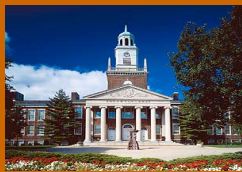


Buffalo State  
College



# August EDC Newsletter

by Peter A. Fuchs

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Educational  
Computing  
Program  
(EDC)  
Monthly  
Newsletter

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### **EDC Program Information**

Dr. John T. Thompson, Coordinator  
Chase Hall 208  
Buffalo State College  
1300 Elmwood Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14222

Office: (716) 878-3531  
Fax: (716) 878-6677

E-Mail: [thompsjt@buffalostate.edu](mailto:thompsjt@buffalostate.edu)

EDC Web Site: <http://www.buffalostate.edu/depts/edcomputing/>

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All graduate students must complete a candidacy form after completing 6 hours but prior to completing 12 graduate hours.

### Candidacy

All students pursuing a master's degree must be admitted to candidacy after the completion of six hours, but prior to the completion of 12 graduate credit hours. Candidacy is a written agreement stating the courses you must complete to receive your degree. It is your program of study and all courses listed on the approved candidacy will be requirements for the graduate degree. Dr. John Thompson, EDC program coordinator, and the Dean must approve it. Failure to develop an approved program and be admitted to candidacy after 12 credit hours at the college may restrict further registration.

Admission to Candidacy Applications are available from Dr. Thompson or on the bulletin board outside his office (208 Chase).

Use the following checklist to determine if you have completed all requirements for admission to candidacy:

- You have completed at least six credit hours of graduate coursework but not more than 12 credits at this college (not including transfer credit, if any).
- You have a minimum cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.) of 3.0 on all graduate work. No grade lower than C is acceptable to meet degree requirements.
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*Adapted from the [Graduate Studies web site](#).*

Contact Dr. Thompson to schedule an appointment and take care of this requirement.

John Thompson, Ph.D.  
208 Chase Hall  
(716) 878-3531

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Tools for Teachers:

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Once you log in to [Think.com](#) you will come to your home page, and you can begin exploring the available tools/options. The most obvious place to begin would be by clicking on the *create* button to add content to your web page. You can add stories, poems, or any other piece of writing you wish. You can create lists (assignments, favorite things, etc...), add graphics from Oracle's library (quite small), and even upload your own files (pictures, documents, and multimedia files may all be added). There is a limit on the size of files that you upload, however, but it is rather large - 4MB per file. There are also a number of participation tools you can include on your web site, such as voting, brainstorms, message boards, and debates. For a full description of these and other tools, visit the [Tools](#) page.

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There is obviously much more that could be said about Think.com, but here is not the place. If you want more information, sign up for an Account, or a Try Account (which I would recommend to start), and check out the various links below.

Hopefully you will give this excellent technology tool a try - it is free!

#### **About Think and Oracle**

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#### **Think.com Sections**

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#### **Support**

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## [EDC Student Spotlight - Jennifer Sullivan](#)

Jennifer took the time to answer a few questions about the EDC Program, herself, and her successes. Here are some excerpts from her responses.

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*Tell me a bit about yourself (when did you graduate, personal interests/hobbies, etc.)*

I received my Undergraduate Degree in Exceptional Education from Buffalo State in December of 1998. I returned to Buff State in the spring of 2001 to begin my Masters Degree in Educational Computing and graduated in spring of 2003.

Now that I have *time* for personal interests again, I enjoy running, working out in the gym, canoeing, camping, snowshoeing, skiing, and, basically, anything outside. I also spend some quality time shopping, taking in a bit of culture and hanging out with friends and family.

*What were your favorite aspects, courses, etc. from the EDC Program?*

I would have to say that my favorite thing about the EDC Program was the Personal relationships that were built with professors and colleagues. The flexibility of online courses was also a definite plus, however, they were definitely more demanding time wise. No matter what courses I was enrolled in at any given time, I was always able to apply what I was learning directly into my teaching situation. My students truly benefited from *my* learning and education.

I have to say that both the best and the worst thing about this program is the damage that it does on your credit card; and I'm not talking about the tuition bills...you are always learning about the "latest and greatest" toys in technology land ...lap tops, scanners, wireless mice, digital cameras...and you want them *now!*

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***What was most memorable about the time you spent in the EDC Program?***

Dr.T 's commitment to his students and his demand of his students is defiantly what I find the most memorable about the program. Dr.T demands quality work, but you find that you always want to do quality work for him and yourself - to make him proud.

