



CECA Newsletter

Connecticut Educators Computer Association

Vol. XV No. 3

President's Awards Presented to Lt. Gov. Rell, SNET/SBC and Tom Buckley

At the September meeting, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to present the second CECA President's Award to Lt. Governor M. Jodi Rell, for her tireless effort, leadership and support of educational technology. The award was presented by Rep. Melody Currey, from the 10th Assembly District, last year's award winner.

Lt. Governor Rell presented Governor Rowland with a comprehensive plan to ensure that Connecticut's schools and libraries are prepared to meet the computer and information technology needs of the 21st Century. In her 19-point plan, she recommended, among other changes, that students be cyber-ready by the sixth grade, that all K-12 classrooms be fully wired and connected to the Internet and that a Connecticut Education Network be established to connect colleges, libraries and schools. Once implemented, the plan will offer the best opportunities for children, teachers and parents in terms of integrating state-of-the-art information technology into classrooms across the state. It will also provide essential training for students, nearly all of whom will prepare for careers that will involve computer usage.

The Connecticut Educator's Computer Association is proud to recognize Lt. Gov. Rell on behalf of Connecticut's students and educators.

SNET/SBC was awarded the first President's Business Award for its long time vision and support in working with CECA to further the use of educational technologies in the learning process. Mr. Harry Carey, Director of External Affairs for SNET/SBC, accepted the award. SNET/SBC has provided leadership, technical expertise and financial support to our annual conference, the Legislative Technology Expo and the CECA Educator's Award. Through these efforts, SNET/SBC has demonstrated that it is a proactive supporter of education and educational technologies.

Tom Buckley, SNET/SBC's Manager-Educational Relations, has been a CECA Board Member for more than 10 years. His support for education, teachers and students is demonstrated by the many hours he spends working on a variety of projects that support education and educational technology. Through his efforts, many CECA events including the CECA Conference and the Legislative Technology Exposition have been connected to the internet. Tom has also secured funding from SNET/SBC to support the CECA Conference and the Educator's Award.

CECA is proud to award our first President's Business Awards to both SNET/SBC and Tom Buckley.

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CECA 2000 The Dawn of a New Millennium

Nina Hansen

If you missed CECA 2000 you missed a great opportunity to see some excellent examples of technology integration at its finest. Educators throughout New England presented practical classroom applications and gave us a glimpse of future technologies. Hands on sessions were a big draw once again. As always the presenter sessions are what makes the conference such a big success. Conference attendees were impressed with the high caliber of our offerings.

Putting a session together takes a great deal of time and effort. Time and time again educators are willing to go the extra mile and share their expertise as they present models for technology integration. Each year as soon as one conference ends we begin our quest to find presenters for the coming year. Their participation is absolutely essential if we are to keep moving forward in our field.

Another big area of interest was the vendor presentations. The annual CECA conference is a wonderful way to get a peek at what is available and to make connections with vendors. Each vendor who participated has made a commitment to Connecticut's schools.

As you can imagine putting on a conference of this magnitude involves the efforts of many people. Thanks to Mary Esborn, our CECA web site administrator, conference information was readily available and updated continually. This proved to be a big help for everyone. Registering 500 people and seeing to it that everything runs smoothly is no small feat. The dedication of many CECA volunteers and the help of our student tech team ensured that participants had a positive experience. It was gratifying to hear from some of our out of state presenters because they brought another perspective to the conference. They were extremely impressed by the organization and professionalism of our offerings. Evaluations from conference participants indicated they were pleased with the offerings and we were able to glean some good suggestions for next year. I

CECA 2001 is scheduled for Monday, October 29. Keep this in mind as you present your budgets for next year. If you would like to present for the conference it is not too early to let us know. Presentation proposals

are available on the CECA web site at <http://www.cecact.org>. If you have any questions about presenting you can contact Nina Hansen at nhansen@connix.com.

E-Commerce Economics and the Internet

Virginia Merchant

As one of the first CECA Educator Recognition Award Winners for the year 2000, I was honored to present my project at the November 6th CECA Technology Conference. In fact, all three winners from the elementary, middle school, and high school level were given an opportunity during Session Two to present each projects to those interested in hearing what we had done.

While I sat listening to the keynote Speaker, Judi Harris from the University of Texas, I thought about my award-winning project. Ms. Harris discussed not just throwing technology at your students, but making it meaningful. As my technology project crossed my mind, I thought "yes" this is exactly what my idea does for students.

I teach business and technology at the secondary level. The growth of technology in business and the use of the Internet led me to change part of my curriculum to include the study of e-commerce economics using the Internet, Excel Spreadsheets, Stock Market Portfolios and PowerPoint Presentations. The key to success in an information economy is the ability to deal with large quantities of information in a short period of time and this has been made possible through technology in both the classroom and the business world.

