



LEADING THE WAY TO TOMORROW'S INTERNET



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DCP Today

Welcome to DCP Today, CENIC's twice-monthly electronic newsletter detailing the latest news about the Digital California Project.

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CENIC Released RFP on Friday, January 26th

CENIC released an RFP on Friday, January 26, 2001 for the acquisition and installation of the telecommunications equipment needed to create the Digital California Project statewide network. DCP is focused on providing all of California's K-12 education community with unparalleled access to a statewide advanced services network backbone. This effort will be accomplished by extending the existing CalREN-2/4CNet network infrastructure into each of the 58 California counties. The DCP will enable countywide education and school district networks to connect to California's high-performance Internet2 backbone. Initial hub and node site recommendations were made by the DCP Network Planning Team and presented to the DCP Program Steering Committee (PSC) on November 17, 2000. The initial recommendations identified 11 hub and 70 node sites with a number of additional potential node sites. The RFP (along with the complete DCP project plan) can be accessed via the CENIC website at: <http://www.cenic.org/dcp.html>

CENIC Names Vaile DCP Chief Applications Coordinator

Dr. Tom West, President/Executive Director of CENIC recently named John A. Vaile, Ed.D. as the Chief Applications Coordinator for the Digital California Project. Dr. Vaile is currently the Executive Director of the National Education Computing Association, the Eugene, Oregon-based organization that sponsors the annual National Education Computing Conference (NECC). A former elementary school principal and assistant superintendent, Vaile has held a number of prestigious positions in the national educational technology community, including serving as the CEO of the International Society for Technology in Education (1999-2000), the Executive Director of California Instructional Technology Clearinghouse (1996-1999), and the Executive Director of Computer Using Educators, Inc. (1993-1996). As DCP Chief Applications Coordinator, Dr. Vaile will lead the team that will identify the sources of educational content on the Internet that are best aligned with the Content Standards for California Public Schools. The Chief Applications Coordinator will provide the leadership and the coordination for the applications component of the DCP initiative.

E-Textbooks Set to Take Off in 2001

On college campuses and high school classrooms, the full-blown digital revolution is just a few semesters away. Although there are currently a number of textbooks available on CD-ROM, many publishers are expecting the popularity of so-called "e-textbooks" to explode in early 2001 when college and high school students alike start using laptop computers to read and interact with a new generation of Web-based texts. In three studies, Peter Navarro, a professor of economics and public policy at the University of California-Irvine, gave electronic textbooks a high grade. His findings show that students in a fully-interactive multimedia cyber course performed as well or better than a control group in the traditional lecture hall. Although the benefits of e-textbooks may prove revolutionary, many professors reported they are spending twice as much time both developing and teaching Web-based courses and complained they are doing so without supplementary pay. Source: <http://www.wirednews.com/news/school/0,1383,38061,00.html>

Factoid: Electronic Encyclopedias

In 1986, 100% of all encyclopedias were printed editions. By 1998, only 5% of all encyclopedias were printed. All of the rest were electronic. Source: 2001 Doodle and Fact Calendar

About CENIC

CENIC is a not-for-profit corporation formed by the California Institute of Technology, the California State University, Stanford University, the University of California, and the University of Southern California to

facilitate and coordinate the deployment, development, and operation of a set of seamless and robust advanced network services. The CENIC Associates program offers qualified companies the opportunity to collaborate with CENIC in pursuit of the goal of providing the most advanced network services for research and education. Cisco Systems, IBM, Pacific Bell and Sun Microsystems are CENIC's Founding Partner Associates.

About DCP

The Digital California Project is a project of CENIC. A multi-million dollar effort funded by the State of California, the DCP was designed to build the necessary network infrastructure needed to prepare California's schools to take advantage of tomorrow's advances in network technology. In essence, CENIC is developing an advanced-services network to serve the entire California K-20 education and research community.

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