

# NEWS from the Cyberspace Sandbox

## Summer Has Flown!

Hard to imagine that the new academic year is about to start again! In honor of that new year and in response to e-mail from many of you, we are introducing what we hope will be a quarterly newsletter updating you on our activities and anything new and exciting in the online teaching and learning world. We hope you enjoy it. Please feel free to send us any tidbits of information you'd like to see included here and we'll do our best to get them out to everyone.

## A Busy Summer!

We've been on the road nonstop this summer, speaking at workshops and conferences all over the country. We'd like to acknowledge the institutions we've visited over the last few months to do workshops and presentations:

- Seattle Pacific University
- Genesee Community College
- Columbia University
- Mary Baldwin College
- Pace University
- Capella University
- John Brown University
- Florida Community College at Jacksonville
- Golden Gate Seminary
- Northern Wyoming Community College

We'd also like to acknowledge the staff of Lee Hecht Harrison's @Home Program for inviting us to present at their annual meeting and our friends at LERN for inviting us to present at their Online Teaching and Learning Conference again this year.

## Upcoming Presentations

The pace has slowed for us just a bit to allow us to catch our breath. But you'll find us at:

- The Distance Teaching and Learning Conference in Madison, Wisconsin in August
- Computers on Campus in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in November
- The League for Innovation conference in Long Beach, CA in November

If you're at any of these conferences, look us up and say hi!

## Building Learning Communities in Portuguese!

We are proud to announce the July 2002 release of a Portuguese translation of our first book, *Building Learning Communities in Cyberspace*. The book was translated and published in Brazil. To celebrate the release of the book, Rena and Keith were invited by Wilson Azevedo, the Director of the Associação Brasileira de Educação a Distância (Brazilian Distance Education Association) to participate in a weeklong, asynchronous event. Participants from all over North and South America gathered virtually to network with one another and to ask questions of Rena and Keith about designing effective online courses and creating and facilitating online learning communities. A conferencing system, with a translator allowed both Portuguese and English translations of the questions and answers and active discussion ensued. Rena and Keith are now awaiting receipt of Brazilian World Cup Soccer jerseys as their "honorarium" for this event. A Korean translation of *Building Learning Communities in Cyberspace* is also in progress.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Book in Progress!

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> book, *The Virtual Student: A Profile and Guide* is in the review process and should be available early next year, published by Jossey-Bass. We'll notify you all of the release. We are also editing a series of faculty guides for online teaching for J-B. Contact us if you have an idea you'd like to see in print!

## To Contact Us:

If you would like us to speak at your institution or organization, feel free to contact us by e-mail ([rena@xroadsgroup.com](mailto:rena@xroadsgroup.com) or [keith@xroadsgroup.com](mailto:keith@xroadsgroup.com)) or by phone: (510) 769-1340.



**Enjoy the end of your summer! We wish you all a wonderful fall. Look for our next issue in December!**