

Information Technology Services Newsletter

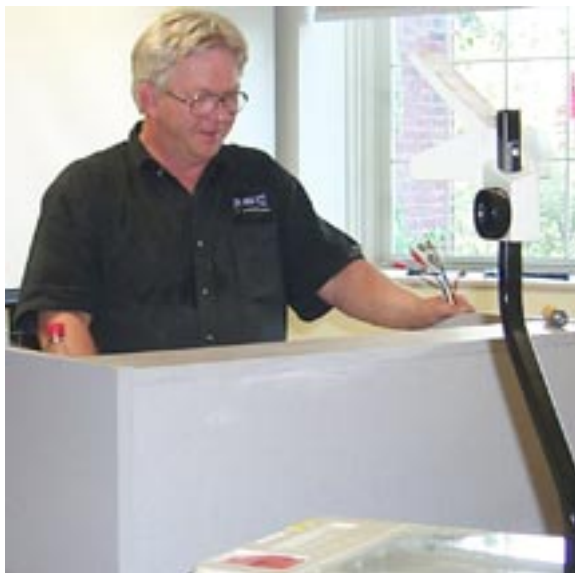
SUNY BROCKPORT

Volume 18, Number 1

September 2002

Technology Enhanced Classrooms in Hartwell

Beginning Fall 2002, Hartwell Hall rooms 120 and 123 have been upgraded to be technology equipped or “smart” classrooms. These standard 50 seat rooms include an instructor’s podium, a computer connected to the Internet, a combination DVD/VCR, an Elmo visual presenter, a standard overhead projector, an equipment control system, ceiling speakers, and a ceiling mounted data/video projector. There is also an extra Internet cable and computer cable that allows presenters to bring in their own laptop for classroom use. For more information or to receive training on equipment usage, contact Media Services at x2660.



Don Wilke of Presentation Concepts Corp., set up new instructor podiums and equipment in time for the start of classes.

Six PC labs upgraded

Six computer labs were upgraded during the summer with new Dell Pentium 4s and 15" flat screen monitors. They include Hartwell, Cooper C6, Cooper B8L, Dailey 205, Tuttle South 166, and Smith 105. SUNY Metro Center labs are also sporting a new look. PCs labs were updated as part of the move to 55 St. Paul Street, Rochester.

ANGEL Training

ANGEL training sessions are scheduled for this fall. For details, please call Dr. Shannon Bradford at x5025 or see the website at: <http://angel.brockport.edu/training>. Registration is required to attend a session.

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Dailey Sun Lab Upgraded

Thirty new SunRays provide improved speed, greater access and enhanced performance to users in 212 Dailey. The lab features thin clients connected to a SUN 450 server that runs significantly faster than its predecessor. The 21" SVGA monitors are great for graphics and/or split screen work requiring multiple windows to be open. The lab was acquired as part of Sun's 2002 US Education Matching Grant Program. Through this program, Brockport's commitment was matched by Sun. The new lab will be used mainly by Computer Science and Computational Science students for UNIX, Mathematica and other applications.

ANGEL Upgraded to Version 5.0

This summer, ANGEL was upgraded to version 5 and includes a number of new features that make it easier to use. Angel's ability to create online virtual communities is a real advantage to the online course management system. Starting this fall, courses are automatically populated with student accounts saving considerable time for faculty.

Some of the new features in Version 5.0 are:

- New portal framework, which allows each user to customize pages, add or remove components, and rearrange the page.
- New import utility helps users reuse existing quizzes and test banks in Angel. Quiz and test enhancements include time limits, customized results, feedback to students, and more. Advanced productivity agents help identify and e-mail students based on specific criteria, e.g., "Who scored 75% or higher on the quiz?"

- Integrated whiteboard. Write/draw/graph the lesson/problem/answer on your computer, and the students see it on theirs. Anonymous and non-anonymous surveys and evaluations. Integrated gradebook for both online and conventional test recordkeeping.

Contact Craig Lending at 395-5755 or e-mail clending@brockport.edu with any questions.

SUNY Learning Network Update

The SUNY Learning Network (SLN) is growing rapidly. The asynchronous online classes are a hit with many adult learners and those with hectic schedules. For the last 5 years, statewide enrollment has doubled annually. Enrollment in online classes tripled at Brockport over the 2000-2001 levels. Satisfaction with this distributed course delivery system is typically rated highly by both students and instructors alike. Faculty development sessions are provided during course preparation, during the class and as follow-up.

