

# FRESH FROM THE JAR

## LRC NEWSLETTER



### Net Generation - Libbie McPhaul-Moore, Coordinator of Distance Education

Are you a member of the Net Generation?

Ask yourself:

1. Are you more comfortable composing documents online than longhand?
2. Have you turned over your "remembering" (phone numbers, meetings, and so on) to a technology device?
3. Do you go to meetings with your laptop or PDA?
4. Are you constantly connected? Is the Internet always on whether you are at home or work? Is your cell phone always with you?
5. How many different activities can you effectively engage in at one time?
6. Do you play video or computer games?

It's not just about age—anyone who is a heavy user of technology can have characteristics similar to Net Geners. What are the differences between the Net Generation and generations before them? They are hopeful and determined, they like anything dealing with technology, they prefer for group activity and dislike anything slow. Net Geners do not wish to read large amounts of text and prefer interactive or social learning. The way they process information is different—the old linear thought process is not as common. Instead, those belonging to the Net Generation display the ability to read visual images, demonstrate good visual-spatial skills, possess inductive discovery (a preference for learning by doing), and have attentional deployment (the ability to multitask).

When it comes to learning, it is not the relevance of the curriculum but the way in which it is presented. Net Geners need classrooms where they can construct their own knowledge. Teachers need to be creative, moving from "sage on stage" to the role of facilitator. Interestingly enough—students of the Net Generation do not necessarily prefer an online learning experience—learning through social interaction is more important and instructor feedback is vital!

Oblinger, D., & Oblinger, J. (Eds.). (2005). *Educating the net generation*. Educause. <http://www.educause.edu/educatingthenetgen/>

### To Speak or Not to Speak, Yes! - Vanessa Nwanze, Reference Librarian

The majority of people dislike speaking in public. Giving speeches are a part of life. During our lifetime, it is highly likely that you will have to give a speech. Some people may be taking a speech class, or your supervisor may ask you to give a presentation, or a family member may ask you to give a toast at a function. Follow these tips below, and you should be able to make it through the dreaded speech.

**Eye contact**—using natural, direct eye contact helps your audience feel connected to you

**Gestures**—help you paint pictures with words, but make sure they don't get in the way, and they are natural

**Enthusiasm**—be enthusiastic, care about your subject

**Articulation**—articulate your words clearly so the members of your audience will understand you

**Breathe**—breathing helps you control nervousness

**Posture**—correct posture conveys confidence

**Tone**—your voice can create or change a mood

**Dress**—dress for success, be neat and professional

**Language**—use proper language and be careful not to use non-words and fillers such as "um" and "uh" too often

**Smile**—makes you look and feel better, and your audience will be more receptive

#### Library resources:

- *7 Steps to Fearless Speaking*—PN4121 W3865 1999 C.1
- *And I Quote: The Definitive Collection of Quotes, Sayings, and Jokes for the Contemporary Speechmaker*—PN4193 .I5 A6 2003
- *Giving a Presentation*—HF5718.22 W47 2003
- *Mastering Public Speaking*—PN4121 G719 2001
- *Speak with Confidence: Powerful Presentations that Inform, Inspire, and Persuade*—PN4192 .B87 B66 2003

#### Online articles:

- How to Write a Speech by Brian Carter—<http://www.pulsemed.org/how-to-write-a-speech.htm>
- Improve Your Public Speaking: Openers and Closers by Lillian Bjorseth—<http://www.public-speaking.org/public-speaking-humor-article.htm>
- Pick Your Audience by C. McKinney—<http://www.public-speaking.org/public-speaking-pickaudience-article.htm>
- Using Quotations by Caterino Rando—[http://www.sideroad.com/Public\\_Speaking/quotations.html](http://www.sideroad.com/Public_Speaking/quotations.html)
- Why Use Humor? by C. Mckinney—<http://www.public-speaking.org/public-speaking-humor-article.htm>

#### Source:

"Presenting Your Speeches." *Public Speakers*. 16/01/2002. University of Hawaii Maui Community College Speech Department. 23 Oct 2007 [http://www.hawaii.edu/mauispeech/html/presenting\\_speeches.html](http://www.hawaii.edu/mauispeech/html/presenting_speeches.html)

## How Do You Survive the Gauntlet - Vanessa Nwanze, Reference Librarian

If you're like the majority of college students, you've cringed at the stress brought on by tests, quizzes, or final exams, and you are relieved when they're done. Have you ever walked out of class asking everyone else, "What answer did you put down for question number \_\_\_?" If you've asked another classmates a question like this, then you're definitely in need of some academic assistance this semester. So, follow these tips to make finals week go as smoothly as possible.

