



PUBLICATIONS

DCP Today

Volume 3, Issue 14
July 31, 2002

Welcome to DCP Today, CENICs twice-monthly electronic newsletter detailing the latest news about the Digital California Project.

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21st Century Community Learning Centers Webcast

The Digital California Project (DCP) staff is helping the California Department of Education (CDE) and the Office of the Secretary of Education (OSE) organize a video webcast that will be held on July 31st to distribute information regarding the availability of federal funding for 21st Century Community Learning Centers. Entities eligible to submit grant applications include local educational agencies, cities, counties, community based organizations, other public or private entities (which may include faith-based organizations), or a consortium of two or more such agencies, organizations or entities. Successful grant applicants will receive between \$50,000 and \$2 million. A Request for Applications (RFA) is available on the California Department of Education (CDE) web site at www.cde.ca.gov/afterschool/.

Historically, information about how to apply for grant funds has been conveyed through a series of face-to-face workshops. In this case, time is of the essence. The July 31st event, which has been organized over a two-week period, provides a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate the time and money that can be saved by using the video over IP capabilities of the Digital California Project (DCP) network. Other events planned for this fall will further demonstrate the videoconferencing capabilities enabled by the network.

The two and one-half hour webcast will originate from the Sacramento County Office of Education and will be viewed at approximately 20 DCP node sites and UC and CSU campuses throughout the state. This event will provide the first opportunity for the CDE to review funding requirements with all interested parties.

The CDE will identify individuals who will serve as meeting facilitators at each site. Typically, the facilitator will be the after school program "leads" with whom the CDE works regularly in each one of the eleven CCSESA regions. During the webcast, questions will be fielded from participants at all of the participating sites. Each site will maintain a "chat room" capability, which will be used to submit questions. The questions will be read and answered by panelists located at the Sacramento COE site.

Source: Stephanie Halnan-Couch

Courseware Project for the Earth and Environmental Sciences

Geology Labs On-Line is a comprehensive project to develop web-based lab activities that enhance the learning and teaching of geology and other earth and environmental science topics for introductory college and high school courses.

These "virtual" labs are interactive where students learn by "doing" and not just clicking and viewing.

Virtual labs currently available include: Virtual Earthquake (Original), Virtual Earthquake (Revised), Virtual Dating-Isochron Virtual Dating-Radiocarbon, Virtual River-Discharge, Virtual River-Flooding. These labs can be found at <http://www.sciencecourseware.com/>.

The DCP Network is ideally suited to support web-based activities such as the Geology Labs On-Line project.

Source: Gary A. Novak, California State University at Los Angeles

DCP Network Installation Update

As we have previously reported, CENIC has been able to eliminate the need for having to build install our own microwave links since the various telephone companies have been able to provide the circuits needed to complete the network infrastructure. Circuits and equipment have been installed and tested at 60 of the 70 Round 1 node sites. Equipment has also been installed at the Alpine COE node site. Unfortunately, due to an internal carrier problem, installation of Alpine's circuit was cancelled at the last minute and we are awaiting a new circuit due date. Lassen COE is the next node site to be installed and currently scheduled for 7/31/02. Here are the remaining sites and their estimated installation dates.

- RCOE Indio: August 2002
- Sierra East: September 2002
- Mammoth COE: August - September 2002
- Trinity COE: September - October 2002
- Modoc COE: October 2002
- Tulelake Basin JUSD: Q1 2003
- Humboldt COE: No reliable estimate
- Del Norte COE: No reliable estimate

**** Round 2 Enhancements ****

The equipment orders for the Round 2 enhancements have been placed. Many of the counties have already received their equipment and have started their network build-out and enhancements.

**** Installed DCP Sites WITHOUT a LAN Connection: (15) ****

Los Angeles USD, Amador, Madera COE, Mariposa COE, Dos Palos HS, Glenn COE, Solano COE, Napa Valley, CA Dept. of Ed, Yuba COE, Plumas COE, Truckee Donner PUD, Lake Tahoe USD, Nevada JUHSD and Sierra West.

**** Operational DCP Sites WITH a LAN Connection: (45) ****

SLO COE, Orange COE, Kern COE, Fresno COE, Merced COE, Tulare COE, Kings COE, Monterey COE, Riverside COE, Stanislaus COE, San Benito COE, San Bernardino CSS, Bishop Union, Santa Cruz COE, Imperial COE, San Joaquin COE, Santa Barbara CEO, Pomona USD, San Diego COE, Chaffey JUHSD, Red Bluff HS, Santa Clara COE, Ventura CSS, Contra Costa COE, San Francisco COE, Los Angeles COE, Calaveras COE, Mendocino COE, San Mateo COE, Sacramento COE, Monterey Peninsula College, Sutter County Schools, Sonoma COE, El Dorado COE, Victor Valley CC, Alameda COE, Yolo COE, Butte COE, Lake COE, Placer COE, Shasta COE, Marin COE, Colusa COE, Siskiyou COE and Tuolumne COE.

**** Network Planning Liaisons ****

Effective July 1, 2002, three of the eleven "charter" K-12 Network Planning Liaisons have turned over their responsibilities to their replacements. Here is the current roster of Network Planning Liaisons, by Region, working with CENIC on DCP and related issues affecting the K-12 community.

