

soasis&t ... ON THE MOVE

American Society for Information Science & Technology

soasis&t ... ON THE MOVE

✓ *Chapter of the Year!*

✓ *E-Publication of the Year!*

✓ *Student Scholarship Winner!*

And more....

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Message From the Chair

Dear members and interested readers:

I want to take this opportunity to welcome all of you to our 2001 - 2002 year. Our planning committee, chaired by Glen Horton as incoming Chair-Elect, has been busy making arrangements for the coming year's programs. On January 30, 2002, please join us at Cincinnati State Technical & Community College for a program on PDAs. On April 10, 2002, come hear about virtual reference at the same location. Other topics being consid-

ered are biometrics, Web-enabled databases, open source/free software, new domain names, and an e-book update to the April 2001 program. I hope many of you will plan to attend upcoming programs.

My goals as Chair are to focus on membership recruitment (especially students), retention, and participation. SOASIST covers a wide geographic area. I want all of our members to feel a part of our chapter and make it more vibrant through volunteer efforts/participation in

chapter activities. Please consider helping plan/facilitate a program, serving as part of a committee, taking part on a special project, or contributing content to our Newsletter and/or Web site.

Feel free to share your thoughts, ideas, and criticism with me. And thank you for your past and future participation in our chapter's activities.

Patricia J. Carter

2001 Student Scholarship Essay Competition Winner: Stephen Manos

Stephen Manos, student in Kent State University's School of Library & Information Science program has won SOASIST's first Student Scholarship Essay Competition, sponsored by LexisNexis and SOASIST. Stephen receives up to \$1,000 to attend the SOASIST Annual Conference in Washington, DC and a one-year membership in ASIST.

Stephen's winning entry:

"By attending the ASIST 2001 Conference, I expect to broadly benefit by meeting leaders in the Information Science field, particularly in the area of Human-Computer Interaction. I am interested in recent research methodologies for information seeking behavior, next generation systems, and user

interface design.

I expect to integrate my experiences at the conference as follows -

- To view networked technology from within a traditional librarianship role (one that focuses on evaluation, acquisition, cataloging, reference) in order to understand how technology is changing these roles;
- To conversely view librarianship roles from a footing within new and existing networked technologies;
- To gather those experiences into a mutually beneficial relationship, one that I would carry forward into a new career.

Public Wireless LAN Hotspots: Applications & Technology Summary by Don Steiner

On September 27, 2001 Jim Geier, Principal Consultant, with Wireless-Nets Ltd. Presented Public Wireless LAN Hotspots: Applications and Technology at the MVCS Fall Joint Meeting .

What is a Public Wireless LAN?

A public wireless LAN is a local area network located in a public facility that offers Internet-based services via wireless communication technologies to the general public. A public facility could be a conference center, hotel, airport, coffee shop, or any other public place where people gather. Internet-based services offered in these facili-

ties typically include email, web access, chat, messaging services and the like. In order to obtain these services, a person in such a facility must have a PDA, laptop, phone or other similar device with a wireless radio card. The radio card enables the computing device to communicate with a wireless Access Point installed in the public facility. This Access Point, in turn, is connected to a traditional wired LAN with connectivity to the Internet at large.

Desired Characteristics of a Public Wireless LAN

Four characteristics of public wireless LANs typify their desired

behavior and are keys to their success:

Open access standards

The wireless communications that take place between the user's radio card and the access point must be based on widely implemented standards. Users must be able to purchase a single radio card and expect it to function in the vast majority of public wireless LAN environments. Without this interoperability, a public wireless LAN will not be viable.

Roaming

Users must be able to move about within the public facility while maintaining connections to the wireless LAN. If users are forced to remain in a single spot through-

out their interactions with the wireless LAN its utility will be significantly diminished.

AAA – Authentication, Authorization, Accounting

O Authentication is the process of identifying a user, normally via a userid and password. If the user cannot be uniquely identified, there will be no way to bill the user for services received.

O Authorization is the mechanism for determining what services a user should be provided and what services the user should be denied. Normally, the list of services to be permitted is based on the user's subscription – in brief, the services for which the user has agreed in advance to pay.

