integrity, intelligence, and wit. He is now in his twelfth year as chief information officer at the University of Chicago.

Before moving to Chicago in 1996, Jackson served as director of Academic Computing for MIT, where he was instrumental in the evolution of Project Athena. As a faculty member, he was one of the founding directors of Harvard's Educational Technology Center, which studied the use of technology to advance educational practice. He also served as assistant director of the Joint Center for Urban Studies of MIT and Harvard University, a multidisciplinary research orga-

nization then operated by the two universities.

Jackson has been a strong participant on the boards of EDUCAUSE, National LambdaRail, Internet2, and the Seminars on Academic Computing. He brought positive vision and forward momentum to early efforts toward an NLR-I2 merger and has been instrumental in creating a forum for research-university CIOs called the Research University CIO Conclave. He was a member of the EDUCAUSE Recognition Committee, chaired the Internet2 National Planning and Policy Council, and is active in the Common Solutions Group and the Ivy+ and CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) CIO groups. He has served on higher-education advisory boards for Dell, Sun, Apple, Microsoft, and Gateway.

Jackson has published and spoken extensively, bringing clear understanding and often unconventional perspectives to complex issues. Articles in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* include "Open Source is the Answer. What's the Question?" and "A CIO's Question: Will You Still Need Me When I'm 64?" In addition to two years as editor of the Viewpoints department in *EDUCAUSE Review*, he has been a consulting editor for the *Journal of Higher Education* and a member of the editorial board for the *Harvard Educational Review*. In June 2007 he gave invited testimony before the United States House of Rep-

resentatives Committee on Science and Technology hearings on "The Role of Technology in Reducing Illegal File-sharing: A University Perspective."

## 2007 EQ Contribution of the Year Award

This year's *EDUCAUSE Quarterly* Contribution of the Year Award goes to an article by Joseph Rene Corbeil, assistant professor of Curriculum and Instruction, and Maria Elena Valdes-Corbeil, associate professor in technology, BAT Program, both at the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College. Their winning article—"Are You Ready for Mobile Learning?"—points out that frequent use of mobile devices does not mean that students or instructors are ready for mobile learning and teaching. Because mobile technology now affects every aspect of the institution, from research to basic technology infrastructure, it must be taken into account for realistic campus planning. The article appeared in *EQ*, Volume 30, Number 2, 2007, (<http://www.educause.edu/apps/eq/eqm07/eqm072.asp>), pp. 51–58.

## 2007 EDUCAUSE Catalyst Award

The EDUCAUSE Catalyst Award, offered for the first time last year, recognizes innovations and initiatives centered on information technologies that provide groundbreaking solutions to major challenges in higher education, or change prevailing conditions in remarkable ways so as to allow new solutions to be developed and deployed. This year's Catalyst Award recipient is the **uPortal project**, an effort to develop a free, sharable, enterprise-wide Web portal specifically for higher education.

The uPortal project was one of the first attempts to apply open-source technologies in a collaborative development environment now referred to as "community source." Its evolution is part of the ongoing dynamic

## EQ Editorial Committee Changes

John Campbell (Purdue University and 2007 EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative Scholar-in-Residence), Heather Gordon (James Cook University—Australia), Tracey Leger-Hornby (Brandeis University), and Glenda Morgan (George Mason University) are joining the *EDUCAUSE Quarterly* Editorial Committee this coming year. Timothy Chester (Pepperdine University) will serve as chair. EDUCAUSE extends its sincere thanks to departing committee members Kathryn Gates (University of Mississippi), Bill Green (Capilano College), and Patricia Wolf (University of Maryland University College) and to departing chair Deborah Keyek-Franssen (University of Colorado at Boulder).

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between commercial and educational technology interests. Portals originally developed for e-commerce seemed to offer higher education a much-needed framework for organizing complex new Web-based information structures in a coherent, integrated environment. Although interest in portals was high on college and university campuses, the complexity, cost, and technical and political challenges of linking diverse campus organizations and processes were formidable. In the late 1990s, a group of institutions joined together to develop flexible, functional software to meet the common needs of the higher education community. This group evolved into the Java in Administration Special Interest Group (JA-SIG), with uPortal as one of its initiatives. Commercial partners were welcome from the start, and their expertise was leveraged in project management, software development, and marketing.

Now the most successful portal framework in higher education, uPortal has made at least two significant contributions within this sector. Within its own functional space, uPortal has stimulated hundreds of institutions to realize the benefits of portals for students, faculty, staff, and other constituents. Free and readily downloadable code allows many organizations—both within the United States and internationally—to experiment with portals in a low-risk

environment. uPortal helped provide legitimacy to the approach before it was as clear as it is today that portals represent the electronic equivalent of the “one-stop shop” that has led to so many service improvements across our institutions.

Second, uPortal is an exemplar of community source in higher education, demonstrating that by working together in a structured, managed way, using open standards, and designing for generic flexible use, we can create applications tailored to higher education and make them available at a cost that lowers barriers to even the smaller institutions. It has been an inspiration for many important projects that are now maturing, including Sakai, OSP, Quali, and others. The collaborative process on which uPortal is based demonstrates in a unique way the value of collaboration among departments to determine how to best serve the community.

This year's award embodies a product that has helped transform the way our users access information and transactions, a process that demonstrates how we can accomplish more by working together, and a philosophy of design that lifts the application out of its hard-coded, institution-specific form and into a more universal framework that can be easily customized by each institution while maintaining its generic integrity.