***What have you taken away from the EDC Program, and how has it helped your own teaching?***

I have not only taken many "technology tools" from the program into my classroom, but also "teaching tools". I have learned how to effectively integrate technology on a daily basis in simple ways, but also create innovative and interactive lessons and projects to keep and pique my students' interests. I have acquired many different instructional strategies and assessment methods from both my Professors and my classmates.

***What are some of your professional successes?***

- I have taught special education and blended U.S. History and Government at Orchard Park High School for the last three years.
- I am co-advisor of the Students Against Destructive Decisions organization.
- I have written and taught a 15 Hour workshop for teachers on "The Possibilities of PowerPoint" and how to effectively use Multimedia in their classroom.

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## Technology Around the Country



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From [TuscaloosaNews.com](http://TuscaloosaNews.com)

### California

The San Francisco Unified School District is trying to reach the public through a new avenue, without the filter of the media. They are creating a monthly TV show entitled "In Focus" in an attempt to gain public support for their district, which has been rattled with scandal recently.

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From [Find Law Corporate Counsel Center](#)

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The results of the study have shown that, when compared to their less web savvy peers, students who surf the Internet on a regular basis perform better on standardized reading assessments and have a higher overall G.P.A. Why, you ask? Because the Internet is, for the most part, text-based, of course. Students who spend time on the Internet are going to be spending time reading. Thus, their reading ability and overall intelligence will improve. It seems like common sense, right?

With all of the hits Ed Tech has been taking recently with the nation-wide school budget crises, any news that proves technology's potential is great news for us Ed Tech people. Although this study only covered a small number of participants, it still proves that technology has a place in schools. Why wouldn't we want our students going online at school if it improves their reading ability? It seems only natural to allow them to explore a medium they enjoy, while at the same time, unbeknownst to them, they are gaining precious reading skills.

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Check out the [HomeNetToo](#) web site.  
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## Forms and Policies

## Candidacy

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[Transfer Credit](#)

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[Teacher Certification](#)

[Other Ways to Earn Credit](#)

Candidacy is a written agreement outlining the courses necessary to receive a degree. It is the student's program of study and all courses listed on the approved candidacy are the requirements for the graduate degree.

All students pursuing a master's degree or certificate of advanced study must be admitted to candidacy after the completion of six, but before the completion of 12 graduate-level credit hours at Buffalo State. The candidacy application must be approved by the adviser, department chairperson, and the dean.

Failure to develop an approved program and be admitted to candidacy after 12 credit hours at the college will restrict further registration.

Admission to Candidacy Applications is available from your academic department. Download the [Multidisciplinary Studies Degree Candidacy Application](#) or obtain a hardcopy from the Graduate School, Cleveland Hall 204, or email: [gradoffc@buffalostate.edu](mailto:gradoffc@buffalostate.edu).

The current requirements for admission to candidacy are:

- Completion of at least six credit hours of graduate-level coursework at Buffalo State.
- Completion of all required prerequisite courses.
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (B grade) on all graduate-level coursework. No grade lower than C is acceptable to meet degree requirements.
- Removal of all deficiencies and incomplete (I) grades.
- A maximum of [6 credit hours of independent study](#) (XXX 590) may be included in a degree program.
- A minimum of 15 credit hours of coursework at the 600 and/or 700-level is required in all degree programs.
- Completion of all coursework and degree requirements within the six-year [time limit](#) for completion.
- Official transcripts for requested [transfer credit](#) reflecting coursework with a grade of A or B must be provided to the Graduate School.

### Change in Approved Program of Study (Degree Candidacy)

- Students must file a change in approved program of study if they make changes to the approved program.
- Change form must be filed in the semester in which the change occurs.
- The student's adviser, chairperson and faculty dean must approve the change form before it is submitted

## GRADUATE CATALOG

The Graduate School  
Cleveland Hall 204  
1300 Elmwood Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14222  
Phone: (716) 878-5601  
Fax: (716) 878-5630  
[gradoffc@buffalostate.edu](mailto:gradoffc@buffalostate.edu)

Admissions questions?

Monday—Friday  
8:15 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

to the Graduate School.

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