Summary of Project

To incorporate technology and higher level thinking skills into my Economics class, I made a curriculum change to integrate e-commerce as a unit during the semester. I instituted using four types of technology to emphasize the understanding of this new business model to my students. My class studied businesses on the Internet that sold products and services from consumer to business and then business to business. Next, each student researched various companies and developed a profile of two businesses from each sector. Students prepared a profile of their two companies examining the price to earnings ratio to determined if

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CECA 2000 Raffle Winners

The following people were the winners of the CECA 2000 Raffle at the conference on November 6, 2000:

CECA 20th Anniversary Gold Coin Raffle: **Epson Digital Camera from Lightspan:** *Jennifer Sherman*

iMac computer from Apple: *Jack Halapin*

Inkjet Printer from Lexmark: *Sandra Navarra*

HP Inkjet Printer from Internet Business Systems: *Diana Altorfer*

AlphaSmart by IPD: *John Laskarzewski*

Quick Pad and Curriculum Pack from K-12

MicroMedia Publishing: *Lynne Wilks*

Digital Camera from CCP Communications: *Patricia W. Paktinat*

Gift Certificate from Beacon School Media: *Michael Zito*

Gift Certificate from Lexia Learning Systems: *Michael Ginsburg, Leslie A. Campos*

Gift Certificate from Pitsco LEGO Data: *M. Denise Moynihan, Cara C. Lehman*

Gift Certificate from ACES for workshop: *Suzanne Burley, Sara Schutz*

Gift Certificate from Curriculum Associates: *Louise Allen Brown*

Gift Certificate for attendance at a workshop from Family Education Network: *Jill Hale*

Computer Desk from Spectrum Industries: *Beverly Hall*

“No Ball” Mouse from Microsoft Corporation: *Tracy Sidoti*

Literature/Writing Pack in a bag from Prentice Hall: *Diane Darter*

Microsoft Office 1997 from Monroe Business Associates: *Elizabeth Webb*

HyperStudio from Learning Services: *Laura Baldino*

PhotoDraw 2000 from MicroWarehouse: *Edward C. Goetz, Bob Wight*

Learning Styles Inventory from Educational Activities: *Robert Bonato*

Tool Kit from Worldwise: *Dorothy Richards*

Microsoft Office 2000 Book from EMC/Paradigm: *James Morrow*

MS Windows NT 4.0 Book from IKON Office Solutions: *Lourdes Hosking*

Year Round Computer Activities from Teacher Created Materials: *Michael Davidson*

Book from Perma Bound Books: *Linda Shea, James J. Stucenski*

Book bag from UNICOM: *Michel Leask*

Aunt Goodie Bags book: *Paul J. Sinicrope, Theresa F. Shimoda, Eileen Vermilyea*

Goodie Pack from School Specialty: *Barbara Eilertsen*

Mug and pen from Computer Curriculum Corporation: *Lauri W. Susi, Mery Menon*

Educational Technology Associates: *Frank Meoli*

Candy Jar from RJT Educational Training Systems: *Joan Peck*

River Deep T-shirts: *Gary Miller, Christine Coombs, Anne Coffey, Peggy Scribner*

Inspiration T-shirt: *Helen M. Mainhart*

Mugs from CECA: *Linda Bendel, Karen Waupotic, Dawn Primo*

Calculators from CECA: *Lynn Turiano, Maurice Primeau, Angela Bassett, Grace Pascarella, Elizabeth Maroney, Elizabeth S. Nagurney, Diane Faiella, Karen Woodford*

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they wanted to invest in one or more of the companies. Using a stock market game, students were grouped in teams of four and could purchase up to \$1000,000 value of stock from the research companies.

Portfolios were developed on Excel Spreadsheets of each company they choose and stock prices were charted on publicly traded companies using chart wizard. This gave them the opportunity to use math skills as well visually graph their companies enhancing critical thinking skills.

All the information they had worked on was encompassed into a creative PowerPoint Presentation for the class. Students presented their portfolios and took pride in showing the e-commerce companies they choose to their peers.

As students went through this unit, I acted as a facilitator guiding them through each step of the technology and research. I taught them the economic concepts and how to use the technology, but the company choices and creative decisions were their own. Through this project, students become active participants of their own learning.

In closing I would like to emphasize that the challenges of the 21st century for our students will be to deal with change in business and the work force. This project exemplifies innovative curriculum on the use of technology as an agent of pedagogical change because it incorporates its use in a changing environment. It exposes students to a

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new way of thinking about business and economics right within the classroom, while the same concepts are going on in the real world. Students must understand this new type of economics to survive as productive workers in years to follow.

