



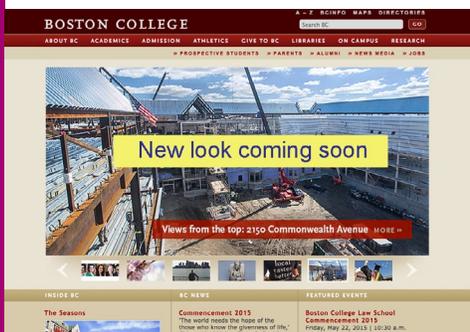
Faculty Technology Newsletter

Spring, 2015



Significant technology transitions will be occurring on campus over the summer. In the stories below, you will find details about redesigned University web pages, the eduroam network, clicker upgrades, a new drone, and technology tidbits. Best wishes for an enjoyable and productive summer. As always, please send me your technology news. - *Clare O'Connor* (clare.oconnor@bc.edu)

Major facelift of the University website begins in July



Since the last major redesign of the BC website in 2005, the proliferation of mobile devices and changes in user preferences have spurred major changes in website design. Following two years of planning by a diverse group of University personnel and professional designers, 30-40 redesigned core web pages will be released in early July. (Other pages will follow over the next 1-2 years.) The new bc.edu is a brighter and more colorful space that incorporates larger images and infographics. The new site has a responsive design that automatically adapts the page display to the device being used to access the site. Its modular organization will also facilitate updates.

Eduroam provides secure, world-wide Internet access



Eduroam is a secure Internet2 access service that serves the international research and education community. As the name implies, eduroam allows members of the University community to obtain secure network connections at thousands of participating universities and research facilities around the world. An edu-roamer's credentials are authenticated through their home institutions, negating the need for obtaining guest credentials while traveling. Lists of participating institutions are available at <http://eduroam.org>.

Eduroam has been available at the library and limited locations at BC since 2012. This June, the eduroam network will be extended throughout campus, replacing the bcsecure network. Wireless networks on the Chestnut Hill and Brighton campuses will be upgraded on June 2nd, followed by the Newton campus on June 4th. Connecting to eduroam is simple. Users select the eduroam network and then log in with BCusername@bc.edu (note the addition of @bc.edu) as their username and their University password. For additional information about connecting to eduroam and the upgrade schedule, see

<http://www.bc.edu/offices/help/getstarted/network/getconnected.html>

Interested in flipping your classroom? The CTE can help.

Educators are increasingly using innovative technologies to “flip” the classroom. In the flipped classroom model, students take more responsibility for their learning. Students view online tutorials and engage in course materials before a topic is introduced in class. Students then come to class better prepared to engage in class discussions and higher-order activities. The Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) is organizing a faculty group who are interested in flipping their classrooms. To join the group or learn more about the details, **contact the CTE** (centerforteaching@bc.edu).

Personal response technology gets an upgrade and a pilot

iClickers have provided reliable personal response technology in the classroom since 2007, but integration with Canvas has been problematic. Upcoming hardware and software upgrades are expected to correct the problem. Over the summer, the 100+ hubs on campus will be replaced with new hubs configured for i>Clicker 7 software. Instructors will need to download the i>Clicker7 software. The new software combines the iClicker and iGrader functions in a single program, but the classroom experience should be unchanged. *Importantly, the upgrade does not require students to purchase new clickers.*



During the 2015-2016 academic year, the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) will also be conducting a pilot study of two competing cloud-based personal response systems (PRSs), Top Hat and Poll Everywhere. The latter systems allow students to use their mobile devices or laptops to answer a variety of multiple choice and open-ended question types. Student responses can be viewed as lists, word clouds, or graphs.

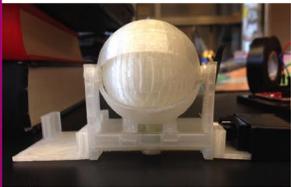
If you are interested in participating in the pilot, contact the CTE (centerforteaching@bc.edu)

News from the Faculty Micro Resource Center (FMRC)

The FMRC Flying Circus began with the acquisition of a Phantom 2 Vision+ drone equipped with a high definition video camera. (The drone's maiden flight is shown in the banner to this newsletter.) Faculty who are interested in using the drone should contact George Wyner (CSOM), who is leading our user's group.



Faculty are using the 3D printer in the FMRC for interesting projects. Joe Burdo (Biology) is printing anatomical models that can be animated using small motors. On the left, see a model of an eyeball assembled by Joe's student, Hannah O'Day, from individually printed pieces. The eyeball serves as proof-of-concept for a spring course in which advanced lab students will use electrical signals from their own bodies to control a printed 3-D object using a BCI (openbci.org) board as interface.



Faculty are encouraged to visit the FMRC (O'Neill 250I) whenever the CTE is open. Check the FMRC Google Calendar for staffed hours, which may change over the summer. The moderators (Connolly, Baum, O'Connor) are happy to meet outside those hours. Email individual moderators or use fmrc@bc.edu to schedule meetings.

Technology tidbits

- **Google consumer apps** - The BC community has been using core Google services (Mail, Groups, Calendar, Drive, Groups, Sites) without data mining and advertising. In the fall, the University community will have access to additional Google consumer services (YouTube, Maps, Books, Scholar...) without these same protections as core services. ITS is designing an interface that will help users to understand these distinctions.
- **Library/ITS construction** - Expect to see construction on the third floor of O'Neill this summer as ITS and the library consolidate their reference and help services.
- **Panopto** is replacing Echo 360 for lecture capture. Panopto is a cloud-based application with improved customer support and Canvas integration. The classroom experience should be the same as Echo 360.
- **Linux cluster** - 52 new computing nodes (128 Gbytes each) have been added to the Linux cluster, providing a significant increase in crunching power.
- See the summer schedule for ITS workshops at <http://www.bc.edu/offices/researchservices/tutorials.html>

Thanks to Kit Baum, Michael Connolly, Scott Olivieri, Bryan Blakely, Cristina Joy, Scott Cann, Barry Schaudt, and Joe Burdo for supplying information and commentary for this newsletter. - C.O.