

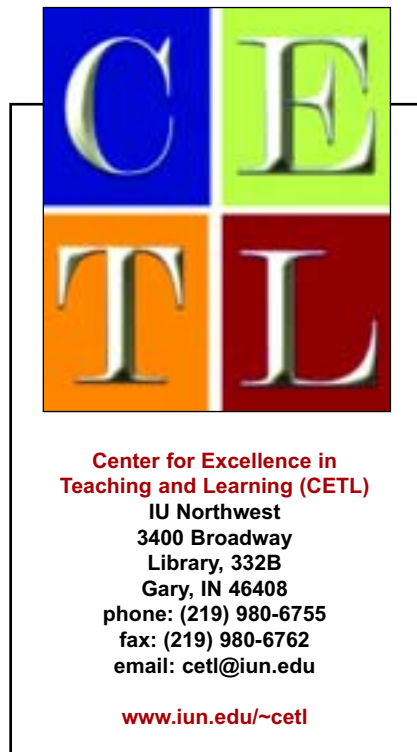
Big changes in Oncourse for Fall 2005

Faculty who are teaching classes during the Fall 2005 semester will see big changes in their Oncourse environment. Indiana University is moving forward in the 2005-2006 transition from the original Oncourse to the new Oncourse Collaboration and Learning (CL) environment. This transition includes a new look and additional tools.

This summer, the first time faculty members select a fall class from the original Oncourse profile, a new browser window will open and the class will appear in the new Oncourse CL. Within the class site, you will see the class roster and the Oncourse CL features and capabilities. For example, you'll see some new names for old tools and some brand new tools as well. Each course site has 250MB of storage space. In addition, the new Resources tool (similar to My Filemanager in the original Oncourse) provides a new 250MB of private storage space.

As Faculty of Record, you decide whether a class will use the new Oncourse CL environment or the original Oncourse. If you're trying to decide which version of Oncourse to use this fall, you are encouraged to take the Oncourse CL Readiness Survey, which can be accessed by clicking the "Faculty: Which Oncourse for Your Course" link from the My Tools section of your original Oncourse profile. It is designed to lead you through a short set of questions about the way you currently teach and manage your courses in the original Oncourse. Upon completion of the short survey, you will be provided with a summary and recommendation whether the original or new Oncourse will better accommodate your Fall 2005 classes. The survey should take less than five minutes.

If the survey's recommendation is to use the original Oncourse and you are comfortable with that, just login to the original Oncourse and from the Profile page choose the "Move My Course Back into original Oncourse" link. You will be able to make this choice for Spring 2006 courses as well. However, if you're not teaching a course in the new Oncourse CL, we would encourage you to get a "practice course" site to become familiar with the new environment. You can do this by using the form on your original Oncourse profile page in My Tools, the



"Oncourse CL Project Site Request."

Some faculty may already have done enough preliminary work in the new Oncourse CL, either on their own or with help from others, to have decided which Oncourse they'll use for their Fall 2005 courses. For those who have already made a decision to use the new Oncourse CL, there are a broad array of online and in-person support mechanisms for faculty and students. The Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) can help faculty integrate Oncourse, either original or new, into their teaching. Additional support information can be found online by clicking the "Faculty/Students: What's Changing for Fall in Oncourse?" link in your Oncourse profile and through the online knowledge base at <http://kb.iu.edu/>

Since some instructors will choose the new Oncourse CL and others the original Oncourse, students will likely have courses in both applications. However everyone will see a full list of their fall classes in both applications. As in the past, the original Oncourse profile page will show fall classes in a list of links. In the new Oncourse CL fall classes will appear as tabs across the top. No matter where you are, it should be easy to get from class to class.

IUN Participates in UITS Faculty Notebook Computer Program

Indiana University recently completed its five-year information technology strategic plan, which focused on equipping classrooms with the latest technology to support the university's mission of teaching, learning, research, outreach and lifelong learning. University Information Technology Services (UITS) has recently extended that plan by implementing a program designed to provide faculty with notebook computers. Michael McRobbie, vice president for Information Technology and CIO of IU, explained the need for such a program: "Information technology is a staple of today's learning environments, and with online course systems and wireless networks making access nearly pervasive, faculty need to be able to connect anytime and anywhere."

At IU Northwest, the UITS Faculty Notebook Computer Program is designed to provide an opportunity for faculty to use technology in classrooms, especially as it relates to Oncourse, to enrich and add flexibility to the student learning experience. The program allows faculty to:

- Experiment with particular features of Oncourse using existing courses
- Migrate to Oncourse from another course management system
- Bring new courses into Oncourse

At IU Northwest, full-time tenured or tenure track faculty, lecturers, clinical faculty and librarians are eligible for the program. Part-time faculty members are eligible where it can be demonstrated that their teaching is essential to the unit. Qualifications are consistent use of course management technology, participation in technology workshops or consultations, and dean approval.

Instructional design and technology specialists at IU Northwest's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) will assist and support faculty who are incorporating the use of notebook computers into their teaching.

CETL will also fund 50 percent of the computer purchase price and provide lifecycle funding for a period of three years. Deans will be asked to make a commitment of 10 percent of the initial and annual cost to CETL for each notebook computer issued to a faculty member in their unit. Since the funds that supplement this program are expected to be exhausted by 2006 and the lifecycle commitment is only three years after receipt of the computer, no commitment will be expected after 2010.

If you are interested in applying, please contact CETL for additional information.