THE MONTHLY BRIEFING
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MEDIA SERVICES & CLASSROOM SUPPORT:
Learn All About It!

Usually, when you get “The Monthly Briefing”, you get to find out all about some of the highlights of what we have done or what we will get to do in the coming month. And it is the nature of this Department to focus more on events, videos, graphics and websites than on what the “silent heroes” of Media Services do everyday: THE CLASSROOM SUPPORT UNIT.

THE CLASSROOM SUPPORT UNIT was created, as it exists right now, in January of 2008 with enhance services and training in the summer of 2008. Part Timers and Student Assistants were immediately trained and allowed to participate in the installation, maintenance and facilitation of the 206 multimedia classrooms in a very short time; a great feat by itself. So let me take time now to thank you for all of your work and to mention a few of the things that you have been doing quietly in the past few months.

From 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., all of you help faculty members make the most out of the multimedia technology that is out there. When you read about the teaching/learning achievements of this very prestigious institution, please understand that all of you had something to do with that.

Case in point is the application of newer instructional technologies like Panopto and Second Life. These, to cite a few, have been brought to North Campus… And under the leadership of Alex and Nelson, Media Services North Campus has made it easier for the faculty to understand and to use as teaching instrument.

Lastly, the CLASSROOM SUPPORT UNIT has just begun announcing a series of CT&D training sessions that will begin in November. As a result of successful completion of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Identify controls and use of the typical classroom multimedia system equipment.
- Identify how to navigate through and “playback” various input sources
- Identify how to use Video On Demand.
- Identify classroom support services.

If you know of someone who can benefit from this training, please tell them to go to the CT&D website or contact Classroom Support at 71159.

MEDIA SERVICES: Making History on the WWW!

In the days prior to August 20th, Victor Gomez approached me and asked me about doing a “virtual web gallery opening”. I thought it was a great and very doable ideal. And on 10/09/09, Miami Dade College North Campus did another historical first for Miami Dade College when we made possible the first virtual web gallery opening in the College’s history. Not only did we make history, but this live web event was also included in social media sites like Facebook and Twitter. And we had up to 6500 viewers at one given point! Kudos to the web team.

And finally…
The fact that I get to talk to you about “Student Appreciation Day” in the “And finally…” section of this month’s newsletter says a lot of how far we have come in terms of events. Just two years ago, “Student Appreciation Day” was a huge endeavor. Today, I can put it in here almost as an after thought of achievements, since the event was flawless, with great sound and filmed in High Definition video. Not to mention that we had another high profile event happening at almost the same time and with only two good working video cameras. Thanks all for this and thanks to Victor Gomez for his contribution to this event.

Until next month... Elmo R. Lugo