

Greetings colleagues,

I'm writing to let you know about a University-wide site license for Lynda.com tutorials that Information Technology Services has been working on securing. As the project leader, I've been in contact with Lynda.com about the current individual and multi-license holders at Penn State, and I'd like to take this opportunity to let you know a little more about this additional service.

Beginning August 1, there will be 250 concurrent licenses available for Penn State faculty, staff, and students to use at no cost. This service will be available to anyone using a valid Penn State IP address, as well as through VPN (using LIAS-VPN). Though the University is also exploring the creation of a single sign-on solution through Web Access, no timeline is currently available for that.

If you currently hold an individual or multi-license account through Lynda.com, you are welcome to consider moving to this free service. If you choose to do so, Lynda.com will reimburse you for the balance of your current account (pro-rating from the site license start date of August 1). There is no obligation to move to the free service, and you may choose to maintain your current account(s) at the cost established by your representative.

One thing to be aware of is that the University-wide site license does not allow for individual user profiles. Unfortunately, that functionality was not available through Lynda.com's current site-license system. Therefore, users of the site-license who would like to keep track of the courses they've taken will have to do so manually.

Below are some facts about the site-wide solution that we hope will help you to make the best decision for yourself or your group. If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call (phone#) or send me an e-mail (email address) and I'll do my best to answer whatever questions you may have.

Facts about the University-wide site license

- * Biggest benefit: no cost to users
- * Starts August 1, 2009
- * Allows for 250 concurrent users
- * Available to anyone using a valid Penn State IP address
- * Available through VPN (LIAS-VPN)
- * Single sign-on solution may replace the IP solution (status pending)
- * No individual user profiles
- * Does not track course usage
- * Does not allow for transfer of courses from individual accounts

We hope you find this new service to be useful to the University community, and we certainly understand if you wish to maintain your current license agreement through Lynda.com. Whichever your choice, we ask that you work with your Lynda.com representatives on any service details or adjustments. We'll be sharing information about this new service with a wider audience as more details are secured.