

Analyzing Trends through ANGEL

When Kate Leach, math tutoring coordinator and math instructor, realized that some of her intermediate algebra students were getting lower grades than she expected, she set out to analyze why.

“It would appear that they understood the math concepts, but at the end of the semester, their grade indicated otherwise,” she explains. “I needed to explore the trends in their performance rather than their individual grades, and find out exactly where they were having difficulty.”

Leach used the ANGEL standards and objectives tool to help her collect and analyze the data. From her syllabus, she typed in the course objectives, which lists the class specifics that students are expected to learn.

“I determined students’ final grades from various categories – tests, homework, quizzes, projects, etc.,” she continues. “But, in general, these grading categories didn’t allow me to see the entire picture.”

In ANGEL, she broke down the grading categories and assignments even further to assess what concepts students were mastering, and where they needed to improve. Her solution was to link various objectives to each test item, project or homework.

For instance, she may have previously given one homework assignment that covered three different performance objectives such as graphing a



Utilizing the ANGEL standards and objectives tool, Kate Leach developed an assessment tool that provides a clear picture of which math concepts students are mastering, as well as the ones where they need improvement.

As well as measuring individual students’ performance on specific skills, Leach says she appreciates the fact that she can analyze the data on a variety of levels – including looking at students’ performance on individual assignments, measuring the performance of the entire class on specific skills, and even comparing one

quadratic function, solving a quadratic equation or finding a maximum or minimum value, all contributing to a single grade. Breaking down and analyzing the students’ grade by the performance objective allowed Leach to evaluate her students’ grasp of the individual concepts and trends throughout the semester.

“This is somewhat similar to using a rubric, where students’ performance is based on a full range of criteria rather than a single score,” Leach says. “ANGEL, however, will let you build a rubric with each criteria, link it to a performance objective or a common student learning outcome. The program collects all the data and allows you to analyze it during the course or at the end.”

class to another to hone in on trends that may show a need to revise the way particular concepts are taught. Students also have the ability to pull a report and do a self assessment to gain a clearer picture of the concepts that they need further help with.

“Regardless of the subject or course, the ANGEL standards and objective tool is an excellent source to provide feedback to instructors as well as students,” Leach says.

For more information about the ANGEL processes Leach utilized, contact her at leachk@sanjuancollege.edu or 566-3694. For a listing of upcoming ANGEL training sessions, contact Lynn Lane, OTS technology trainer, at lanel@sanjuancollege.edu.

And speaking of ANGEL... Need help?



Sam Bachert, instructional design specialist, will create customized on-line ANGEL tutorials. Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit their ideas.

Do you need additional help with ANGEL?

Online Services now has a new resource available, known as Sam’s ANGEL Moments or SAM. Sam Bachert builds the short podcasts to provide a quick one-to-two-minute tutorial about individual features within ANGEL. We would like to hear from you. Are there specific tutorials you would like us to create? Give Sam a call and let him know.

To see an example of a SAM, go to <http://www.sanjuancollege.edu/sam>. If you would like a notice to be sent to your Outlook inbox each time a new one is added follow these steps:

1. Open Outlook
2. Scroll down in the Mail Folders area until you see RSS feeds
3. Right click on RSS feeds and choose Add a new RSS feed...
4. A window will open up, copy and paste the URL below in the box provided.
<http://www.sanjuancollege.edu/os/samsAngelMoments.xml>
5. Click Add
6. The next time a SAM is posted you will receive a notice with a link to the new SAM.

If you have any questions, comments, or a suggestion for a future SAM, contact Sam Bachert at bacherts@sanjuancollege.edu, 566-3310.

From the CIO —


Many of you have asked about the availability of Windows 7 and when SJC will be moving to the new operating system. I'm happy to report that OTS will be rolling out Windows 7 next semester along with the replacement PCs. Lynn Lane will be offering 'What's New' classes to familiarize you with the differences between XP and 7. Watch for more information on the rollout and the classes.



As we are continually looking for more ways to get important information to you, OTS is implementing Datatel Mobile Access (MOX) that allows anytime access to important information like courses, friends, events, notifications, news, maps, and more. MOX is a free download and is available for Apple and Blackberry now, and Android OS mobile devices by next semester. More information will be forthcoming.

During the upcoming spring semester, the Office of Technology Services will send out the department's annual survey. This survey seeks feedback on your use of and need for technology, as well as your level of satisfaction with the support provided by OTS. Look for more information on the survey soon.

Thank you for your support, and please let us know how we can improve our services to best suit your needs.


Tim Warren
Vice President of Technology

What's Coming Up *Get Techy for the Holidays!*

Learn more about some great tech tricks and programs to celebrate the holidays that will benefit you both at work and home. During the week of December 13, Lynn Lane, technology trainer, will hold classes to help you learn how to master:

-  Virtual Greeting Cards
-  Christmas Newsletters
-  Mail Merges
-  Photo Cards
-  Photo Editing

Watch for further information about dates and times for specific classes. Information: Lynn Lane at lanel@sanjuancollege.edu.



Below are a few tips to help simplify your work and keep your documents secure:

Stop those Track Changes

Just when you thought you had turned off Track Changes, you open your document and to your utter dismay, your Word document is littered with review comments. So how do you remove the unwanted graffiti?

1. Click the Microsoft Office Button
2. Point to Prepare
3. Click Inspect Document.
4. Click Inspect command button.
5. Review the inspection results.

If the Document Inspector finds comments and tracked changes, you are prompted to click Remove All next to Comments, Revisions, Versions, and Annotations.

6. Click Reinspect or Close.

Now you're track free!

Lock up when you leave

When you leave your office, are you leaving your computer open for others to see? It's especially important to lock up if your logged-in account allows access to students' data. Locking up without logging off is as easy as 1, 2, 3:

1. On your keyboard, press CTRL+ALT+DELETE at the same time.
2. Click Lock this computer (Lock Computer if you're running Windows XP).
3. To unlock your computer, press CTRL+ALT+DELETE and enter your password.

TECH Update is the bi-monthly newsletter of OTS. Our goal is to keep our customers informed and seek input. If you have questions or comments, please write to: TECHUPDATE@sanjuancollege.edu or call 566-3166.