

Faculty Center for Teaching Excellence

**Responses to "The Web: The Revolution Is Here; Let's Join Today,"
by Bob Houghton, 2/1/95**

This is really an incredible article that could change the way we teach. Keep up the good work.

Bob Orr, Media Center

I feel that Bob Houghton's essay was well done and will probably help to fuel the rapid pace at which our faculty are becoming Internet users. I think that the Web browser programs have done more to excite our faculty than all of the other Internet tools combined. I also believe that the installation of the campus network is aiding this growth.

While Bob challenges us in several areas that I agree with, I do question one area. I do not think that WCU can (or should) become an Internet provider for the surrounding counties. I agree that we should educate and lend our expertise whenever possible. Through these types of support many people will be ready to take advantage of the NC Information Highway when it reaches our public libraries, hospitals, community colleges, and public schools. In addition, through this education, the public could then support a local freenet or possibly attract a commercial service like America Online to place a modem within local calling range.

One area that Bob accurately identified as a problem is the inadequate access for our own community of users. This includes dial-up access for the VAX, dial-up access for the network (which is non-existent), and on-campus public access for the VAX and the network. Now that we nearly have the infrastructure for a campus network in place, I hope that this area of need will be seriously addressed.

Joel McKenzie, Computer Center

Bob Houghton has revealed one of the best-kept secrets in town and I attribute to him my recent success in using the World Wide Web to enhance my work and support of activities in the Faculty Center. Bob is a "believer" and quite often it takes a great deal of believing before the pay off.

I have been exploring the World Wide Web for some months now and am beginning to use it to make contact with people who know a lot more about what I am currently doing than I do. The other day I found information about two very talented people I needed at the next Wildacres Retreat by making three clicks to NC State University and the faculty directory. In another click I was writing these people a letter confirming their willingness to speak at the retreat. This all took about 15 minutes. Recently I found "Friends and Partners," a Russian/American information and linking service that promotes learning about our cultures and helps to introduce friends. I was interested in this because of Western's recent efforts to promote a greater international prospective. The "Web" is indeed a revolution.

Chris Martin, Media Center