

## Information Technology Services Updates

### ITS Update – 02/14/07

#### *Daylight Savings Time*

As you may know most of the United States will go to Daylight Savings Time at 2 a.m. on March 11th instead of the April date to which we have all become accustomed. Generally speaking this is not a big deal, and certainly not of Y2K caliber. But it's also not entirely inconsequential.

Technology systems of all kinds are clearly more complicated and many of them depend on sophisticated interactions with internal clocks so it's not out of the realm of possibility that some application may be thrown off course by this change. The message here is that disruptions of any kind, and certainly major ones, are highly unlikely – but as always when something doesn't seem quite right – especially on March 11 – please call the Helpdesk (2220) and report it.

#### *VISTA at Hamline*

For those of you that watch the PC world (or even just a little TV) you are aware that Microsoft has just released the latest version of the Windows operating system (OS) known as Vista. If you've been around Hamline (or just about any other organization) for any length of time you've come to realize that no self-respecting IT shop runs out immediately and adopts these new releases.

The reason for this is very simple. While Microsoft has plenty of resources to develop these major OS upgrades, the vendors that are supporting the tens of thousands of applications that must run on them do not. The inevitable result is that, for some time, you have a shiny new operating system on which many applications no longer work.

The message here is: Proceed with caution. Hamline won't be adopting Vista very soon. Everything is working just fine under XP. (We waited over a year for them to get all the bugs out). A private user, however, in the market for a new PC may find it virtually impossible to purchase one with anything but Vista on it – something to consider as you shop. Similarly, if you're planning to upgrade an existing system you may want to exercise substantial caution before moving in this direction. In both cases, you may first want to check with the vendors of the major applications you intend to run to ensure they will be compatible with Vista.

#### *COTF XIII (Classrooms of the Future)*

The Classrooms of the Future (COTF) Committee of the Associated Colleges of the Twin Cities (ACTC) is pleased to announce our Call for Proposals for Classrooms of the Future XIII. This year's theme is: ***Teaching, Learning, and Technology: In That Order.***

**This year's conference will be from 8 to 4 on May 22<sup>nd</sup> (right after Commencement!) and is being hosted by Hamline University.**

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Classrooms of the Future is an opportunity for higher education professionals to come together to talk about their practices for teaching with technology. COTF intentionally creates a relaxed atmosphere to promote discussion and dialogue between you and your colleagues. Individual or group presentations, as well as student co-presenters, are encouraged. Presentations may be lecture or interactive hands-on format.

The COTF Review Committee invites all faculty and staff to submit proposals for the COTF conference sessions as well as the post-conference workshops. You are invited as a presenter to talk with your colleagues about:

- Research on technology and learning
- Instructional strategies that work
- Technology innovations and open source software
- Emerging trends and hopes for the future
- Pedagogical applications of social networking and online gaming

Don't miss your chance to submit a proposal for COTF XIII before **March 19, 2007**.

Go to <http://www.associatedcolleges-tc.org/cotf/> and click on the Call for Proposals link.

The symposium will kick off with a morning keynote by Stephen W. Gilbert. Gilbert founded the Teaching, Learning, and Technology (TLT) Group, an independent nonprofit organization, originally affiliated with the American Association for Higher Education (AAHE), in January 1998.

Previously he had been with EDUCOM since 1983, serving as Vice President, and then came to AAHE as Director, Technology Projects, in July 1993 where he developed the TLT Roundtable concept and the AAHESGIT Listserv. More information on Gilbert can be found at the TLT Group <http://www.tlgroup.org/about/stevengilbert/gilbert.html> .

If you have questions or need more information about this or any other ITS Update, please contact Harry Pontiff, CIO (2860; [hpontiff@hamline.edu](mailto:hpontiff@hamline.edu)).