### Upcoming Events

“Effective Ways to Use Social Media in the Classroom” with LaWanda Burrell
- 7/25
- 12:00-2:00
- LIB 301
- RSVP

“Don’t Call on Me! How to Draw Shy Students Out of their Shells and Into the Classroom” with James Kowalski
- 8/1
- 12:00-2:00
- LIB 301
- RSVP

“Implementing Gen Ed Assessment Across Multiple Modalities” Faculty Webinar
- 8/15
- 1:00-2:00
- LIB 301
- RSVP

“Relaxation Techniques for Stressed-Out Faculty” with Dr. Tonya Hall
- 8/22
- 12:00-2:00
- LIB 301
- RSVP

“Web 2.0 Technologies to Engage and Inspire” with Jason Rhode
- 8/29
- 12:00-2:00
- LIB 301
- RSVP

### Rise of the MOOCs

The past week has witnessed two remarkable developments in the world of MOOCs, or massive open (i.e., free) online courses.

On July 24, edX, a joint effort between Harvard and MIT, announced that UC Berkeley will also be offering courses through their website.

Even more striking, however, was the announcement on July 17 from Coursera, another MOOC consortium of major universities, which revealed that 12 additional universities will be offering courses through their website: Georgia Tech; Duke; University of Washington; Caltech; Rice; University of Edinburgh; University of Toronto; EPFL—Lausanne (Switzerland); Johns Hopkins; UC San Francisco; U of I—Champaign; and the University of Switzerland.

All of this begs the question: What are the implications of this for the future of higher ed?

### Bulk Up Your Google Search I.Q.

Depending on what you’re searching for on the internet, Google can be either a blessing or a curse (or something in between). But if you find yourself running into more frustration with the search engine than you’d care to admit, then hopefully the following tips can help ease the pressure valves.

1) **Forget Most Punctuation**

Google doesn’t care whether you type in “Chicago Bulls” or “chicago bulls,” just like it doesn’t care whether you type in “Will-o’-the-Wisp” or “will o the wisp.” The search results will be the same.

2) **Less is More**

Instead of typing in something like “vacation resorts around cancun mexico,” just pare it down to the essentials: “cancun resorts.” Mission accomplished.

3) **Just Hit “Enter”**

It’s a small thing, but it can really save time in the long run: Once you’ve typed in a search phrase, just hit the (Continued on back)
“Effective Ways to Use Social Media in the Classroom”
Faculty Workshop

On Wednesday, July 25, there will be a faculty workshop in the CTRE titled, “Effective Ways to Use Social Media in the Classroom”

The days of keeping cell phones and computers out of the classroom are long gone—have you ever heard “if you can’t beat them, join them”? This workshop is going to show you effective ways to do just that. Participants will be introduced to interactive techniques that incorporate popular social media programs. Be prepared to discuss, practice, and assess several of these techniques. iPads, laptops and cellphones are all encouraged as a part of the session. If you do not have any of the items listed, don’t worry you will still have a take-away at the end of the session!

This workshop will be led by LaWanda Burrell, Instructional Designer at Moraine Valley Community College. It will take place on Wednesday, July 25 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. in the CTRE’s LIB 301. If you have any questions, please contact James Kowalski at jkowalsk@csu.edu or x2498.

Click here to RSVP.

Congratulations!

The CTRE would like to congratulate the following faculty on receiving CSU’s “We Live It” award:

Edmundo Garcia
Sabah Hussein
Hannah Jones
Andrew Maselli

WE LIVE IT.

Bulk Up Your Google Search I.Q.
(Continued from front)

“Enter” key on the keyboard—there’s no need to click the “Google Search” button with your mouse.

4) Use Quotation Marks
If you’re looking up a specific phrase, wording, or title, consider using quotation marks. Searching “chicago state university” with them will show different results from what you’d get without.

5) Inside Search

This is a handy page compiled by the good folks at Google, which lists a kind of “frequently searched topics” list. Perfect for anyone’s favorites toolbar.

6) That’s Just the Beginning
These tips represent just a smidgeon of ways to improve, economize, and expedite your Google search experience. For more tips—you guessed it—do a search of your own! Try “google search tips” and see what comes up.