SLN is a Web site and not a college. SLN is a "technical delivery system" for any SUNY college wishing to offer courses online using the Internet. This fall semester, SUNY Brockport is offering SLN graduate and undergraduate courses in the following disciplines: CRJ, HON, NUR, PAD, and WMS.

As SLN instructors, faculty participate in intensive course development sessions to "build" their course, learn about online pedagogy, and how to integrate technology into their instruction

If you are intrigued and would like to know more information about SLN you can e-mail kshuhle@brockport.edu or visit the website at <http://sln.suny.edu>.

ITS Welcomes Library Director

Dr. Frank Wojcik has joined SUNY Brockport as the new director of Drake Memorial Library. Dr. Wojcik comes from Kenyon College in Ohio, where he was Director of Information Resources since 1998. From 1995-98, Frank was Library Systems Manager for The Five Colleges of Ohio, and from 1989 to 1995, he served in several capacities at Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (a library automation/information systems firm in Emeryville, CA). Dr. Wojcik earned an AA from Niagara County Community College, a BA and MA in History from SUNY Binghamton, a MLS from Queens College of CUNY, and a Ph.D. in Modern European History from Binghamton. We welcome his expertise and look forward to working with him.

New Library Resources

By Charlie Cowling

We have added several new online resources, including the OED (Oxford English Dictionary,) and Oxford Reference Online, a collection of encyclopedias, dictionaries, "companions to" etc. You can get to both of these from our Online Research page at <http://www.brockport.edu/~library5/first.htm>. Look under ERes and Other Resources and click on Reference Resources. These, like all our databases, are available both on and off campus.

IBM unplugged

A milestone occurred in August, 2002 when the IBM S390-2003 mainframe was unplugged. The IBM provided many years of administrative service but has been replaced by a number of faster, newer Sun UNIX servers as part of the Banner campus information system project. ITS programming and operations staff held a small "retirement farewell" to mark the occasion.

GIS Update

(The following is an excerpt from ArcNews, Spring 2002, p.36.)

SUNY Brockport Watershed Science Course Uses GIS to Visualize Interactions

By J. Zollweg

The use of ArcView improved the students' course experience. They were able to actually run the hydrologic models presented in class using a watershed with which they had become

very familiar. They were able to clearly see the interactions between precipitation and watershed characteristics such as soil type, land use, and topography. Many of the students praised the hands-on nature of the course.

Course instructor Dr. James Zollweg points out, "Learning by doing is extremely effective, and the way that watershed science is now done is by GIS." In addition to the academic achievement of greater understanding, the students also acquired an important real-world, job market skill- the application of GIS to watershed management.

Debbie Slocum, graduate student in computational science notes, "GIS has provided a platform within the classroom to allow me to integrate technology, knowledge, and fieldwork for real-world applications." The experience of an integrated water/GIS course served the students better than a compartmentalized GIS course in one department and a water management course in another.

The use of ArcView also facilitated collaborative work. The entire class of 12 was able to seamlessly work together on a single watershed inventory and analysis project. A final measure of success was the number of times the words "fun" and "enjoy" appeared in student course evaluations. "I am gratified that a high-level technical course can still be one that students look forward to each week," Zollweg added.

Want To Know More?

Dr. Zollweg is presenting two introduction to GIS sessions in Dailey Hall, room 202 on October 8th and October 9th. See page 9 (ITS Computing Workshops) for more details.

A-Team Update

Twenty-six students participated in a week long training session August 19-23, 2002 to prepare for staffing the computer labs, the Help Desk, desktop support, ResNet, campus web page development and systems and networking. The majority of peer-led sessions were taught by students from last year's A-Team who did an excellent job preparing and presenting for this task. Kudos to A-team leaders Anne Parsons and Janak Gada.



Hardware/Software update across the campus

Computer Skills Update

BY E. BILLINGS

Our first annual Early Bird Testing Session was a great success this summer. Thanks to efforts by the Freshmen Registration group from Academic Advisement, all Freshmen were notified of an opportunity for early testing on July 25th. The response was so overwhelming that we added 2 additional early sessions. On July 25th we had 100% attendance!