Cont. on page 5

Stephen Manos, *scholarship winner continued from page 1*

The conference will enable me to develop awareness of new technologies and participate in discussions with current librarians who have addressed challenges and opportunities resulting from networked environments. Working in a corporate (non-library) environ-

“The conference will provide the basic technological building blocks that will integrate into a new career through networking with other conference attendees, focused continuing education, and research.”

ment currently, I have experienced business concentration on new technologies and systems that often overlook user con-

cerns for retrieving information and basic usability. At the conference, I expect that I will discover new career paths and corresponding required skill sets that I can integrate into my current or future career pursuits.

I am most interested in understanding user concerns from the user's viewpoint, whether those users are line employees in a corporate environment, patrons in a public library, or

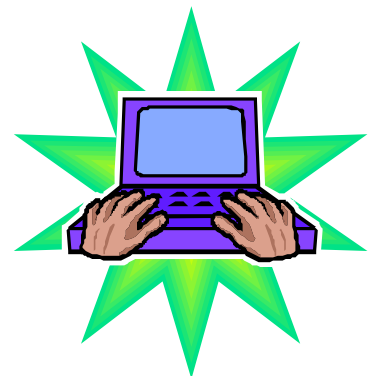
catalogers dealing with newly automated software. A broad view of any system that allows users to retrieve or manage information requires a fundamental understanding of information organization, classification, accessibility, and representation.

From the conference, I wish to learn from actual experience how to incorporate these fundamental concepts in both traditional libraries and corporate settings outside of librarianship.”

“To that extent, it is essential that I begin to understand how users view networked systems, what assumptions networking makes about usability, how users respond to interface design and information rep-

resentation, and how to convey to users options and/or limitations for interface design based on existing or next generation technology.

The conference will provide the basic technological building blocks that will integrate into a new career through networking with other conference attendees, focused continuing education, and research.”



October 23 SOASIST Program: "What Else Can You Do with a MLS Besides Traditional Librarianship?"

SOASIST's October 23 program, held in Covington, Kentucky, included an eclectic guest panel. Four speakers provided valuable insight into their nontraditional MLS careers paths. The presenters were:

Sandy McIntyre Colby, MLIS, is a product support analyst for OCLC's CORC service (Online Computer Library Center Cooperative Online Resource Catalog) and was previously OCLC Institute's Educational Technology Specialist for the Online Library

Learning web-based, library-concept-based courses. Sandy was formerly an Intranet Analyst with a Fortune 500 oil and gas company where she coordinated metadata efforts to accelerate access to internally generated electronic information, and served in a records manager capacity. Prior to her corporate experience, she held the position of Internet Administrator at the Louisiana Department of Education where she applied metadata and cataloging standards/systems to Internet/Intranet environments. She was also a newspaper and magazine writer for regional and national markets. She has conducted numerous library & Internet presentations and training for local and national audiences. Her writ-

ings include: "Workflow in a Technical Services Environment" for the Louisiana State Library. Sandy earned a BA in Journalism from Auburn University, an MLIS from Louisiana State University, and is a member of Beta Phi Mu.

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Mary E. Marshall is Director of Sales and Marketing for Greenwood Electronic Media, a division of Greenwood

Publishing Group, Inc. Previous positions include product development and marketing positions with LEXIS NEXIS, K. G. Saur Verlag,

OCLC and EBSCO. These positions range from being an individual contributor to bottom line responsibility for a market segment with over \$50 million revenue. Her work included creating the new reference product line, establishing market identity, performing due diligence, and implementing downsizing of functional areas. Educational preparation combined with the first career as a librarian provided the foundation for this business career. Following graduation from the University of Denver with an MLS, she worked as a school librarian and ultimately as director of media

services for Boulder Valley Schools in Boulder, Colorado. Mary also worked as a science cataloger at the U.S. Air Force Academy when humans actually typed original cataloging records. Following the completion of an MBA from the University of Colorado with an emphasis on sales and marketing, she worked with the Bibliographic Center for Research, a regional network for OCLC beginning a new career on the business side of library and information services.

Patricia Neff, MLIS, is a Product Manager responsible for development and maintenance of legal indexing, taxonomies, and search products at LexisNexis, where she specializes in developing editorial standards and tools. A former globetrotter across the North, South, East, West and Australia, Patricia has worked in a variety of academic, special, and public libraries, more recently as director of technical services at two law school libraries and as a library systems and training consultant at Innovative Interfaces, Inc.

She holds a MA in Management from Antioch University McGregor, a MLIS in Library & Information Studies from the University of California, Berkeley, and an AB in Comparative Literature and Slavic Languages & Literatures from UC Berkeley. Patricia is the current chair of the SOASIST Awards Committee and will serve as Chapter Assembly Representative in 2002.