**Start early:** A good rule to follow is to start studying at least one week in advance.

**Know the type of test:** Will the final be multiple choice, essay, true/false, or a combination? This is important to know because there are different ways to study for different types of tests.

**Study what you don't know:** Concentrate on studying information you are less familiar with.

**Budget your time:** Make sure you give yourself enough time to take breaks while studying. This will recharge your energy.

**Pick an appropriate place to study:** The LRC is a great place to study. A quiet study environment will allow you to better retain the information.

**Study your way:** Some people learn most efficiently by reading, some by listening, and some by writing. Just remember that repetition is the key!

**Stay healthy:** Be sure to get plenty of sleep and eat healthy during this stressful week.

For more information on studying tips for tests, quizzes, or finals, try these Web sites:

Final Exam Week—

<http://www.simpson.edu/hawley/study/finals.html>

Tips to Tame the Finals Beast—

<http://www.honors.ucr.edu/finals.htm>

York University—

[www.yorku.ca/cdc/lsp/eonline/exam6.htm](http://www.yorku.ca/cdc/lsp/eonline/exam6.htm)

## Tech Byte. . .Your Virtual Library - Vanessa Nwanze, Reference Librarian

The LRC's web site offers many ways to learn about the resources and activities at your library.

You can find a link to our electronic databases by clicking on "Databases" on our Web site. Electronic databases give you access to hundreds of online journals, magazines, newspapers, and other information.

**Database Spotlight:** The **LearningExpress Library** database via NC LIVE is a detailed database that provides numerous practice tests such as the SAT, GED, TOEFL preparation, Nursing Entrance Exam, Nursing Assistant, EMS, GRE, and more. This is a useful database to practice for several tests to help ensure your success.

For more information contact Vanessa Nwanze (Person Campus) or Lionell Parker (Caswell Campus).

## An Announcement - Gretchen Bell, Dean of Learning Resources Centers and Distance Education

The LRC provides vendors an opportunity to showcase their products in an exhibition hall format to our entire faculty. This showcase provides vendors a chance to receive orders from faculty for books and materials for their curriculum area.

**Vendor Showcase  
November 13, 2007  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
D 120**

## One of Many - Vanessa Nwanze, Reference Librarian

Piedmont Community College hosted its first daylong arts festival, "Step N2 the ArtZ." Everyone enjoyed this event, including the students, faculty, staff, and the community. On the PCC courtyard, the male step dance team "No Guts, No Glory" from the Gamma Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. of North Carolina Central University performed an exciting routine while engaging the audience with their fancy step sequence.

Also, Emmy Award-winning storyteller Willa Brigham delighted the crowd with her stories. As Brigham told her stories, the crowd laughed and was in awe of her ability to draw in the crowd with her storytelling. No wonder she is an Emmy Award-winning speaker, storyteller, author, and performer. People also enjoyed Chapel Hill actor John Paul Middlesworth performing "Permanent Collection." Middlesworth wowed the crowd with his magnificent interpretations.

The Gordon P. Allen Learning Resources Center showcased The Two Bells, a husband and wife professional storytelling team. The Two Bells captured the attention of both children from the PCC Daycare Center and the community with their stories about an elephant, grumpy people, and other magical friends. In the Timberlake Art Gallery, Byron Woods featured PCC drama students in an hour-long comedy, performing various scenes from plays. Woods and the PCC students wowed the crowd with their acting skills. Two of our instructors showcased their talents: pianist Mary Ann Nilsson played soft classical music, and Doug Bent played folk music on his acoustic guitar. Who said PCC does not have talent?

Other activities included films by students in the PCC Film and Video Production Technology program, an art exhibit by artists of the Person County Art Guild, and artwork by students in the Digital Effects and Animation Technology Program.

This festival is not the one and only. PCC plans to deliver another fantastic festival in the future. Stay turned for announcements regarding events like "Step N2 the ArtZ."