Seven exams were offered the week before classes began, including two exams during freshman orientation weekend. A total of 78 exam sessions will be offered throughout the semester with the bulk of those being available before midterm. This will enable more students to take the exam and satisfy the requirement early in the semester. Students began registering to take these early exams in June and over 250 were registered by early August.

We have enjoyed a much smoother exam self-enrollment process since we moved to NT authentication on our server. This enables students to log on to the Computer Skills server using their regular Brockport user account information, and this has been much more "user friendly" for the students. In addition to serving freshmen, this fall marks the implementation of transfer students into the Computer Skills Exam program. The General Education requirement for computer literacy will now apply to all new students entering SUNY Brockport.

Transfer students are being encouraged to take the exam early and will not be enrolled in the GEP 150 Computer Skills Preparation course unless they do not pass the exam by the end of the fall term. Adding transfer students will almost double our exam enrollments, but we've been in preparation mode for this for 6 months and are ready to roll!

Chemistry Gets Spartan

This summer, Mark Heitz (CHM faculty) and Information Technology Services paired up to obtain a copy of Spartan software for use in chemistry. Spartan is a molecular modeling/computational chemistry software program that runs on PCs. It has potential applicability across the chemistry curriculum and can be useful in other areas such as computational science, physics, and geology. This software represents the current state-of-the art in visualization and mechanics calculations. For more information please contact:

mheitz@brockport.edu

SUNY Academic Software Initiative

Information Technology Services is pleased to announce its participation in the 2002-03 SUNY wide academic software initiative. Included in the program are a host of products including Mathematica, Maple, Minitab, Lotus Notes, ESRI (GIS), Oracle and Kermit.

The license allows faculty, staff and student home use for the majority of software. The SUNY license is expected to be in place by November 2002. If you are interested in a copy of the software, contact J. Saraceni, x2452.

QSR

Two copies of qualitative statistics software called N6 from QSR have been purchased for use in Dailey Hall. The Metro Center also runs QSR in its labs as part of the Greater Rochester MSW program.

Visible Analyst available for CS Classes

A full-featured Computer Assisted Software Engineering (CASE) package has been acquired for use in classes that include Dr. Anthony Scime's CIS 317 Analysis and Logical Design of Information Systems and 427 Project Management and Practice classes. This software testing tool makes designing code easier and more efficient. It gives students the ability to use up to date techniques and methodology for software design.

SUNY Training Center Schedule

The SUNY Training Center has scheduled the following training and professional development events for the fall. To view an agenda and to register, please go to the SUNY Training Center Website at: <http://www.tc.suny.edu> and click on "Register for Academic Classes".

Introduction to Active Server Pages

Date: September 25th-27th

Location: SUNY Training Center, Syracuse, NY

Creating a Quality Program Assessment: An Overview

Date: October 4th

Location: University at Buffalo

Director Level 1: Creating Interactive presentations to be distributed on the Web or CD

Date: October 16th

Location: Genesee Community College, Batavia, NY

ArcGIS 8: An Overview/ Introduction/ The Complete Course

Date: October 17th & 18th

Location: SUNY Training Center, Syracuse, NY

Fireworks: Introduction

Date: October 23rd

Location: Genesee Community College, Batavia, NY

Teaching Institute: Improving the Teaching & Learning Process

Date: October 31st

Location: SUNY Farmingdale, Farmingdale, NY

ArcGIS 8: An Overview/ Introduction/ The Complete Course

Date: November 5th & 6th

Location: Buffalo State College

Creating Animation with FLASH MX: Introduction

Date: November 8th

Location: Genesee Community College, Batavia, NY

Creating Animation with FLASH MX: Introduction/ Advanced/ The Complete Course

Date: November 21st & 22nd

Location: Empire State College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Photoshop: Making good-looking graphics for the Web & for print

