Is Your Syllabus Accessible to All Students?
CSU, Chico has a goal of making all course syllabi “accessible” this fall, in accordance with the Chancellor’s Office Accessible Technology Initiative.

What does this mean for faculty? If a syllabus is “accessible,” it is in an electronic format such as Word, a Web page, or Acrobat PDF that makes it usable, readable, and even searchable to all students.

TLP is offering multiple one-hour workshops called, Make Your Course Syllabus Accessible. In this workshop, faculty will learn how to use heading styles to create structured, consistent documents which enable users to jump directly to the information they seek. Tabular data and calendars can be converted to accessible tables which make editing, reading, and printing easier. Participants will learn to describe images with alternative text to ensure all information is available to users of assistive technology. Employing these practices, faculty will create a well designed syllabus which is more usable and accessible for learners of every ability and learning style – and faculty will be able to do the same for all instructional materials created with these programs.

Accessibility of course materials is an important goal for the CSU system, and Chico State is leading the way to compliance with the Accessible Technology Initiative to ensure that all students have equal and timely access to all materials. To enroll in the accessible syllabus training, visit the TLP accessibility web page at www.csuchico.edu/tlp/accessibility.

Fall 2008
MLIB 003 | 898.6167 | www.csuchico.edu/tlp
tlp@csuchico.edu | Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Faculty’s “one-stop-shop” for using technology in teaching and learning

ATI Course Makeover Summer Camps
This summer, 58 faculty members participated in two-day intensive workshops learning about the Chancellor’s Accessibility Technology Initiative (ATI). Come see what they accomplished and join them in applying new ways to make courses accessible to all students by applying the principles of Universal Design for Learning and the Rubric for Online Instruction.

Vista Campus
Community for all faculty
The Vista Campus Community appears in the Vista course list of all faculty members. This community houses TLP training, tutorials, and discussion areas for: ATI, Distance Learning, Clickers, Camtasia, Voice Tools, large enrollment classes, and more. Check out the conversations, tips and tricks, and collaboration available. Look in your myVista list.
TLP Web Site

The Technology and Learning Program is constantly improving our Web site to provide current information on using technology in curricula. A TLP blog is set up to give insights into the newest Web 2 educational technologies. Currently we point you to articles in online journals, such as Chico’s Kent Sandoe and Valerie Milliron’s article, The Net-Generation Cheating Challenge. Our Web site also points you to the Wiki which houses the Vista Knowledge Base for current issues, fixes, questions and answers, and best practices on how to use Vista.

Exemplary Online Instruction

This year seven faculty members are being recognized at the CELT Conference for their exemplary online courses. These faculty applied the Rubric for Online Instruction to achieve this superior level of instruction.

Ann Bykerk-Kauffman, GEOS; Denny Gier, CIVL; Colleen Hatfield, NSCI; Donna Jensen, SWRK; Steve Koch, SPED; Ann P. Martin, GEOG; and Terry Miller-Herringer, PSYC will showcase their courses on October 10, 1:00-2:30 p.m. in MLIB Studio A.

Turning Point Technologies “Clicker” News

Chico State has chosen Turning Point’s clicker as the campus supported student response system. More than 1,500 students used it in fall 2007 and spring 2008, and 19 instructors adopted it for classes, many that are large enrollment classes.

Workshops are being offered to show how to use clickers for taking attendance and polling students for lecture comprehension. Advanced workshops are being designed to introduce instructors to the assessment uses of clickers, so results can be brought directly into the grade book in Vista online courses.

Wimba Voice Tools Broaden Student Learning

Using computer microphones, the Wimba Voice Board tool allows users to create threaded voice discussions. Instructors, as well as students, can post audio messages with accompanying text. This tool is excellent for creating an area for ongoing discussions. Instructors can speak or read a foreign language at the same time, or simply create threaded voice discussions about any subject. Great for brainstorming and collaborating on almost any topic in any language, instructors and students can post vocal messages with accompanying text into the voice-based message boards. Instructors and students can discuss multiple subjects at once by dividing new topics into their own threads.

Wimba Voice Direct, a live voice and chat application, enables instructors and students to have two-way audio communication over the Internet. This software lets participants conduct a live conversation from anywhere there is Internet access, anytime of the day or night, regardless of time zones and long-distance calls. Voice Direct is an online conference center that can act as a classroom, practice arena, tutoring center, or office. This software can be added to Blackboard Vista with only one click.

Students and faculty can use the built-in Podcast Recorder to create a voice recording. Class members can then listen to this file on the Web or download it to their PC or Mac, or to a portable digital music player such as an iPod. Files can also be directed to RSS feeds or iTunes by clicking on the buttons in the podcaster interface.

The Voice Presentation Tool is an application instructors use for authoring online presentations that utilize both voice and active live Web surfing. Voice commentaries can be recorded to online PowerPoint presentations or other online resources that otherwise would have to be surfed without guidance.

Watch TLP’s Web site for upcoming Technology in Learning & Teaching (TILT) faculty symposia! TLP works closely with CELT on presenting technology workshops and providing group discussions for faculty. www.csuchico.edu/tp/tilt/