

STARLINK provides professional development opportunities via satellite and internet downlinks, and internet streaming. Topics are wide ranging and may be of interest to wide audience of faculty, staff, and administrators. In subsequent newsletters we will be publishing the upcoming month's STARLINK schedule. If you would like to participate in any of the training activities please contact Carl Schweibinz at 253-7768.

October

<i>Title</i>	<i>Date & Time</i>	<i>Mode of Delivery</i>
Student Success: Assessment, Advising, Transfer*	November 9, 2004 2:30 - 4:00 (available all month)	Live Broadcast & Streaming
Are We Testing What We are Teaching? How to Construct Accurate and Useful Tests*	Available until the end of November	Streaming Video
Maximizing Your Student Critical Thinking Skills	Oct. 2004 to Aug. 2005	Internet
Motivating the Unmotivated: Creating Excited Science Learners	Oct. 2004 to Aug. 2005	Internet
Developmental Education: Best Practices and Exemplary Programs	Oct. 2004 to Aug. 2005	Internet
Anger in the Classroom	Oct. 2004 to Aug. 2005	Internet

**Story and Details Presented Below*

A Reminder to All Faculty - The New "FX" Grade

We can now distinguish between students who failed courses because they did not master the material versus students who failed because they stopped attending. The new "FX" grade indicates that the student failed because he/she stopped attending the course. The date of last of attendance must be

written on the copy of the Grade Confirmation Screen that is printed off Hawk Net and turned into to the appropriate Academic Dean. (This will save a considerable amount of time and inconvenience in the event you should receive a Return of Title IV letter from the Financial Aid Office.)

Can this process be automated? We certainly hope so. A request has been submitted to the OIT Department to enable typing of the last date of attendance on the Final Grade Screen and we are awaiting their response.

Please feel free to call us if you have questions about On-Line Grading in Hawk Net.

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season,
Kathy Cecil, Registrar, Ext. 7004
Pamela Heglar, Director of Student Services, Ext. 7054

Ask a Librarian

'Ask a Librarian' (www.askalibrarian.org), a free online library reference service available to all Floridians, has been awarded a \$395,115 Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant to continue providing its valuable statewide services. Ask a Librarian provides Florida's residents with free, convenient, real-time access to a librarian who can answer their reference questions and assist them in locating information on the Web. Library professionals from 80 participating academic, public and special libraries throughout the state staff the service. "This third consecutive year of LSTA funding is clear recognition of the invaluable role Ask a Librarian plays in meeting the information needs of this state," said Vince Mariner, Statewide Coordinator of the Ask a Librarian service.

Ask a Librarian is a collaborative service jointly administered by the College Center for Library Automation (CCLA) and the Tampa Bay Library Consortium (TBLC), and is a key component of the Florida Electronic Library (www.flelibrary.org). Ask a Librarian has received similar LSTA grants each year since its inception in 2002. The grant is administered by the Florida Department of State, State Library of Florida.

STARLINK Feature I: Student Services: Assessment, Advising, Transfer

The Services a college provides its students and prospective students are obviously very important to enrollment and retention. Using the states of Texas and Minnesota as models, this program will show some successful ways to approach assessment, counseling/advising, and transfer services. Experts from both states will discuss and demonstrate successful practices and provide ideas and directions that are working for them. Video examples of best practices will be included in the program.

STARLINK Feature II: Are We Testing What We are Teaching? How to Construct Accurate and Useful Tests.

A must-see for every instructor! These national experts will provide research based and easily adaptable testing ideas and examples. Also included will be examples and strategies for equitable testing of diverse groups. You may access this 24 hours a day/7 days a week from our webpage at <http://www.starlinktraining.org>. If you are interested please contact Carl Schweibinz for password and packet information.

We are very much interested in your input! If you have questions, comments, suggestions, criticisms, or the like regarding what you have read here or what you would like to see included in this newsletter, please forward them to Brian Mann or Ramonita Soto. We value your opinion and would like to provide you with the information that you need to do your job and help our students succeed.