Date: December 5th & 6th

Location: Genesee Community College, Batavia, NY

Online Training Classes

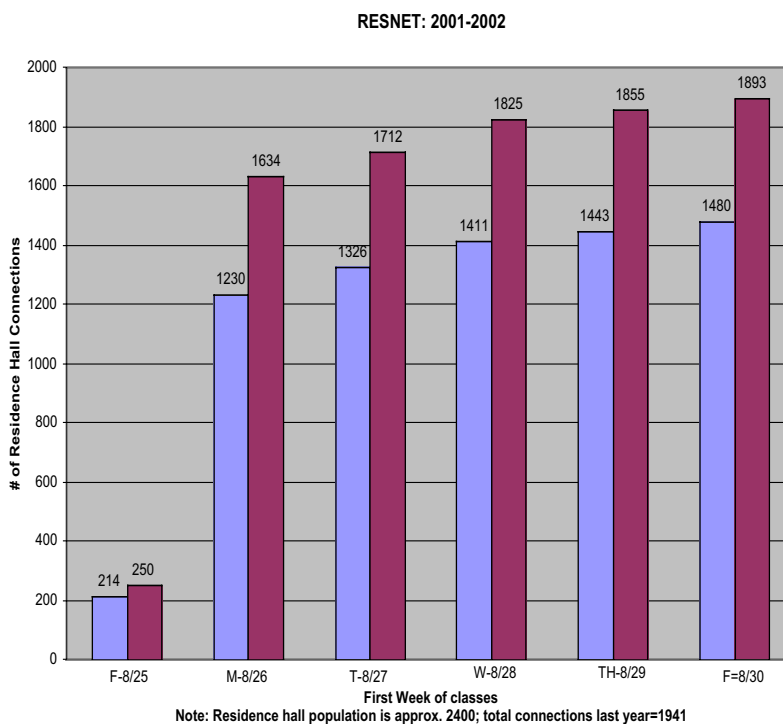
The SUNY Training Center offers a number of online courses available from your desk. Cost is typically under \$100. For more information see:

<http://www.tc.suny.edu> The fall schedule includes:

- Basic Copyright for College Teachers
- Basic Web Page Design: Using HTML (Hyper-Text Markup Language)
- Best Practices in Online Learning: Lessons Learned from SLN
- Career Centers Without Walls: Developing Career Services
- Incorporating Information Literacy Tasks into Web-Enhanced Courses
- Intro to Web Animation using FLASH
- Multimedia Education Resources for Learning & Online Teaching (Merlot)
- Multimedia for Educators
- Online Pedagogy: Creating a Successful Web-Enhanced Course
- Online Surveys: The Complete Workshop
- Plagiarism: Detection and Prevention

ResNet Update

The ResNet project provides network connections for students in the residence halls. The ResNet process has been greatly improved over the past two years to provide better service to students. As shown by the chart below, students continue to bring a record number of PCs to campus. The ResNet team has worked very hard to simplify the process needed to connect in the residence halls. DHCP connection and automated software administered by Rick Smith (Systems and Networking) has made this task easier for students bringing PCs and laptops to the dorms.



Students are provided their first network cable for free, and can pick it up along with ResNet documentation in Dailey Hall. ResNet was open for business the week before school started, as well as during the moving-in weekend for better service to students as they arrived on campus. As shown above, during the first week of school, nearly 2000 connections were made in the residence halls. This was an increase of the record number 1480 connections made last fall at this same time. As more students live on campus and with computers becoming a must for school work, this number will continue to grow.

Uploading personal web pages?

If you use telnet or ftp to connect to the Suns, please note that we are using a new SUN 450 server. Change your host name to **holly.acs.brockport.edu**. Previous site names including athena, squid, oberon, nike, etc. are being retired as part of a planned upgrade to the new system. (See related SunRay story, p. 2).

SUNYWest Portal Courses Available

By B. Gagne

Employees at Brockport have been licensed to take any of the 106 Internet based courses available at the SUNYWest portal. To access the SUNYWest portal, go to: <http://cf3.skillssoft.com/sp20129/login/login.cfm>.

Use your initially assigned userid and password to sign on. Userid= first initial + up to the first 7 characters of your last name. Password = brock. The logon is case sensitive so you may have to alternatively try all lower case then all upper case in order to be successful. If you need assistance, please call or e-mail Becky Gagne at (585) 395-2283, bgagne@brockport.edu. If you hear of other unlicensed employees in your department who desire to participate, let Becky know.

