



DARS/u.select News

August 2010

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DARS/u.select Users Conference Announcement

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! The 8th Annual DARS/u.select Users Conference 2010 will be held on September 28 and 29, at the Crowne Plaza – Minneapolis North, 2200 Freeway Blvd, Brooklyn Center. The day and a half conference will focus primarily on transfer topics this year, as it relates to DARS, u.select, single registration, graduation planner, and other future projects. Registration will be available mid-August, with a Sept. 6th cut-off date for blocked room rates on lodging (\$89.49 per night includes tax). Watch for emails with conference details.

Students First Project Updates

- ✓ **Equivalent Course Search in Single Registration:** Look for more information from ITS Help Desk later this summer or early Fall. Most of the development and testing has been completed, but this functionality will not be made available until sometime after the Fall Readiness Freeze is over.
- ✓ **Graduation Planner:** An announcement has been made that the Student's First staff will be negotiating a contract to purchase the u.direct software from redLantern, LLC. This is expected to be accomplished by September 1, 2010, but until the contract is signed and completed, this could change.
If you care to learn more about u.direct, feel free to check it out at: <http://www.redlanternu.com/udirect> .
Using your redLantern account login, you can see much more user documentation at <http://clients.redlanternu.com/home/display/UDIR/u.direct>.

CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Welcome to this new section of our Monthly News. We invite you to let us know about information you wish to share with other MnSCU schools. We particularly welcome news from you that will impact DARS encoding and transfer processing within MnSCU.

- The MnSCU Board of Trustees approved changing the name of Alexandria Technical College to Alexandria Technical and Community College. The name change became affective with the June meeting. Alexandria Technical and Community College is now a comprehensive two-year college.

- Effective Fall 2010, Century will combine all art courses, ART, ARTS and ARTH, into one discipline - ART. Art courses will fulfill just one discipline in MnTC Goal 6. Multiple disciplines earned, e.g. 1 discipline for ARTS, 1 discipline for ARTH, prior to this merging of disciplines, will still be honored.

DOCUMENTATION:

DARS Catalogs

Eighteen DARS Military catalogs are available for sending to your production DARS. Military **course** tables include course number, version number and associated date ranges. Military **occupation** tables include occupation number, skill/rank level and associated date ranges. Please use the form located at http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/updates/documents/pdf/Request_MilitaryDARS.pdf to request military catalogs.

New Courses Inserts

Twenty-one schools have requested the 2009-2010 new courses inserts! This number is a record high for requests. It is not too late to request the 2009-2010 new courses inserts. Description for the 2009-2010 Curriculum Changes, New Courses, and New MnTC Courses can be found in the June Newsletter:

http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/news/2010_documents/June_News_2010.pdf

If your college or university would like the new course inserts, please make your request to mary.dandrea@so.mnscu.edu.

TRAINING & CONFERENCES:

Training dates for Fall 2010 are posted below. If you have new or existing staff that will be using DARS or u.select, please encourage them to attend the appropriate training session(s) as they are announced. Even if you or your staff already attended training, you are welcome to attend again. Many people find a return visit to training helpful.

- **Basic Encoding Training** – is scheduled for September 14-15, 2010, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., at Wells Fargo Place, Training Room 3354.
- **Transfer Articulation Training** – is scheduled for October 12-13, 2010, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m., at Wells Fargo Place, Training Room 3354.
- **u.select Advisor Training** – training offered via WebEx, October 14, 2010 from 1:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- **u.select Administrator Training** – training offered via WebEx upon request, (after registering, participants will be contacted to arrange date & time).
- **DARS/u.select Users Conference** will be held September 28-29, 2010, at the Crowne Plaza in Brooklyn Center. Detailed information and registration will be available in August.

All training will be held at Wells Fargo Place in Saint Paul, unless otherwise indicated. Training will be in Room 2204 or 3354, depending on the number of registered participants.

Registration for all training, open labs, and conferences can be found at the following link: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_index.html. The format will allow you to check the dates of the training, review agendas, and register from the same page. *REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1 week prior to training or open lab dates.* Upon completion of all training and labs, please complete the Training Evaluation at: <http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/evaluation.html>.

THIRD Wednesday & Thursday/DARS OPEN LABS:

Third Wednesday & Thursday – No 3rd W/Th open lab in August due to heavy pre-semester activity at the campuses.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 1 week prior to training or open lab dates.

DARS "Out West" Open Lab – is scheduled for October 6, 2010 at Minnesota State University Moorhead, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Library 204.

DARS "North Shore" Open Lab – is scheduled for October 28, 2010 at Lake Superior College, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Library, Room E1022.

DARS "Up North" Open Lab – is scheduled for November 10, 2010 at Bemidji State University, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in Memorial Hall, Room 11.

DARS "Down South" Open Lab – is scheduled for December 7, 2010 at South Central College, Faribault or North Mankato (depending on who attends), 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

DARS "Central" Open Lab – is scheduled for December 9, 2010 at the Quarry Center, Waite Park, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Registration can be found online at:

http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/training/training_regform_new.html

Driving directions and parking ramp information to Wells Fargo Place can be found online at: http://www.dars.mntransfer.org/registration/directions_WFP.html

For questions or comments about this newsletter, contact Marla Delaney at marla.delaney@csu.mnscu.edu. Thank you.