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<th>Supporting Web-based Learning at the University of Hong Kong</th>
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Supporting Web-based Learning at the University of Hong Kong

Fanny Chau
Computer Centre
The University of Hong Kong

April 2001
IT Infrastructure for Teaching and Learning

- high-speed campus Gigabit/FastEthernet network
- powerful and high resilient servers
- student notebook PC program
- courseware tools for web-based courses
HKU Campus Network

- 14000 wired 100Mbps network points in student halls, labs, department offices and open locations over campus
- 40+ classrooms/open areas equipped with wireless LAN at up to 11Mbps
- 800+ dial-up modem lines for home network access; also partner up with ISP
- 30Mbps connection to HARNET and 48Mbps to Internet
- Virtual Private Network (VPN) gateway to allow access to HKU Intranet via Internet
HKU Computer Centre

Core Backbone Network at Computer Centre

Intranet -- Office Network

ACEnet -- Access Everywhere Network

Remote Networks

HARUNET /Internet

Dial-up Access from Home

Hall Network
Powerful Server for Web Courses

- **Current**
  - A pair of IBM RS6000/SP AIX supercomputers to enhance system availability
  - 4x332 MHz CPUs and 1Gbyte memory each

- **July 2001**
  - A domain on Sun E10000 server
  - 4x400 MHz CPUs and 2Gbyte memory
  - No restriction on disk consumption for web courses
Notebook Computers for Students

- all Year 1 students can join notebook purchase program starting from 1998
- pre-configured for connection to roaming network (ACEnet), Hall Network, PPP
PC laboratory

- central PC labs and Faculty PC labs run by Computer Centre
- installed with many application software
- provides network printing service at cost
- all connected to campus network and Internet
Web-based Teaching & Learning Tools

Nov 1997  Started looking for tools
Mar 1998  Introduced WebCT to HKU
Oct 1998  100 courses created
Mar 2001  549 courses created
Supporting WebCT at HKU –
System Support

✨ System maintenance
  ✨ Backup, Testing, Upgrade
    ✨ WebCT 3.5 trial server open for testing now
    ✨ July 2001 production server upgraded to v3.5

✨ Program customization
  ✨ Automatic Account System
    ✨ Create WebCT student accounts according to Registry enrollment database
Supporting WebCT at HKU - User Support

- Training on WebCT
  - 3 labs
    - Introduction to WebCT functions
    - Designing web-based courses with WebCT
    - Next training - May 15, 2001

- General trainings on html editing

- Email and hotline
  - Ccbox@hkucc.hku.hk – front line support
  - Webct@ecourse.hku.hk – WebCT group
  - Respond within 1 working day
  - Help Desk – 28592480
  - WebCT system administrator – 22415183
Supporting WebCT at HKU - Information update

- HKU WebCT homepage
  http://www.hku.hk/cc/webct
- mailing list for course designers
- seminars
Thank you!