@ERIC Update

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New Web Site Debuts at www.eric.ed.gov

On September 17, 2006, ERIC released a streamlined and restructured Web site. The site offers a more powerful search engine, new highlighting and sorting capabilities, faster-loading pages, and an updated home page design, including up-front links to ERIC features and information. It reflects ERIC-user feedback as well as technology changes.

The list of journals indexed in ERIC has been reformatted and now shows years of coverage and the total number of records in ERIC. The About ERIC page and some Help text has been rewritten for improved readability. Other areas will be similarly improved in the coming months. The addition of a dynamic "In the Spotlight" area on the home page will offer a changing assortment of ERIC news, user-assistance information, and additional features.

New Search Engine is Capstone of Redesigned Site

Searching the ERIC collection is now faster and easier than ever, thanks to the updated site design and new search technology. The cross-platform search engine offers the user community the following improvements to enhance their ERIC experience:

- Significantly faster searches and document retrieval
- Search terms highlighted in each results-record returned in the search results
- New relevance-weighting standards to improve the quality of the search-results display
- Addition of three options for sorting search results – author, source, and publication date
- Removal of the stemming feature means that quotes are no longer needed for exact matching of individual words or acronyms. The asterisk (*) wildcard provides stemming-like functionality (sometimes referred to as truncation), if needed. To use the wildcard feature, specify a minimum of three letters (e.g., *laugh** to retrieve *laugh, laughed, laughing, laughter*)
- Enhanced author searches permitting inclusion of first or middle initials (e.g., "Doe, C. John" or "Doe, John C.")

Underpinning ERIC's "new face" is the same core commitment to dissemination of education research and information. ERIC welcomes your input and invites you to contact us at ericfeedback@csc.com.

Did You Know…

ERIC Update reaches users in every state of the U.S., the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, and the Northern Marianas; every Canadian province; Mexico, and 32 other countries.

During August, ERIC users wrote from across the U.S., as well as Austria, Canada, England, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Kuwait, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Switzerland, Taiwan, and more. We look forward to hearing from *you*.

ERIC Content Continues to Grow

ERIC has added more than 37,000 bibliographic records from 2004 to 2006 to the ERIC database, including 8,944 free full-text documents from the U.S. Department of Education, state education agencies, professional organizations, and other nonprofits with grey literature. More than 850 recent journal articles (dated 2004 to 2006) are now available at no cost in full-text format. ERIC has comprehensively indexed articles from more than 500 journals, and added documents from nearly 340 organizations producing non-journal literature.

www.eric.ed.gov

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If you have any questions or need assistance, send us a reply or contact ERIC at 800-LET-ERIC (800-538-3742), between 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (U.S. and Canada). Thank you for your interest in ERIC.