May 8, 2009

WEBMASTER MEETING

- Weir 107

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- Meeting schedule

In the news…

U. of California at San Diego Accidentally Congratulates 28,000 Rejected Students

"Campus officials blamed the mistake on an 'administrative error' that involved selecting the wrong database of recipients."

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

News Blog

Higher-education news from around the Web

March 31, 2009

U. of California at San Diego Accidentally Congratulates 28,000 Rejected Students

The admissions office of the University of California at San Diego accidentally e-mailed acceptance letters to its entire undergraduate applicant pool, including 28,000 students who had been rejected earlier this month, the *Los Angeles Times* reported. Campus officials blamed the mistake on an "administrative error" that involved selecting the wrong database of recipients.

"We recognized the incredible pain receiving this false encouragement caused. It was not our intent," said Mae Brown, the campus's admissions director. Ms. Brown said she had been answering e-mail from disappointed students and parents.

San Diego joins a list of campuses that have made similar mistakes. They include Cornell University, the University of California at Davis, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Northwestern University's business school. —*Josh Keller*

Posted on Tuesday March 31, 2009 | Permalink |

In the news…

The recent flooding in North Dakota prompted schools to post announcements on their home pages. This one created a Flood Blog with announcements about how grades will be handled during the flood and how supervisors are to be flexible with staff time off needs.

In the news…

◆ 2 years later, a reflection on how Virginia Tech used its Web site to communicate about school shootings.

16 APR 2009

Remembering the Virginia Tech Tragedy with Mike Dame's account of how web communications were handled

Posted by Karine Joly

It's been 2 years.

I remember very clearly that day.

I only learned about the tragedy around 11AM that morning. I was unplugged to work on a project, and it's just when I checked my email and the email listservs that I saw a message referring to something terrible going on at Virginia Tech. I checked VT website and decided to share the info and a screenshot with this blog's readers right away.

There was no Twitter at that time, or more accurately it didn't have the following it now has. I can't stop thinking that if the microblogging platform had been around, maybe, some lives could have been saved.

The Virginia Tech Tragedy marked a day in American and higher ed history. That day, Mike Dame, Director of Web Communications at VT and his team wrote an important page in the higher ed web communication book. They literally wrote the manual to handle web communications in such a terrible crisis.

In the following day, they were criticized - as the institution was - mainly by mainstream media and experts for failing to communicate… But, at the end of the day, Mike and his team did a great work.

2 years ago, I kept track of the homepage changes on a post to compile an archive that could offer an account of the great work of Mike's team.

When things settled down a bit, I told Mike that he should tell the community how things went and how his team handled them. I worked with Mike on a webinar (that allowed us to raise $4,300 for the Hokie Fund of Virginia Tech) that became a famous presentation given later that year at many higher ed conferences.

If you didn't get a chance to watch that presentation yet, here's your chance. Now that Mike has left higher education to work in healthcare, I think it's time to release this presentation to our community for free.

❝ From the Inside Out: Lessons Learned in Crisis Web Communications after the Virginia Tech Tragedy (69 minutes - recorded on July 10, 2007)
Michael Dame, Director of Web Communications at Virginia Tech, will provide an insider look and analysis of his institution's Web communications after the tragedy, helping every institution understand what happened and prepare for the unthinkable and the unplanned.

In the news…

◆ "Last week the university's disciplinary officers… began e-mailing students whose profiles contained pictures of "trashings", where students spray each other with champagne, flour or worse, to celebrate finishing their exams."

◆ "I thought my privacy settings were such that only students could see my pictures."

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From The Times

July 17, 2007

Caught on camera – and found on Facebook

Patrick Foster

It has become as much a part of student life as hangovers and essay crises. But now Facebook, the social networking website, is being used as a disciplinary tool by university authorities.

Staff at Oxford University are searching the website, collecting photographs of students who they say have broken rules on post-examination celebrations, and handing down fines. The student union has branded the move a "disgraceful" intrusion into privacy and has e-mailed every common room advising how to prevent dons viewing the photographs.

Last week the university's disciplinary officers, the proctors, began

TECH CENTRAL

Latest posts on the blog

▸ Dave Arneson dies
▸ Photobombs - enjoy
▸ Cats that go tweet

SIX DAYS IN FALLUJAH

In the news…

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  + Storage
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  + Hardware
  + Software
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Study: Facebook users get lower grades in college

Science, technology, business majors most likely to regularly use Facebook

By Sharon Gaudin

Comments (7) Recommended (17) Digg Twitter ShareThis

April 13, 2009 (Computerworld) Need your kids to pick their grades up? Tell them to spend less time on Facebook.

