



APPROACHING DEADLINES:

January 11	Winter eLearning Courses Begin
January 14	Online Registration Deadline for Conference
January 15	Last Date for E-Rate Form 470 (28 days before 2/12/09)
January 20	Registration Opens for Spring, 2009 eLearning Courses
February 2-4	Onsite Registration Deadlines for Conference (same-day registration available)
February 12	Filing Window Closes for E-Rate Form 471

eTech Ohio Connections

Please visit www.etech.ohio.gov/connections/ to access eTech Ohio's newsletter. *Connections* features up-to-date information about eTech Ohio's programs and services, as well as unique articles about our affiliates and partners.

E-Rate Deadlines

The FY09 application filing window for Form 470 closes on **January 15, 2009**, 28 days prior to the Form 471 window closing. The FY09 application filing window for Form 471 opened on December 2, 2008 and will close at 11:59 p.m. EST on **February 12, 2009**. The Schools and Libraries Division of USAC urges you to file early and file online! Contact your eTech Ohio educational technology consultant, www.etech.ohio.gov/go/etc/ for assistance.

eLearning

eTech Ohio's winter eLearning courses begin on **January 11, 2009**. Registration for spring eLearning courses opens on **January 20, 2009**. Visit www.etech.ohio.gov/web_services/opptracking.jsp to register for any of our online eLearning courses. Learn how to provide professional development to your entire school district in a cost-effective, flexible and convenient 24/7 online learning environment with customizable, unique opportunities.

Conference '09

Online Registration Open through January 14

The 11th Annual Educational Technology Conference will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, February 2-4, 2009. Don't forget, you may use your eTech Ohio professional development funds to provide this valuable PD for teachers and administrators. PD funds may be used to register for the event by technology staff. After January 14, on-site registration will be available.

New This Year!

New this year to the Conference:

- The exciting launch of **Ohio iTunes U** will provide educational digital media resources through a popular national digital media provider, Apple iTunes U, free of charge with unlimited access. The Apple iTunes U platform will allow the State of Ohio to showcase education resources, professional development materials, best practices, and student samples which have been produced by a variety of Ohio content providers.
- **Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT)** sessions are small-group, hands-on sessions that allow attendees to learn technology on their own equipment that they bring to the session, ex: laptops, iPods.
- **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Challenge**. Conference attendees will watch teams of students solve problems, build, and demonstrate their projects as they compete in the *Ohio Robotics Challenge* in the Technology for Learning Center.

- **Virtual Worlds Labs.** Attendees will explore virtual worlds (i.e. Second Life and STEAMiE) developed at Ohio University with people who are working to develop virtual learning environments for K-12 and who have researched data to help educators understand how learning occurs in these environments.
- **P-20 Collaboration Showcase** sessions that highlight innovative work being done across the P-20 curriculum. Both higher education and K-12 educators share a common goal: a more seamless continuum that better prepares students for life, work and ongoing study.

Daily Keynote & Featured Speakers:

- **Wesley Fryer:** *Reinventing Education for the 21st Century (Designing School 2.0)* – Monday
- **Richard Baranuk:** *The Emerging Economics of Open Access Education - Monday*
- **Daniel Burrus:** *Transforming Education: Using Technology to Accelerate Learning* – Tuesday
- **C. Allen Shaffer:** *Data Security and Legal Obligations, Monday; Computer Misuse and the Law, Tuesday; Copyright and the Web, Wednesday*
- **Jeff Salz:** *Leading From the Inside Out, Wednesday*
- **Kelly Fonner:** *Supporting Reading Comprehension Through Kurzweil 3000, Tuesday; Choosing an Audio or Digital Reader for Students with Print Disabilities, Tuesday; and Electronically Connecting Reading & Writing with Read&Write Gold, Tuesday*

Go to <http://www.etech.ohio.gov/conference/schedule/> to find out more about these exciting speakers, new events, scheduled times for sessions and more.

Planning your schedule prior to Conference

Use the **Online Conference Planner** to browse or search through the entire menu of Conference 2009 sessions and displays. Log in to Hall Pass to create a personalized schedule of events using the My Schedule option. Print, save a list of sessions and/or download a vCalendar file to import into your Microsoft Outlook, Palm, iCal or other calendaring program. The personalized schedule of events can be sorted by presenter, date/time and location. Users can opt to display or suppress session descriptions. The link to evaluate sessions will become active during Conference.

Update Your Hall Pass Profile

Please remember to make sure your Hall Pass profile is up-to-date. If your account is disabled or you have forgotten your password, contact customerservice@etech.ohio.gov. Accounts are disabled after two years of inactivity. Hall Pass is needed to access online resources such as accessing the Technology Planning Tool, obtaining certificates of participation for the Educational Technology Conference and other continuing education offered by eTech Ohio.

Contact your eTech Ohio educational technology consultant www.etech.ohio.gov/go/etc/ for further assistance with technology planning, answers to E-Rate questions or other technology integration needs.