## Also in the News

### EDUCAUSE and INTERNET2 Support Tech Research Act

EDUCAUSE and Internet2 have declared support for the Advanced Information and Communications Technology Research Act, introduced by Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii), chairman of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. This bill brings attention to the need for renewed investment in long-term research aimed at making advanced communications

services available to and affordable for all Americans. Read the joint press release at <<http://www.educause.edu/PressReleases/1175&ID=1442>>.

### REN-ISAC, Microsoft Form Security Resource Alliance

The Research and Education Networking Information Sharing and Analysis Center (REN-ISAC) at Indiana University—established with close cooperation

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#### Information for Contributors

EDUCAUSE Quarterly publishes articles about managing and using information technology and electronic information resources in higher education. Contributions are reviewed by an editorial committee and articles are referenced in several indexing and abstracting services, including Current Index to Journals in Higher Education (ERIC), Computer Literature Index, and Higher Education Abstracts. Papers should be sent as e-mail attachments to [eqeditor@educause.edu](mailto:eqeditor@educause.edu). For article submission specifications, see [www.educause.edu/eq/pub-guidelines.asp](http://www.educause.edu/eq/pub-guidelines.asp).

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of the EDUCAUSE/Internet2 Computer and Network Security Task Force—and Microsoft have formed an alliance to extend the Vendor's Security Cooperation Program to higher education institutions. Under the agreement, the REN-ISAC and Microsoft will share information that will help both parties become more proactive and responsive to security issues. Read the press release at [http://www.microsoft.com/presspass/press/2007/apr07/04-11MSRENI\\_SACPR.msp](http://www.microsoft.com/presspass/press/2007/apr07/04-11MSRENI_SACPR.msp).

### **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 that can be used for fall orientation activities. 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>.

### **New Teaching, Learning, and Technology Resources**

The EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI) has released multiple resources on teaching, learning, and technology. "Authentic Learning for the 21st Century: An Overview," a white paper by Marilyn M. Lombardi, explores what authentic learning is as a pedagogical approach, what makes it effective, why it is important, and how technology

can support it. Graduate student Carie Windham looks into student perceptions of educational podcasting and blogging in "Confessions of a Podcast Junkie: A Student Perspective" and "Reflecting, Writing, and Responding: Reasons Students Blog," respectively. The latest briefs in the 7 Things You Should Know About... series offer quick snapshots of Wikipedia, RSS, and the latest developments in Facebook. Immersive learning environments are explored in audio and video from the ELI 2007 Spring Focus Session. In addition, two practical tools for starting a podcasting program and organizing a workshop on learning spaces are now available as part of the ELI Discovery Tools series for ELI members. Access these resources on the ELI Web site <http://www.educause.edu/eli>.

### **ECAR Expands International Research Coverage**

The EDUCAUSE Center for Applied Research (ECAR) has announced a major international research effort. Richard N. Katz, EDUCAUSE vice president, will lead a delegation to Europe and the Asia-Pacific region to study how universities are addressing information technology security, identity management, e-scholarship, and academic analytics. Read the press release at <http://www.educause.edu/PressReleases/1190&ID=1453>.

### **New Resource Pages Posted to EDUCAUSE Connect**

EDUCAUSE has posted three new resource pages to EDUCAUSE Connect: Patents [http://connect.educause.edu/term\\_view/Patents](http://connect.educause.edu/term_view/Patents), Electronically Stored Information (ESI) and E-Discovery [http://connect.educause.edu/term\\_view/ESI%2Band%2BE-Discovery](http://connect.educause.edu/term_view/ESI%2Band%2BE-Discovery), and Business Continuity Planning [http://connect.educause.edu/term\\_view/Business%2BContinuity%2BPlanning](http://connect.educause.edu/term_view/Business%2BContinuity%2BPlanning). Icons in the top-right corner of the pages allow users to sign up for e-mail alerts or RSS feeds on these topics.

### **Balanced Scorecard**

The latest cycle in the association's ongoing organizational assessment shows a high level of respect for EDUCAUSE: members rate it "vital in providing a unified voice for IT" (6.3 on scale of 7.0), as well as "effective in articulating and advancing key issues affecting the broader higher education community" (6.8 on a scale of 7.0), and CEOs at partner organizations perceive it as "a respected and valued member of the higher ed community" (7.0 on scale of 7.0). View all findings at <http://www.educause.edu/BalancedScorecard/853>.

### **New IT Accessibility Group Forms**

The newly formed IT Accessibility constituent group will help the EDUCAUSE community assess the scope of issues of universal IT accessibility, identify resources and initiatives, develop best practices on policy and assistive program and service development, and focus on how to approach campus-wide universal access of information by engaging in dialogue across boundaries within and beyond the campus environment. Subscribe to or search the archives of the group's listserv at <http://www.educause.edu/groups/itaccess>. Learn about other EDUCAUSE constituent and discussion groups at <http://www.educause.edu/groups>.

### **Ryland Fellowship Application Deadline**

The application deadline for Jane N. Ryland Fellowships is **November 1, 2007**. This EDUCAUSE grant program was established to recognize a combination of past achievement, personal and institutional commitment, potential benefit, and financial need. Applicants may serve their institutions in any information technology management area: central IT organizations, academic units, or administrative departments. Recipients receive grants supporting attendance at a 2007 EDUCAUSE event. View more information and access the application form at <http://www.educause.edu/fellow/>.