Canvas Migration by Summer 2017

The summer pilot of Canvas was a success! EVC piloted 8 online, 3 hybrid and 8 on-campus classes while SJCC piloted 7 online, 2 hybrid and 5 on-campus classes. The online course subjects included Astronomy, Computer Information System, English, Ethnic Studies, Family and Consumer Studies, History, and Mathematics. The DE coordinators from each college, Heidi Kozlowski and Nasreen Rahim, provided 3 hours of paid-training to 60 instructors and EVC offered a 3 unit course with Canvas for developing online courses that was successfully completed by 31 faculty.

As planned, we will continue to use Moodle along with Canvas for fall 2016 and spring 2017 terms. **Beginning summer 2017, Moodle will no longer be available and all online and hybrid classes will use Canvas.** To assist students during this transition year, ITSS has posted a list of which LMS is used by each online and hybrid class. The list is accessible at the Moodle site, Canvas site and Help Desk.

A blank course-shell has been created in Moodle and Canvas for all 2016FA courses. These are auto-populated with students and may be activated (or not) by instructors at their option.

Technology Planning this Fall

The District and Colleges have joined together to select a common vendor to provide information technology planning services this fall. Plante Moran was selected through a competitive RFP process and are preparing to work with us in September. The goal is to develop three new IT Strategic Technology Plans (5-year) — EVC, SJCC and Districtwide — that are individualized and integrated in support of common district wide technology initiatives, priorities and projects. The technology plans will incorporate a common format that includes Strategic Goals and an Action Plan to list projects and project attributes. The Action Plan will be reviewed and revised on an annual basis. The IT Strategic Plans will reflect the mission, vision, values and organizational planning documents (e.g., Educational Master Plan, Strategic Plan, etc.) from their respective locations. **The planning process will include employee and student surveys in September and stakeholder group meetings in October.** The District Technology Planning Group will serve as the steering committee and each college will have its own planning group. The goal is to complete the new plans by the end of the calendar year.
EVC Network Infrastructure Upgrades

This summer saw the near culmination of three years of planning and preparations as the EVC network infrastructure has undergone a series of major upgrades. Three major projects have been underway and are soon coming to complete fruition: (1) New Main Distribution Facility (MDF) to replace MDF in Roble (to be demolished), (2) New underground fiber optics cabling from each building to the new MDF with increased bandwidth capacity and additional category 6 cabling for security and phones, (3) New network switches, firewalls and wireless access points to increase the network bandwidth (Multi-40 GB backbone), capacity and wireless coverage. These projects are funded by the Measure G-2010 Bond Program. Additional work will be done soon to complete the cabling, activate more wireless, enable wireless authentication, move servers and the MPOE. Many staff and contractors have worked on various parts of these projects including Gilbane, CampusWorks, Salas O’Brien, Dasher Technologies, Cupertino Electric and TMS—however I would like to especially acknowledge the work of Heather Lancaster, District Network Technology Manager, who has provided exemplary leadership, commitment, perseverance and service for network planning and upgrades at EVC and throughout the District over the past 2 1/2 years.

Free Technology Resources

Microsoft Office—Thanks to our Microsoft Campus Agreement, employees and students may install Office on up to 5 personal PCs/Macs and up to 5 mobile devices. After logging into http://outlook.com/sjeccd.edu (or sjcc.edu or /evc.edu), select “Office 365” in the upper left of the browser window and follow the directions. For Office tutorials go to the District Help Desk.

Zoom—Zoom is a fantastic communication tool for audio/video and desktop sharing. As a CCC employee you may request a Professional version at no cost from http://cccconfer.org.

Sophos — Free security for home computers.

National Cyber Security Awareness Month

It’s getting to be that time of year again for us to remember the importance of cyber security at work and at home and to improve our practices. For tips and resources on staying safe online—Malware and botnets, spam and phishing, hacked accounts, securing home network, ID theft and fraud, passwords, social networks, online shopping, back ups, cyberbullying, etc.—go to StaySafeOnline.org.

CCC Common Assessment Initiative (CAI)

Both colleges are scheduled to pilot the California Community Colleges Common Assessment Initiative (CAI) for new ESL, math and English assessments this fall. The new placement method introduces an innovative way to assess student readiness by producing a “skills inventory” instead of a single score. In addition, as part of multiple measures, placements will take into account the HS GPA and highest math and language course. Faculty have been working on mapping skills to placement levels and ITSS is working with the colleges to implement the new Common Assessment Initiative by November. For additional information about the CCC effort see a recent online article in TechEdge, “CCCAssess Product of ‘Uncommon Collaboration’“ (July 14, 2016).

Non-IT Word

gigil (noun) (Filipino) the irresistible urge to pinch or squeeze something that is unbearably cute and adorable