A new study released by Ohio State University shows that college students who use Facebook spend less time studying and have lower grades than students who don't use the popular social networking site. But don't count on the Facebook users admitting the problem. The university report noted that 79% of them said that using the social networking site was not interfering with their studies.

"We can't say that use of Facebook leads to lower grades and less studying -- but we did find a relationship there," said Aryn Karpinski, co-author of the study and a doctoral student in education at Ohio State University. "There's a disconnect between students' claim that Facebook

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In the news...

♦ May 6: "UM Students gathered in the first floor of the J.D. Williams Library to celebrate with a "Flash Rave" in the midst of finals week."

OLE MISS FLASH RAVE

7:30 / 9:59

IT Updates

- Cisco installs firewall hardware.
- Systems group moves test server behind it.
- Things fail. Panic ensues.
- Problems appear to be caused by the interconnectedness between test server and systems still outside the firewall.
- Go-live Friday: Most things begin working as related systems are now all behind the firewall.
- A sigh of relief is heard.

IT Updates (continued)

- Firefox found to function incorrectly with myOleMiss behind firewall. Searching for fixes.
- April 11: Power outage in Data Center due to storms – servers are shut down.
- Power outage continues.
- Power restored, testing resumes.
- April 13: Firefox issues continue.

IT Updates (continued)

- April 16: Major SAP upgrade (EHP4) begins.

- April 19: Upgrade completed two days early.

- April 29: IE 8 is pushed as a critical update… still not functioning correctly with myOleMiss.

- May 5: Firewall rules are adjusted and Firefox and IE 8 work much better!
(Not perfectly yet, just better.)

Web Planning Update

myOleMiss links

http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/it/webmaster/shortcuts.html

myOleMiss Shortcuts

IT maintains the following shortcut links into myOleMiss applications. Please feel free to post these on your sites as needed. All other links into myOleMiss are subject to change without notice.
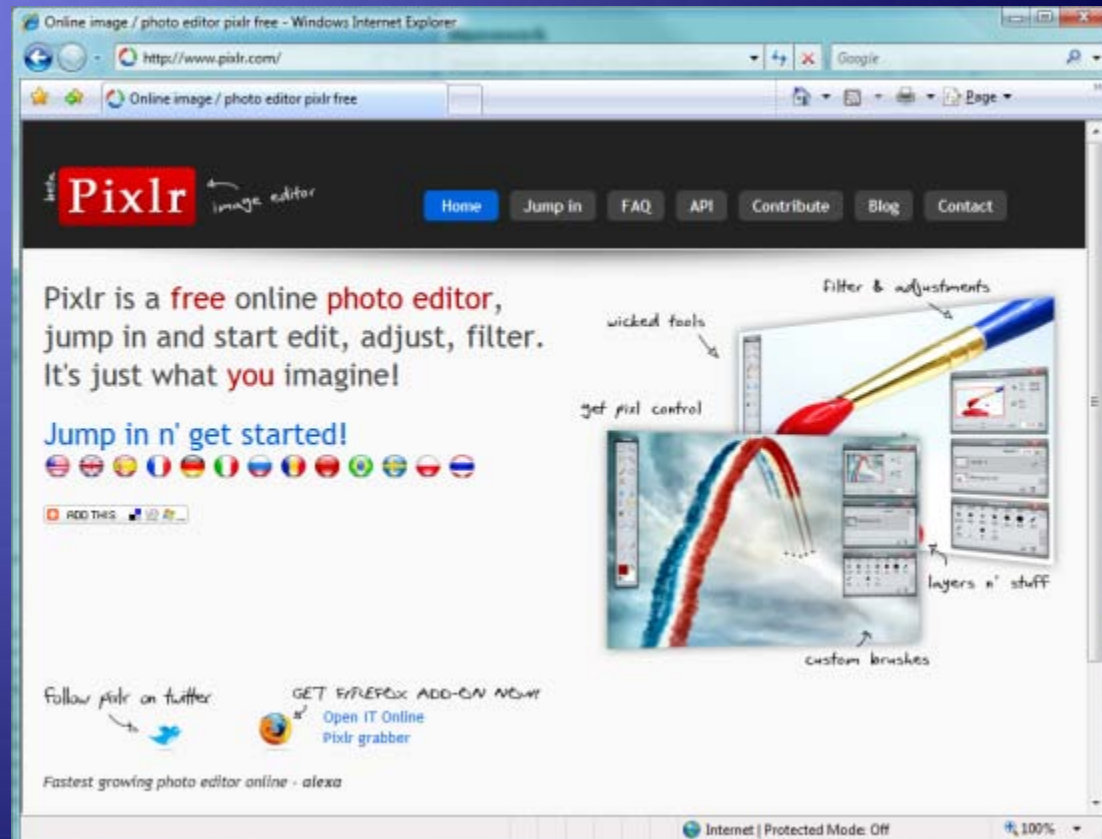
Student links:

