

Faculty Technology Newsletter

Fall, 2015

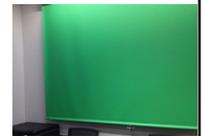


Panopto system provides multiple options for classroom and personal lecture capture



With the new Panopto lecture capture system, faculty have multiple options for recording lectures both in and outside of class. Over the summer, Panopto replaced Echo 360 lecture capture in 37 rooms on campus. (A list of wired classrooms is available on the CTE site.) Faculty can arrange for scheduled classes to be automatically recorded and integrated into their class Canvas sites. Easy and quick—students love access to class sessions, especially if they have missed a class or are reviewing the class material.

Faculty can also download the Panopto software to their own computers and record lectures. Recorded lectures can be used asynchronously for a flipped classroom or to hold class during an unplanned event—such as a snowstorm! Faculty interested in a more professional presentation can reserve the new sound-insulated recording studio in the CTE. The studio is equipped with a camera, microphone and viewscreen that functions like a teleprompter (right). A green screen is also available to serve as the background in videos. Green screen backgrounds can be replaced with a different background with simple editing. You can appear to stand in front of the Taj Majal as you lecture about it!



Contact the CTE staff (centerforteaching@bc.edu) to set up classroom or personal Panopto or to use the recording studio. See the CTE site (bc.edu/CTE/tools) for additional technical details, information on Panopto workshops, and tips for producing effective videos.

Skype brings the world to your classroom - and vice versa

You are probably already acquainted with Skype, the free video conferencing software. Recognizing the power of this technology for education, BC faculty have been adapting Skype for interesting classroom uses. Some faculty have used Skype to hold discussions with experts in a field or with colleagues in other countries. Others have used Skype to hold classes when they are at a conference or unable to get to campus (e.g. snowstorms or health issues). Classroom Skype requirements are simple: a computer, a camera, a microphone, speakers and a projector. Most classroom settings can be configured for Skype sessions, but faculty can also reserve the CTE's innovation lab, which is already wired for video conferences.



On the left, graduate students are using Skype in the CTE to meet with their Mexican counterparts in GSSW's International Doctoral Program in Social Welfare (IDPSW). Classroom furniture has been arranged so that BC students see the Mexican students projected on a Mondopad. First-year Latin American students in the IDPSW program take an online course at their home universities and then join BC students, who are no longer strangers, for the second and third years of the program.

Not just for students! Walk-in Help Desk provides services to faculty

Although your TC remains the contact person for any issues with your BC computer, the Walk-In Help Desk in O'Neill 316 is ready to help you with your personal and mobile devices. In addition, the Help Desk offers software instruction and technology consultation. Help Desk personnel can help your students install software used in your courses or arrange to have the software uploaded to the BC Citrix server when possible. Contact help@bc.edu or drop in!



Welcome Stacy Grooters, CTE Director of Faculty Programs



Stacy Grooters comes to BC with extensive experience both in teaching and in professional development programs. Stacy began teaching as a Peace Corps volunteer in Mongolia, after which she obtained an M.A. and a Ph.D. degree in English, with a concentration in Women's Studies, from U. Washington. Prior to coming to BC, Stacy was the founding director of the Center for Teaching and Learning at Stonehill College. Stacy's personal research focuses on diversity in higher education. Stacy welcomes your thoughts and ideas for future faculty programs.

Cyber security attacks grow in number and sophistication

Phishing attempts to steal personal information may appear as email or text messages asking for personal information or passwords. The messages appear to come from a trusted source, such as BC or a bank. NEVER click on links in the messages, which redirect you to phishing sites. ***ITS recommends that you hover your mouse over a link to reveal the actual URL.*** The Federal Trade Commission provides some other useful advice about phishing at <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0003-phishing>.



Cyber attacks on Mac users are becoming more common. These often appear as browser pop-up windows warning you of viruses or security issues. Audio messages may accompany the message and users may be unable to click out of the browser window without force-quitting the browser. Clicking on links may direct you to phishing sites or may install malware on your computer.

To counter some of these attacks, BC will soon require secondary authentication to change important personal information, such as your bank account numbers. You will be asked to specify a personal device to receive notifications of any request to change your personal information, as well as the kind of notification that you prefer—text, email, phone call. Following the notification, you will have one day to authorize the requested change to your information. Testing of the new system, DuoPush, will begin soon.

Technology tidbits

- **Yosemite and El Capitan operating systems for Mac computers** - The compatibility issues between BC security and backup systems and the Yosemite (OSX v.10.10) operating system have been resolved. A few issues are still unresolved with the newer El Capitan (OSX v.10.11), however, so faculty are advised NOT to upgrade to El Capitan until further notice.
- **MyFiles** has been moved behind the BC firewall. Consequently, files can only be accessed through a campus computer or through Eagle VPN when off campus. MyFiles will likely be retired in 2016 after a suitable replacement is identified. For now, faculty can continue to store confidential data on MyFiles, but non-confidential files should be moved to Google Drive, Canvas or the BC Wiki. For a definition of confidential data, see www.bc.edu/data.
- **Eduroam network** - BC's transition to the eduroam network involved significant upgrades in infrastructure. Not surprisingly, the transition experienced a few bumps, particularly when students returned to campus. Contact ITS with any problems that you may still be encountering. The most exciting outcome of the eduroam upgrade is that faculty and students are automatically connected to secure Internet connections when traveling to other eduroam institutions, which include most universities. For more information about eduroam at BC, see www.bc.edu/getconnected.

This newsletter is a service of the FMRC, intended to communicate technology news to the faculty community. Please send me your technology news! - Clare O'Connor (clare.oconnor@bc.edu)

Thanks to Michael Connolly, Kit Baum, Stacy Grooters, Cristina Mirshekari, Scott Cann, Shanna Gilberg, Gabriel LaRusso, Olivia Amadon and Scott Kinder for supplying information and commentary for this newsletter. - C.O.