If you have not yet logged on to the SUNYWest SkillSoft portal yourself, you are encouraged to do so soon. Logon, then click on "catalog" at the top of the page to view the courses available. Scroll down through the menu of courses and select one to play. A guided tour is available in the "catalog" by clicking on e-Learning Curriculum and then clicking on e-Learning Foundations. Also, check out the job aids and skill briefs associated with each course, if any. I think you will find that this project provides a high quality, cost-effective training opportunity for those willing to try a new way of learning. But, we need for you to be the judge. Your participation is the only way for us to ensure a good assessment of e-learning as a professional development tool at Brockport. Before you logoff, you should change your password by clicking on <customize> in the upper right hand corner of the portal, then choose

<update your user profile> and scroll to the area for changing passwords.

This e-learning opportunity is a SUNYWest professional development project supported by a UUP Professional Development Grant and the SUNYWest Business Officers. Employees who actually complete one or two courses usually take more. It is convenient to take courses because you can start them and continue them from anywhere that you can access the Internet. You do not have to complete a course all at one time. If you use <exit> to leave a course, your place in the course is bookmarked so that you can return directly to it the next time you sign on.

The SUNYWest Human Resource Directors also developed some mastery certification programs for employees that may be achieved from the 106 e-learning courses currently available. Employees completing these certifications will receive recognition and certificates.

CS Joins Microsoft Developer's Network

Brockport has joined Microsoft's Developer Academic Alliance program. The annual subscription program provides a suite of software such as C++, Java, etc., for use by Computer Science faculty and students. The software is a welcome addition in keeping the labs current and up to date.

Educause IT Guide available

Educause, the professional organization for information technology and higher education, has established a guide for parents of prospective students. The guide consists of questions about campus information technology availability and connectivity. SUNY Brockport has responded to common questions in this guide through a web page showing campus hardware, software, network, classrooms and training resources. It is available at:

<http://www.itss.brockport.edu/itsplan/educause02.htm>.

Web Privacy/Content Policy

Over the summer, the College has approved a pair of Web Policies. The new policies became effective on June 16, 2002. The new Web Privacy Policy (a new requirement for all state Web sites) tells our Web-page visitors what information we collect and maintain regarding their time on our Web site. The updated Web Content Policy updates spells out the requirements of all Web pages living in the brockport.edu domain, in the light of our new templates, state policies, and (surprisingly enough) common sense. You can view these policies here:

Web Privacy Policy:
<http://www.brockport.edu/privacy.html>

Web Content Policy:
<http://www.brockport.edu/policy/>

For any questions about these new policies, please contact Steve Lewis, the Web Manager, at slewis@brockport.edu or his student assistants at x2WEB.

In The News:

This summer the Sociology Department was selected as one of six colleges nationwide to participate in a curriculum development project sponsored by the American Sociological Association. The new 'Integrating Data Analysis' (IDA) project consists of six departments ready to develop inquiry skills and enhance research training for their undergraduate students. The project provided faculty training at the University of Michigan for **Joan Spade, Jeff Lashbrook** and **Tim Thornton**. These faculty members are developing modules to integrate use of empirical data in their courses using WebChip software. The project is funded by the National Science Foundation.

Banner Update

Work on Banner, the new campus information system, is proceeding on schedule and budget. Over 100 training sessions took place over the spring and summer. More are being scheduled for the fall. If you have not attended, make plans now to join one of the upcoming sessions. Contact dmurdoch@brockport.edu for more information.

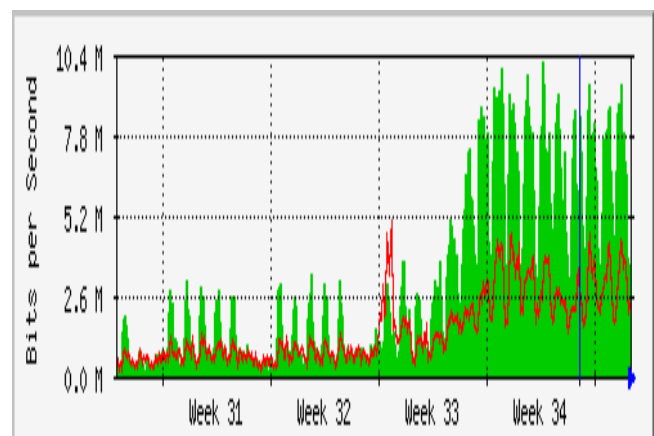
Online Tech Knowledge Base Available

An award winning knowledge base on technology issues is maintained by the U. of Indiana. Topics are extensive, well-covered and organized. Questions range from 'How do I backup my files?' to 'What is firewire?'. The knowledge base is an excellent supplementary resource to the Brockport ITS Help Desk. See: <http://kb.indiana.edu>. Click on the Menu to see a list of topics.