- Transfer Course Equivalencies: **http://www.olemiss.edu/transferequiv**
- Admission applications: **http://www.olemiss.edu/application**
- Application status: **http://www.olemiss.edu/mystatus**
- Financial Aid: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaid/portal**
    - Appeals: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaidappeal**
    - Award Letter: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaidaward**
    - Book Voucher: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaidbookvoucher**
    - Independent Study: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaidindstudy**
    - Scholarships: **http://www.olemiss.edu/scholarships**
    - Summer Application: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaidsummer**
    - Sumner Grant: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaidsumner**
    - Workstudy Request: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaidworkstudy**
- My contact information: **http://www.olemiss.edu/mystudentinfo**
- Register for classes: **http://www.olemiss.edu/registration**
- Student account statement: **http://www.olemiss.edu/myaccount**
- Pay student account: **http://www.olemiss.edu/billerdirect**
- Required course materials: **http://www.olemiss.edu/materials**
- Check Financial Aid award status: **http://www.olemiss.edu/finaid/portal**
- MidTerm grades: **http://www.olemiss.edu/midtermgrades**

Information Technology

Helpful tool

Pixlr: www.pixlr.com

- Free
- Online
- Photo Editor

Helpful tool

Fireshot: screenshot-program.com/fireshot/
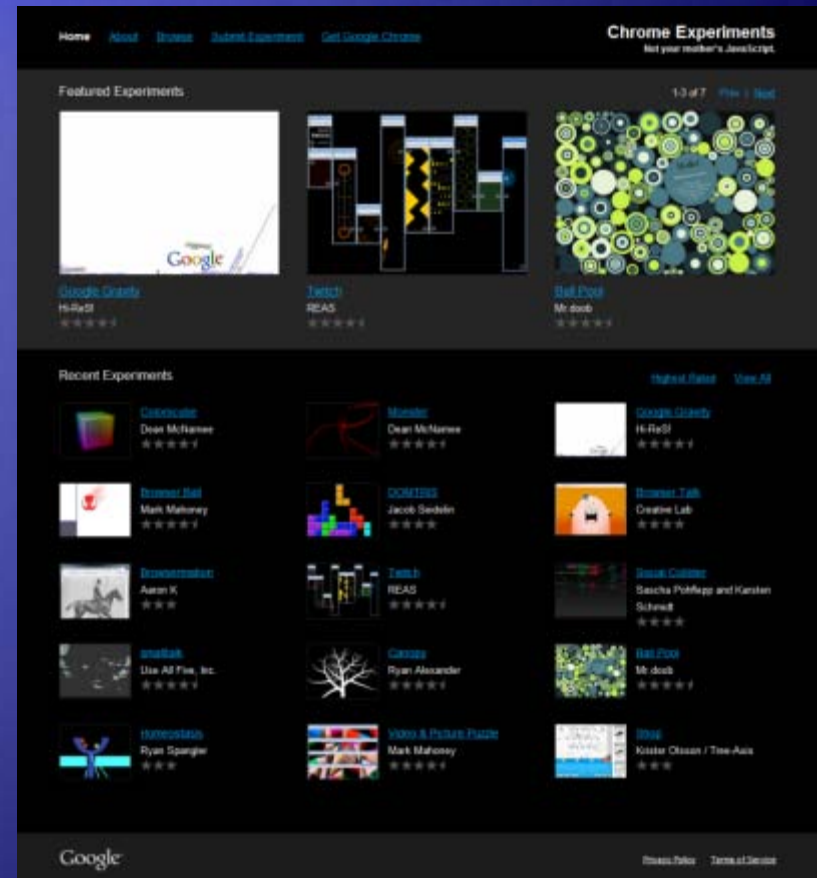
 ◆ Capture full height of page

 ◆ Both Firefox and IE

Just plain fun

Chrome Experiments

◆ Examples of what javascript and a lot of imagination can make happen.
(Note: Only for Chrome, Firefox, or Safari.)

◆ Browser Ball

◆ Twitch

Just plain fun

Flutter?

◆ As Twitter-mania reaches new levels, Slate V presents a mockumentary about a company that wants to take microblogging to the next level.

http://slatev.com/player.html?id=18328570001

Next Meeting…

- ◆ June 12