September 7, 2006

**Upcoming events**: Workshops and training sessions

**Service or program spotlight**: New bb-alerts email list

**Teaching resource of the month**: Course Design Tutorial

**New and cool**: Elgg and Archos gmini

### Upcoming events

**Workshops and training sessions**

Blackboard training events:

CIT is providing a number of workshops for new and experienced users of Blackboard. See [http://cit.duke.edu/events/bbtraining.do](http://cit.duke.edu/events/bbtraining.do) for more details.

Duke Digital Initiative events:

Hands-on multimedia training events will be posted soon at [http://cit.duke.edu/events/ddi.do](http://cit.duke.edu/events/ddi.do).

Exploring New Technologies events:

We have scheduled many events about new technologies (detailed information and a registration link for the sessions is at [http://cit.duke.edu/events/explore.do](http://cit.duke.edu/events/explore.do)).

- Social networking for teaching and learning (Wed. 9/13/2006, 2–3 pm)
- Language technology round table: Podcasting (Wed. 9/13/2006, 3–4:30 pm OR Thurs. 9/14/2006, 10–11:30 am)
- Show and tell: New portable multimedia devices (Wed. 9/27/2006, 3–4 pm OR Thurs. 9/28/2006 10–11 am)
- Web 2.0 and Library 2.0: Possibilities for the next generation of online library services (Tues. 10/10/2006, 12–1 pm)
- Research material repositories using Web 2.0 (Wed. 10/11/2006, 2–3 pm)
- Collaborative spaces for teaching and learning (Wed. 11/8/2006, 2–3 pm)
- Online communities and the wisdom of crowds: Applying lessons from the social web toward research and learning (Thurs. 12/7/2006, 3–4 pm)
- New tools for data gathering and field research (Wed. 12/13/2006, 2–3 pm)

### Service or program spotlight

**New bb-alerts email list**

The purpose of the bb-alerts email list is to notify subscribers about Blackboard-related items including, but not limited to: scheduled outages of the Blackboard system, updates, bugs, news, and training opportunities. To subscribe:

1. Go to [https://lists.duke.edu/sympa/](https://lists.duke.edu/sympa/) and log in with your netID.
2. Search for "bb-alerts," and then click the list name "bb-alerts" to go to the list home page.
3. Click on Subscribe on the lower left.

### Teaching resource of the month

**Course Design Tutorial**

[http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops/coursedesign/tutorial/overview.html](http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops/coursedesign/tutorial/overview.html)

The tutorial "Designing Effective and Engaging Courses" helps faculty focus on the question "What do I want my students to be able to DO after they complete my course" while working through a systematic course design process. The tutorial was developed by award-winning faculty Dr. Barbara Tewksbury (Hamilton College) and Dr. R. Heather Macdonald (College of William and Mary) as part of the NSF-funded "On the Cutting Edge" program. Faculty in all disciplines can work through the tutorial while designing new or redesigning existing courses, as a support for producing effective courses focused on student learning goals.
New and cool

Elgg
http://elgg.net/ or http://elgg.org/
Elgg is a social networking site aimed at academics and education professionals. Using blogs, individuals can find others with similar teaching and research interests.

Archos gmini
The Archos gmini 402 is about the same size of a video iPod, but records audio and video and takes digital stills, plays audio and video, and displays photos or video on TV and or projection systems. It has a 20 GB capacity, can sync with a PC or Mac, and has a plug-in feature to sync with iTunes.