If you would like further information on this project, please feel free to contact me at Weston High School (203-291-1600) or at mercgolf@optonline.net.

Virginia Merchant is a high school business/technology teacher at Weston High School in Weston, CT.

CT Elementary Science Day Celebrates 10th Birthday

Ten years ago a group of elementary teachers met at Choate to attend the first Elementary Science Day. Our guest speaker was Kathy Valentino. She was so dynamic and inspirational that the committee invited her back as the speaker for the Tenth ESD Conference. We held our tenth birthday conference at Wesleyan University, sponsored by PIMMS. The day was very successful, with workshops covering grades K-6, including activities in physical science, life science and earth science topics. Our presenters did a great job of meeting the needs of our elementary teachers.

Do You Believe In Magic? Pat Horan engaged her audience in a number of physical science activities which defied logic.

Sharon Dominici introduced a new dimension to our workshops by bringing live snails to use in her workshop, A Snail's Pace. Her group was utterly fascinated by these critters and her activities were very engaging.

Dr. Ralph Yulo took his group on a Schoolyard Safari. He has such a talent for helping us be more aware of the science which exists right in our school yards and relating our findings to other curriculum areas.

Pat Moran gave us ideas for conducting a Family Science Night. It doesn't sound so hard when you hear her tell about it!

Donna Brown and Eileen Bengtson guided their group through the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse Web Site. There are so many great activities on this web site which teachers can access with their students.

Pam Keagan shared information about the PIMMS

Program, telling the group how to become involved in their activities.

There were many exciting, relevant workshops offered to our attendees. In addition to the ones already mentioned, they were:

Little Scientists: Hands-On Science, Linda Burian;

Flipping Over Ice Cream-Donald P. Woytowick;

Chemical Demonstrations Using Density -Elizabeth Catelli and Melissa Conrad;

Project WET: Water Education for Teachers -Maura Graham Vecellio;

Stardust: Think Small In a Big Way -Rachel Manzer;

The Science of the Study of Data-Donald P. Woytowick;

No Fear Physical Science -David Grigociewicz;

Motivate and Educate- Carol A. Wilson;

It's Elementary, My Dear Wilson- Marilyn Szymasek;

Next Stop Mars - Rachel Manzer;

Geology At a Glance- Ralph Lewis

Elementary Science Day greatly appreciates the sponsorship of PIMMS and Wesleyan University. We also appreciate the endorsement of statewide organizations CSTA, CSSA, CECA, CAPT and The CT Academy for Mathematics, Science and Technology. The conference was made possible through the tireless efforts of the committee: Carol Ann Anyan, Rebecca Bergeron, Jay Brennan, Wilma Donaldson, Patricia Horan, David Lopath, Karen Moraitis, Patricia Moran, Kris Pattison, Patricia Ruane, Wilma Toney, Ralph Yulo, Linda Froschauer and Eileen Bengtson.

Teachers' Tools for the 21st Century

A Report on Teachers' Use of Technology

Abstract: This report uses multiple data sources to describe teachers' use of education technology in their classrooms and schools. It examines the availability of this technology in their classrooms and schools, their training and preparation for using it, and the barriers to technology use they encounter.

<http://www.nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2000102>

Connecticut History Online Offers Test Web Site

<http://www.lib.uconn.edu/cho/>

Representatives from the Connecticut Historical Society, Mystic Seaport and the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center at the University of Connecticut announce the prototype Web site Connecticut History Online (<http://www.lib.uconn.edu/cho/>). This collaborative effort, funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services, provides a site where teachers, students, researchers, and members of the general public can explore Connecticut's past.

The database currently includes more than 1000 images from the collections of all three institutions. By the summer of 2001, with about 14,000 images available, it will be the largest collection of Connecticut historical images on the Web and will include a broad selection of photographs, drawings and prints reflecting Connecticut's social, educational, political, civic and cultural life during the period 1800-1950.

A powerful search engine permits users to perform simple and complex searches by keyword, subject, creator and place name, and enables them to limit their searches by location or by date. A digital gazetteer will be available by the summer of 2001, which will enable users to search images by geographical location.

The present pilot site includes two sample lesson plans designed to help students in grades 7-12 build observation, analysis and critical thinking skills by bringing primary resources into the classroom. Additional lesson plans and learning activities are under development.

