

Broadening Access

A Cooperative Approach to Distance Education

BROUGHT TO YOU ON BEHALF OF TITLE V CO-OP GRANT

New Mexico State University -
Alamogordo & Carlsbad

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Today's Quote

A positive attitude may not solve all your problems,
but it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort.
- *Herm Albright (1876-1944)*

2007 Exemplary Course Program



The WebCT and Blackboard Exemplary Course Programs have merged, and the new name is the Blackboard Greenhouse Exemplary Course Program. Members of the WebCT and Blackboard user communities are welcome to submit courses for this year's project.

Blackboard's mission is to enable educational innovations everywhere by connecting people and technology.

The Exemplary Course Program (ECP) recognizes courses that model best prac-

tices in learning, course design, interaction and collaboration, assessment and evaluation, meaningful technology use, and learner support.

Submitted courses will be evaluated by a team of trained reviewers from across the country. Submitted courses must also be archives of a course and completed prior to January 30, 2007.



Important Dates:

- **February 5:** Submission Deadline
- **March-May:** Evaluation period
- **May:** Notification of winners
- **June:** Detailed evaluation sent to all participants
- **July 7-12:** Winners honored at BbWorld 2007, Boston, MA

For more information, please contact the LTC. Winning courses from previous years can be located and viewed at:

<http://www.webct.com/exemplary>

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Making the Grade: Online Education in the U.S., 2006

Making the Grade: Online Education in the United States, 2006 represents the state of online learning in U.S. higher education. The report is based on responses from over 2,200 colleges and universities.

- Nearly 3.2 million students were taking at least one online course during the fall 2005 term, a sub-

stantial increase over the 2.3 million reported the previous year.

- The more than 800,000 additional online students is more than twice the number added in any previous year.
- Online students, especially undergraduates, are more likely to be study-

ing at Associates institutions than are their face-to-face contemporaries.

For more information and to download this FREE report, visit Sloan-C Publications at:

<http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/survey/index/asp>

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KUDOS TIMES TWO!

NMSU-Alamogordo and NMSU-Carlsbad would like to congratulate their Coordinators of Instructional Technology.

Michelle A. Farley (NMSU-A) and Lorie B. Mitchell (NMSU-C) completed the necessary coursework for their Master of Arts in Education with an emphasis in Curriculum & Instruction—Educational Learning Technologies.

WAY TO GO!!!!

Services & Software Offered by the Learning Technology Center

It is the goal of the Learning Technology center to provide NMSU-A faculty and staff with appropriate professional development opportunities utilizing technology and related software. The LTC offers various workshops throughout the year to include:

- WebCT
- Macromedia Studio 8
- Microsoft Office
- Adobe
- Teaching Academy events

We are dedicated to assisting you in the development of your online courses as well as

technology skills and offer lab hours specific to faculty needs, one-on-one technology assistance, and PERSONALIZED WebCT support.

Software available includes:

- Macromedia Studio 8
- Lesson Builder by Softchalk
- Microsoft Office
- Adobe Pro
- Impatica
- Captivate

The LTC also provides support to online via

WebCT. If you haven't visited the "Faculty Community" or the "Student Support Success Site", please contact the LTC to be added! It is a great place to share ideas, obtain information, and ask for help outside of the normal work day.

ATTENTION

In an effort to increase our faculty support who are teaching online, the LTC will be offering Introduction to WebCT workshops for students. If you have not received a flyer with dates and times, please let us know. Information is also available on campus bulletin boards as well as the Spring 2007 NMSU-A class schedule.

Perspectives in Quality Online Education: Concept Mapping

Sloan-C View—*Concept Mapping: A Dynamic Pedagogical Tool for Asynchronous and Synchronous Interactions.*

Concept maps have been used for many years as way of graphically organizing thoughts about concepts.

Concept maps come in lots of different forms, typically of a "spider" type in which a central theme is surrounded by nodes that explain the theme or in a hierarchy in which a concept is

decomposed. Other forms frequently used include flow charts, schematics and the like.

Most maps are quite useful in assisting of concepts, especially for visual learners. One can read details of concept maps in various publications (e.g., see: Novak, Joseph D., Learning, Creating and Using Knowledge, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 1998).

Several FREE software tools make it possible for on-line groups to collaborate on online

concept maps.

For more information on concept mapping and links to free, downloadable software, please visit:

<http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/view/v6n1/conceptmap.asp>

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At some point...we must have faith in the intelligence of the end user.

- Anonymous

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