Netstats Graphs

According to Rick Smith, Systems and Networking Manager, approximately 60% of the campus network has been converted from shared to switched routing this fall. This project is part of an on-going multi-year initiative to move the campus from a ring to star topology for greater speed, reliability and redundancy. The graph below depicts campus network traffic during August 2002.

Week 31= 8/05; Week 32= 8/12; Week 33= 8/19;
 Week 34= 8/26



Information Technology Support Services

Computing Workshops

Fall 2002

Please join Information Technology Support Services at free software training for faculty, staff and students. Register by calling 395-2368, send e-mail to tloscomb@brockport.edu or online at <http://itss.brockport.edu/calendar/calendar.html>. All classes are held in Dailey Hall, room #202.

Tuesday, September 10, 2002

Minitab- 9:45 am - 10:45 am (M. Orzech)

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

SPSS- 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm (M. Orzech)

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Intro to Unix- 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (R. Prine)

Wednesday, September 18, 2002

Intro to Unix- 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (R. Prine)

Thursday, September 19, 2002

SPSS- 9:45 am - 10:45 am (M. Orzech)

SAS- 11:30 am - 12:30 pm (M. Orzech)

Minitab- 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm (M. Orzech)

Tentative Schedule

Wednesday, September 25, 2002

Windows 2000 Survival Skills (desktop, multitasking, copying, pasting, linking) 9:00 am-12:00 pm

Intermediate Windows 2000 (file management, sharing)- 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Intermediate Word (word processing)- 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Dreamweaver (web pages)- 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Wednesday, October 2, 2002

Intro to Excel 2000 (spreadsheets)- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Intro to Access 2000 (databases)- 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Thursday, October 3, 2002

Intermediate Excel 2000 (spreadsheets)- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Intermediate Access 2000 (databases)- 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Friday, October 4, 2002

Using Graphics in MSOffice 2000 (importing, editing, sizing, wrapping, using clip art, and web graphics)- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Beginning Publisher (flyers, brochures, wizards)- 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Intro to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)- 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm (J. Zollweg)

Wednesday, October 9, 2002

Intro to GIS- 9:30 am - 10:30 am (J. Zollweg)

Information Technology Services

W. Max Ivey, Assoc. VP for ITS

Information Technology Services includes Drake Library, ITSN, ITSS, and Media Services areas.

IT Support Services

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Office: 23 Edwards Hall; Phone: 395-2660
E-Mail: fmancini@brockport.edu

Dailey Hall Hours of Operation*

Monday - Thursday	8:00 am - 1:00 am
Friday	8:00 am - 9:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm - 1:00 am

* Hours of operation are subject to change between semesters.

Telephone Numbers

Dailey Hall 2nd floor desk	395-2247
Dial-in	395-2180
Fax	395-2399
Help Desk	395-5151

Computer Labs in Dailey

202 PC Teaching Classroom (32 stations)
203 PC Teaching Classroom (32 stations)
205 PC Teaching Classroom (40 stations)
212 Sun Lab (30 stations)
213 Computer Skills Testing (30 stations)
*210 Software Hardware Evaluation Lab
*by appointment only 395-2463

On-Line Forms @ ITSS Web Site

- Resource Request Form
<http://www.acs.brockport.edu/request.html>
- Faculty/Staff Account Form
<http://www.acs.brockport.edu/facacct.html>
- Student Employment Application Form
<http://www.acs.brockport.edu/application.html>
- Workshop Registration Form
http://www.acs.brockport.edu/workshop_reg.htm
- ITSS Comments/suggestion Form
<http://www.acs.brockport.edu/feedback/feedbak.htm>

Information Technology Services newsletter is published three times a year by ITS, State University of New York, College at Brockport. Contributions and suggestions in any form (voice, fax, mail, or e-mail) are welcome and should be addressed to Information Technology Support Services, Dailey Hall.