Portal, Emergency Phones, iTunes U and Other Initiatives
Technology and Library Services (TLS) has been exceptionally busy with a number of new projects this semester …read more.

New Science Fiction and Fantasy Collection at the Library
On Tuesday, March 24th, the library celebrated one of DelVal’s own, Michael Tabachnick, professor of mathematics and physics…read more.

Congratulations to the “Green the Campus” Contest Winner
TLS recently partnered with Facilities Services to sponsor a “Green the Campus” contest. The challenge? Create a short, catchy slogan that encourages the DelVal community to conserve energy…read more.

Blackboard’s Gradebook Feature
Do you dread calculating (and re-calculating) your students’ grade scores? Do you wish there were an easier way to provide feedback to your students? Have no fear…read more.

Classes in Session at the TLS Training Center
Would you like to learn more about Blackboard, Datatel, Mercury Commerce, or a Microsoft Office product? If so, simply sign up for a training session in the TLS Training Center…read more.

Help Desk Hours during Registration
In an effort to improve the course registration process, TLS provided additional WebAdvisor assistance by opening the Help Desk on the evenings of…read more.

Inside DelVal, the Campus Portal
On Monday, April 20th, TLS announced the launch of Inside DelVal, the new campus portal. Inside DelVal is a gateway to web-based services and information for the campus community …read more.
Technology and Library Services (TLS) has been exceptionally busy with a number of new projects this semester. On April 20\textsuperscript{th}, we welcomed the arrival of Inside DelVal, the new campus portal. In addition to providing single sign-on functionality for the students, the portal will serve as a one-stop information resource for the entire campus community. Click here to read more about the many benefits of Inside DelVal.

The college is now a proud member of Apple’s iTunes University. TLS will be using iTunes U to assist professors with podcasts and lectures, and to share educational content with other colleges and universities.

Installation of seven blue-light emergency phones will take place after Commencement. The new phones will soon be operational at strategic locations across campus.

We’re also taking a look at additional wireless for students as well as an increase in Internet bandwidth. We hope to address some of these needs during the summer.

Lastly, for the students, best of luck on finals.

William A. Brichta
Vice President for Technology and Library Services
April 30, 2009

DelVal has been admitted! The college will soon be offering podcasting with the help of iTunes University. Podcasts may vary in subject and length. Audio and video-with-audio options are available. The audio podcasts will play on any PC or MP3 player (no iPod necessary). Most computers and portable video devices can easily handle the video-and-audio versions.
New Science Fiction and Fantasy Collection at the Library

On Tuesday, March 24th, the library celebrated one of DelVal’s own, Michael Tabachnick, professor of mathematics and physics. The occasion was the dedication of the Michael Tabachnick Collection of Science Fiction and Fantasy, donated to the library by Mike in memory of his mother, Yadvega Yellen.

In a brief speech, Mike recounted how he disliked reading as a boy until the day his mother presented him with a work of science fiction. She suggested that he give the book a try for twenty minutes. Two hours later, his mother called him for dinner, and he was still turning the pages. That book not only got Mike reading, it also initiated his lifelong love of science fiction.

English professor Brian Lutz then presented a mini-lecture about the appeal of fantasy and science fiction. He noted that some people are drawn to the genres because they are dissatisfied with their present state of affairs. These readers may regard the future as a place of adventure and opportunity, or the past as a time of safety and simplicity. Another reason for reading the works is merely to escape the present day in order to visit worlds where the imagination is free to roam. At the conclusion of the collection’s dedication, Professor Lutz and Dr. Michael Stamps led a Book & Movie Club discussion of Robert Heinlein’s Starship Troopers and its film adaptation.

The new collection is housed in the Shapiro Wing of the library on shelves made by retired English professor Ed Lawrence. Writers such as Isaac Asimov, Orson Scott Card and Anne McCaffrey are included in the assortment of over 400 books. The collection is a welcome addition to the library, as it greatly expands the leisure reading options available to the college community. So whether you are looking to visit another galaxy or to spend your leisure hours slaying dragons, the Michael Tabachnick Collection of Science Fiction and Fantasy is sure to please the astronaut or knight within.

Marian Schad
Cataloging Librarian
Congratulations to the “Green the Campus” Contest Winner

TLS recently partnered with Facilities Services to sponsor a “Green the Campus” contest. The challenge? Create a short, catchy slogan that encourages the DelVal community to conserve energy. The prize? Fifty dollars! Dozens of students submitted entries, and Rebecca Steffenino’s clever design was ultimately chosen as the winner. Be sure to watch for her slogan (below) on future posters, buttons, and flyers. Congratulations, Rebecca!

TLS Tips for Conserving Energy on Campus

Print conscientiously. Choose double-sided printing and copying whenever possible. Print PowerPoint presentations in formats like Notes Pages or Handouts. Edit papers online with Microsoft markups or Google Docs.