Teachers, researchers and the general public who would like to share their impressions and to comment on this Web site should contact:

Allison Zhang, Project Coordinator,
Allison_Zhang@chs.org
The Connecticut Historical Society,
One Elizabeth Street, Hartford, CT 06105
860-236-5621 ext. 272

Internet Based Distance Learning Professional Development Opportunity

Internet Based Distance Learning Professional Development Opportunity: Are you aware that a large number of colleges and universities now offer some type of Internet based distance learning? Did you know that the Connecticut legislature has allocated funds for the development and use of online curriculum by both colleges and the K-12 community? Are you interested in learning how Internet based distance learning can be effectively used in the K-12 environment? The Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium is now providing an opportunity for teacher teams from K-12 schools to learn more about distance learning.

The Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium (CTDLC) in conjunction with the Connecticut State Department of Education (SDE) and the Regional Education Resource Centers (RESCs) are offering training in online instructional design for 130 K-16 teachers. Teacher teams will be introduced to online curriculum design in a two-day workshop and then mentored using online courses especially prepared for this teacher development opportunity.

The purpose of the training is to produce experienced mentors who can design online curricular materials and coach peers to apply and use the materials in their classrooms.

Participating educators will be eligible to receive stipends. Teachers will be selected on the basis of their demonstrated ability to coach, collaborate and work effectively with colleagues.

The first training session is planned for January with additional training sessions planned for following months. Details and an application are available from the CTDLC's Learning Designer, Steven Smolnik: ssmolnik@mail.cosc.edu

Steven M. Smolnik Learning Designer
Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium
55 Paul Manafort Drive
New Britain, CT 06053-2142
voice: 860-832-3896
URL: <http://www.ctdlc.org>

Call for Presenters

Please consider being part of CECA 2001 a Technology Odyssey Are you willing to share your expertise? Are you or someone you know integrating technology successfully Consider presenting at CECA 2001 We are actively seeking presenters now Forms are available on the CECA web site or contact Nina Hansen at nhansen@connix.com Help make CECA 2001 the best conference ever!

Commission for Educational Technology,

Commission for Educational Technology, established by the General Assembly to oversee the management and successful integration of technology in Connecticut's schools, libraries and higher educational institutions, held its third meeting on December 6, 2000, at the State Capital. Committees were formed to begin work on the tasks established by the legislature in Public Act 187. The committees include:

| <u>Committees</u> | <u>General Responsibility</u> |
|---------------------------|---|
| Strategic Planning | Vision & Long Range Planning |
| Network | Network Planning, Implementation, Wiring and Technology Standards |
| Tech Training & Support | Technical Support Standards, Training and Network Operational Support |
| Educational Content | Network Content, Curriculum, |
| Professional Development, | Online Learning and Parent Training |
| Library | Digital Library Content and Delivery |
| Finance | Budget, Cost Analysis, Fund Raising, Grants |

If you are interested in working with one of these committees, contact

Karen Kaplan, Executive Director,
Commission for Educational Technology,
101 E. River Drive,
East Hartford, CT 06108,
phone 860-622-2522,
karen.kaplan@po.state.ct.us.

Check out the Commission's web page at www.ctedtech.org.

The 6th Legislative Technology Exposition

Tentative date

May 2, 2001

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Legislative Office Building

Capitol Corridor

Check www.ceca-ct.org for latest info

CECA 2001

October 29, 2001

Radisson, Cromwell

Reminder:

Check the Leadership Council Calendar at <http://www.ctacad.org/calendar/> for information on math, science and technology conferences, meetings and special events!

Links to various maps of Connecticut

<http://www.state.ct.us/munic.htm>

Department of Economic and Community
Development Maps

<http://www.state.ct.us/ecd/research/maps/index.html>

*** <http://www.state.ct.us/ecd/research/maps/images/townmap.pdf>

Searchable map to locate towns in CT

http://magic.lib.uconn.edu/cgi-bin/MAGIC_DBsearch3.pl?Geography=37840&Location=001

Transportation maps

<http://www.dot.state.ct.us/bureau/pp/pp.html>

*** excellent quality

CECA Educator Recognition Award

CECA with the support of a grant from SNET has established an award to recognize excellence in the application of technology to classroom learning.

Detailed information about the grant can be found at the CECA web site. www.ceca-ct.org

You may download a copy of the grant application from the web site or send a request for an application to

CECACT@aol.com or

CECA Awards
P.O. Box 1019
Branford, CT 06405

Applications must be postmarked by March 12, 2001

See article by one of this year's winners, Virginia Marchant, on p. 4

Membership expiration dates are in the upper right corner of your mailing label. Those dated 6/30/2000 have expired. Membership forms can be found on the CECA website at www.ceca-ct.org/about/memform.html

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CECA Web - www.ceca-ct.org
CECA Fax - (203) 481-1677
CECA News@aol.com - submit
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ceca-l@listserv.aces.k12.ct.us

CECA Newsletter
P.O.Box 1019
Branford, CT 06405

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