



## LEADING THE WAY TO TOMORROW'S INTERNET


 
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### DCP Today

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

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##### **Noted Expert to Speak About National and Regional K-20 Initiatives at CENIC 2002**

Louis Fox, Vice Provost for Educational Partnerships and Learning Technologies at the University of Washington, will discuss national and regional K-20 initiatives at the CENIC 2002 conference. In addition to his day job at the University of Washington, Fox accepted a new role with Internet2 where he is leading a national Internet2-K20 Initiative. The I2-K20 Initiative brings together Internet2 members with primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, libraries, and museums to get new technologies-advanced networking tools, content, and applications-into the hands of innovators, across all educational sectors in the United States, as quickly and as "connectedly" as possible, and to connect these innovators to similar communities around the globe.

CENIC 2002 takes place May 5-7 in San Diego.

CENIC 2002 is generously sponsored by Cisco Systems, SBC Pacific Bell, Juniper Networks, Level 3, NetScout, ONI Systems, Packet Design CNS, Qwest, Stratacache, Vega Business Technologies.

##### **Panel to Discuss the Importance of Networking in Education**

Closing the CENIC 2002 conference is the plenary session "Why California Needs Networking for Education". Chaired by Jack McCredie, chair of the DCP Program Steering Committee, the panel is comprised of technology and education experts. Bob Berdan of CSULB, Tom Kalil of UC Berkeley, Virginia McBride of California Community Colleges, and Louis Fox of the University of Washington will explore the current and future role of networking in California education. Specifically, the panel will discuss K-12 wants and requirements for a K-20 broadband network.

##### **Hands On Universe (HOU) Announces Summer Program**

Hands On Universe (HOU), a project of Lawrence Hall of Science at the University of California, Berkeley, is an innovative educational program of science, mathematics, and technology education in the context of astronomical explorations. The program puts in the hands of students the same tools that professional astronomers are using--image processing software and images from large observatory telescopes. Teaming with TERC and Third International Math and Science Study (TIMSS), HOU seeks teachers to participate in a NSF-funded educational research project

assessing the relative effectiveness of face-to-face courses versus distance-learning courses for professional development. Earn \$600-\$350 stipend and receive HOU curriculum materials (books and software). Live 5 day courses, one day workshops, and online courses (moderated or self-paced) are scheduled for this summer. Academic credits are available. Teachers can register on line. To register or for more information visit <http://hou.lbl.gov>.

Source: Lawrence Hall of Science

#### **Network Installation Update**

The number of installed CalREN-DC node sites now stands at 55, or 77%. During the past several weeks there has been a dramatic increase in the number of sites with LANs connected to the network.

There are currently 14 sites without LAN connections, and 41 sites with LAN connections.

Operational sites with LAN connections include 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 and Shasta.

Sites without LAN connections include Los Angeles USD, Amador, Madera COE, Mariposa COE, Dos Palos HS, Tuolumne COE, Glenn COE, Marin COE, Solano COE, Napa Valley, CA Dept. of Ed, Yuba COE, Colusa COE and Plumas.

Upcoming equipment installations with confirmed due dates are scheduled for Siskiyou COE on 4/16/02, Lake Tahoe USD on 4/18/02, and Truckee Donner PUD on 4/18/02.

Source: Edwin Smith, Network Implementation Project Manager (smithew@csu.net)

#### **National Education Technology News**

##### **Portable Technology Becoming Essential**

Cupertino High School gives struggling students Palms. East Side Union High School District is working to get laptops for all 24,000 of its students. Across the nation, schools are putting portable technology into the hands of children. After years of debate over the use of computers in schools, educators say the new mobility finally will make technology a classroom tool as ordinary as textbooks and paper. With equipment prices dropping and wireless networks eliminating cumbersome cables and plugs, educators predict laptops and other hand-held devices are likely to become commonplace in classrooms and backpacks in the next three to five years. Students in Silicon Valley schools already graph math problems on Palms, learn economics playing stock-trading games on E-Trade, or map out science experiments with flowchart software on laptops. But this mass distribution of expensive equipment comes with daunting issues, from cost to schools and access for poor families to teacher training and students' obligation to use computers properly. Critics say many schools are not teaching the hazards of such powerful tools. Research is sparse on the effects of portable technology on learning. But proponents say the devices simply make sense in a world where children will need to be technologically savvy when they join the workforce.

Source: Katherine Corcoran, "Schools plan for mobile technology", The Mercury News, April 3, 2002

##### **RuralEducation.org Connects Schools in Remote areas with 21st-century Tools**

The Rural Education Technology Alliance (RETA) is a new organization of five leading technology companies committed to working with rural educators and education organizations to assess and address the unique technology needs of rural schools. Member companies are San Jose, Calif.-based Cisco Systems; Sun Microsystems, headquartered internationally; Charlotte, N.C.-based LearningStation; Polycom Inc. of Milpitas, Calif.; and Alaska-based General Communications Inc. (GCI). By working with education organizations and rural leaders, RETA aims to help implement strategies to improve educational technology in rural areas.

The brand-new RETA web site (<http://www.ruraleducation.org>) contains a number of case studies from rural school entities that have implemented the products of the member groups creatively. Case studies include Oklahoma's OneNet distance learning network, the Arizona Department of Education's use of an ASP (application service provider) model to deliver software to the state's school districts, and Alaska's Northwest Arctic Borough School District's satellite-based distance learning partnership with GCI, among others. The site also includes a searchable list of rural education resources.

Source: eSN School Technology Alert

##### **Robert H. Michel Civic Education Grants**

The Dirksen Congressional Center is giving \$50,000 in new grants to help teachers, curriculum developers, and others improve the quality of civics instruction, with emphasis on the role of Congress in the federal government. Areas of interest include designing lesson plans, creating student activities, and applying instructional technology in the classroom. Examples of some eligible projects include lesson plans or student activities based on civics education web sites, or projects about the history of Congress using technology. Expenses eligible for support include faculty release time, software purchases, project-related incidentals such as photocopying, and professional development activities with specific relevance to the subject area. The intense competition for these grants means that requests for funds to purchase off-the-shelf resources such as textbooks, projects that lack innovation and projects that benefit small numbers of students are not likely to be funded. Preference will be given to projects that demonstrate matching support.

The application deadline is May 1, 2002. More information can be found at <http://www.dirksencenter.org/grantmichelciviced.htm>

Source: eSchoolNews

#### **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.

#### **Subscription Information**

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