Recycle paper waste. Use the backs of old projects, paper drafts, and other non-sensitive documents as scrap paper. Take advantage of the blue recycling bins on campus.

Select Energy Star “sleep mode” settings and other energy-efficient options for computers and monitors.

Don’t use a screen saver with moving images. The moving images force the monitor to consume as much electricity as it does during active use!

Return used cartridges from faculty and staff printers to the Help Desk for recycling.

STUDENTS: Turn off personal computers, printers, and other electronics when not in use!

Read more about these and other tips in the Green Computing Guide, a publication of the Environmental Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Return to Newsletter
Dear Faculty,

*Do you dread calculating (and re-calculating) your students’ grade scores? Do you wish there were an easier way to provide feedback to your students?*

Have no fear, Blackboard’s Gradebook is here!

The end of the semester is always a good time to think about possible workflow improvements for next semester. Did you know that you can easily accomplish your common grading administrative tasks with Blackboard’s Gradebook feature?

If you haven’t already used Blackboard’s Gradebook, I encourage you to try this built-in feature. It’s easy to customize and extremely user-friendly. The Gradebook can help you keep track of graded activities throughout the semester, and will even calculate final grades and assignment statistics automatically.

Your students will also thank you! Many students like to gauge their progress in the course and will enjoy having 24/7 access to their grades in one central location.

Interested in learning more? Please consider registering for the upcoming hour-long training session during Professional Development Day on Tuesday, May 12th. As always, please don’t hesitate to call (x2467), write (cynthia.renner@delval.edu) or stop by (Elson 115) any time!

With warm regards,

Cindy Renner
Assistant Director of Educational Technology

---

**What is TLS Reading?**

Bill Brichta is reading Bob Spitz’s *The Beatles: The Biography*.
Mike Davis is enjoying Lee Child’s *Echo Burning*.
Janet Klaessig read a great *New Yorker article about Ponzi schemes*.
Sarah Penniman just finished David Guterson’s *The Other*.

[Return to Newsletter]
Classes in Session at the TLS Training Center

Would you like to learn more about Blackboard, Datatel, Mercury Commerce, or a Microsoft Office product? If so, simply sign up for a training session in the TLS Training Center! Upcoming classes will include the following topics:

- Avaya phone training
- mail merges in Word 2003
- reports in Access 2003*
- queries in Access 2003*
- organizational charts in Visio 2003
- P-card use on the JP Morgan website

Any departments interested in providing training for faculty or staff can reserve the room in Segal Hall by calling the Help Desk at x4357. If you require specific software for your training, please notify TLS well in advance of your session. If you have any training ideas or suggestions, please email Support@delval.edu.

*working knowledge of Access is required for this class

Help Desk Hours during Registration

In an effort to improve the course registration process, TLS provided additional WebAdvisor assistance by opening the Help Desk on the evenings of March 29th, April 1st, and April 5th. Donna Doan and Brenda Lazarus were available from 9:30PM to 12:00AM each night to answer questions and to help students with problems related to WebAdvisor. The college was also able to purchase more licenses so that a larger percentage of each class could register online simultaneously. Many students were pleased with the new 9:45PM start time and the faster WebAdvisor response. A special thanks to Donna and Brenda for their nighttime troubleshooting efforts!
Inside DelVal, the Campus Portal

On Monday, April 20th, TLS announced the launch of Inside DelVal, the new campus portal. Inside DelVal is a gateway to web-based services and information for the campus community. It offers single sign-on access to WebAdvisor and Blackboard, and it provides targeted communications and customizable enhancements for all students, faculty and staff.

The Top 5 Reasons To Use Inside DelVal…

1. One-Stop Resource Center: Log in (once!) to review announcements, to access forms, to post photos, to communicate with clubs and committees, and to keep track of pertinent DelVal information.

2. Personalized Content: The portal displays specialized content for each user group (student, faculty, or staff), so you don’t have to sift through information that doesn’t pertain directly to you.

3. Single Sign-On Access: Log in to the portal and open WebAdvisor and Blackboard without entering additional usernames or passwords!

4. Customizable Layout: Personalize your homepage by choosing the information channels that best suit your preferences and needs.

5. 24/7 Access: Log in at 2PM or 3AM, in your dorm or from home! The online portal is available at all times and in all locations.

The launch of Inside DelVal is the culmination of effort from many representatives in various offices across campus. Over the coming months, the portal will expand to include additional departments and resources. By the fall semester, the site will be the main source of DelVal information, complete with important announcements, campus events, items for sale, forms, and other resources. You’ll also have the ability to connect and interact online with others in your club, committee, or public forum. Training opportunities and additional information will be forthcoming.

Start exploring the portal today! Simply go to the college’s homepage, click on the Campus Portal icon, and enter your login information. TLS welcomes your feedback, so please send any comments or suggestions to portal@delval.edu.