Region 1, North Coast: David Yacawych, Mendocino COE
 Region 2, Northeastern: Russ Selken, Butte COE
 Region 3, Capital: Bob Carter, SSCO
 Region 4, Bay: Mac Carey, Contra Costa COE
 Region 5, South Bay: Dave Barnett, Santa Cruz COE
 Region 6, Delta: Bill Engelhardt, San Joaquin COE
 Region 7, Central Valley: Dr. Art Serabian, Fresno COE
 Region 8, Costa del Sur: John Lindsay, Kern COE
 Region 9, Southern: Chris Brawner, SDCOE
 Region 10, RIMS: Jeremy Powell, SBCSS
 Region 11, Los Angeles: Jim Magill, LACOE

**** Multicast Configurations ****

Is your site enabled for multicast? If not, multicast configurations for Cisco routers can be found online at <http://www.4c.net/customer-multicast-setup.htm>. DCP Engineering will be giving priority to assisting those sites who are planning to participate in the upcoming Governor's Mentoring Project scheduled for October 10, 2002. Participating sites will be contacted in the near future to ensure your site is ready and enabled for multicast. In the meantime, you can contact DCP Project Management at smithew@csu.net if you have any questions.

Source: Edwin Smith, Project Manager

NGI Today Newsletter Subscription

You can get the latest Next Generation Internet (NGI) Roundtable news by subscribing to NGI Today, CENIC's latest electronic newsletter. Designed to reach a wide audience, NGI Today will provide targeted information about the critical technical, policy, financial and organization challenges facing the delivery of one gigabit broadband to all Californians by 2010.

Subscribers will receive NGI Today briefings bimonthly. To subscribe to the NGI Today mailing list, send an e-mail message to listproc@cenic.org with the following request in the message body:

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National Education Technology News

The Quilt - Internet2 K20 Initiative: A New Collaboration

The Quilt is a UCAID project whose participants are non-profit advanced regional network organizations dedicated to advancing research and education in the United States by (a) providing a broad range of advanced networking services to their constituents, including network engineering, management, and operation; regional connectivity and exchange; promotion and coordination of regional activities; and (b) facilitating innovative and successful projects and productive working relationships.

The joint effort will be lead by Wendy Huntoon, executive director of the Quilt, Myron Lowe (Northern Lights) and George Loftus (NoX/OSHEAN) for the Quilt and Louis Fox for Internet2 (I2). The goal is for the Quilt activities to complement the ongoing activities established by the I2 K20 Initiative, specifically to help add a more technical component to the project. While the Quilt/I2 K20 Initiative will also begin by focusing on the Sponsored Education Group Participants's (SEGP), it is not limited to that community.

Three main areas of focus identified for joint effort are: (1) support for the Connectivity Survey; (2) identifying resources and expertise within the Quilt membership; and (3) engaging support for I2 K20 workshops (e.g., the I2 K20 - ALA workshop described below), particularly technical expertise.

Source: I2 K20 Meeting Notes, May 8, 2002

States Promote IP Video

In Wisconsin and other states, the future is now as new technology is allowing Internet communities to bring interactive videoconferencing and other digital video into education and research.

Missouri's Research and Education Network (MOREnet) serves higher education, K12 schools, libraries and a number of state agencies that subscribe to the service for administrative uses. IP video over the MOREnet network is proving to be a big hit with Missouri students.

"We began offering IP video over the MOREnet network in January 2000," says Hank Niederhelm, Associate Director of Operations for MOREnet. "Since then, with each semester we've averaged a 25 percent increase in the number of courses that use IP video."

MOREnet instructors use IP video to enhance teaching effectiveness by bringing point-to-point and multipoint videoconferencing into the classroom. Network planners are looking ahead to e-conferencing technology that will provide an alternative or complement videoconferences for distance learning activities.

Source: Internet2 K20 Newsletter

Battle Begins Over Federal Ed-tech Fundings

Education leaders and members of Congress are bracing for another lengthy fight over key ed-tech programs in the 2003 federal budget.

The first round began July 16, when the Senate subcommittee that oversees education spending voted to fund several programs the Bush administration wants to eliminate-including Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology (PT3), Community Technology Centers (CTC), and Star Schools. The House has not yet addressed its version of the education budget bill but is expected to cut these programs according to the president's budget request.

A similar fight occurred last year, when the Bush administration and members of the House favored a strictly block-grant approach to school technology funding, while the Senate opted to keep some specific programs. These programs ultimately were preserved but with reduced funding.

Source: eSN School Technology ALERT

Vacation Notice

DCP Today will be on hiatus for the month of August. Look for new issues in September!

About CENIC

CENIC is a not-for-profit corporation formed by the California Institute of Technology, the California State University, Stanford University, the University of California, and the University of Southern California to facilitate and coordinate the deployment, development, and operation of a set of seamless and robust advanced network services. The CENIC Associates program offers qualified companies the opportunity to collaborate with CENIC in pursuit of the goal of providing the most advanced network services for research and education. Cisco Systems, Nortel Networks, Pacific Bell, and the University and Community College System of Nevada are CENIC's Partner Associates.

More information about CENIC is available at: <http://www.cenic.org>.

About DCP

The Digital California Project is a project of CENIC. A multi-million dollar effort funded by the State of California, the DCP was designed to build the necessary network infrastructure needed to prepare California's schools to take advantage of tomorrow's advances in network technology. In essence, CENIC is developing an advanced-services network to serve the entire California K-20 education and research community.

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