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Linda Newman is Technical Research & Development Manager for the University of Cincinnati Digital Press (UCDP), which is located in the Archives Department of the University of Cincinnati Libraries. She provides software development, management of an NT Server, and web design and web coding. She provided all programming for a 32-bit Windows application, called CURator, which the UCDP uses for its research publications on cd-rom (see <http://www.ucdp.uc.edu>)

CURator is a tool for the organization, description, and visual presentation of documentary resources. High resolution images are presented via a database offering 85 fields for physical and bibliographic description as well as notes, and links can be made to associated documents in various formats including maps, charts and texts. There are multiple searching capabilities, as well as the ability to conduct searches across multiple databases. Prior to joining the UCDP full-time in December of 1997, she was Assistant Director of the Library Systems Department, where her primary responsibility was management of the Libraries' multi-building LAN, with both staff and public networked applications. Linda earned a BA in Philosophy from Denison University, and an MLIS from the University of Kentucky, and is a member of Beta Phi Mu.

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Member Profile: Tim Richison

What is your occupation?

Search & Taxonomy
Product Specialist at
LexisNexis

If you weren't doing what you do now, what would you like to be?

Where do I start? My top 4 dream jobs are (in no particular order): crime scene investigator, entertainment lawyer, architect, and cable TV talk show host.

What would you least like to be?

Fast food worker - as a Taco Bell alumnus, I did my time as a teen.

Why did you decide to go to library or information science school or work in the information science industry?

The industry actually picked me. I started working for LexisNexis 12 years ago and have since gained an appreciation for information science. I enjoy being able to use my analytical and technical skills in one position.

What were the last really good movies you saw?

"Memento" and "The Others"

What are you reading right now?

"It Takes a Village Idiot: Complicating the Simple Life" by Jim Mullen. It's sort of a modern day Green Acres.

Is there a website that you really like?

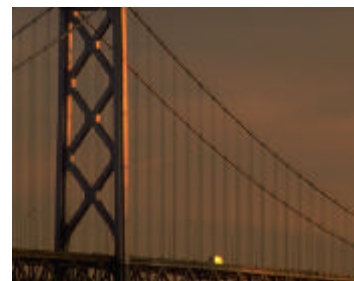
www.howstuffworks.com

What is your favorite city?

San Francisco

What do you do in your free time?

Work on my house, which happens to be a renovated prewar Baptist church.



2001 SOASIST Chapter Awards

Submitted By Patricia Neff, Awards Chair

It is my pleasure to announce the 2001 SOASIST Chapter Award winners; thanks go to awards committee members and to those who submitted nominations.

Outstanding Member Award

Leslie Denton

This award is bestowed upon a SOASIST member who has made noteworthy contributions to SOASIST, ASIST, or the profession. Leslie has devoted much time and energy into making SOASIST a successful chapter within ASIST, not only in her official capacity as editor of the ward-

winning newsletter, *soasis&t ... ON THE MOVE*, but by way of many other contributions, from assisting with planning and facilitating of programs to promoting participation in SOASIST .

Special Award

Jim Cretsos

The award recognizes the meritorious contributions of SOASIST members to their chapter. The Awards Committee presented Jim Cret-



sos a gift in recognition of his many years of meritorious service to the chapter, the association, and the profession, and in particular, in recognition of his leadership and mentoring of fellow members.

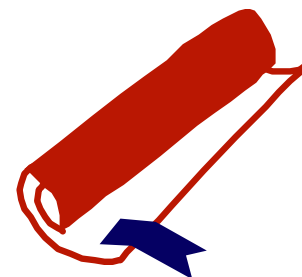
Anniversary Recognition Awards

This award was established in 1999 as a special recognition of SOASIST members who have reached a five-year anniversary in SOASIST during the year. For 2001, those members are:

James E. Andrews - 5 years
John M. Budd - 5 years
Yvonne Michal Davis - 20

years
Thomas Kmetz - 5 years
Elna Saxton - 5 years
Keith Schreiber - 5 years

Congratulations to everyone!



Public Wireless LAN Hotspots: Applications & Technology *cont. from page 2*

O Accounting refers to the systems by which the user can eventually be billed for services provided to him or her via the public wireless LAN. The financial arrangements must be such that the home carrier with whom the user originally established a subscription can make money, but so can the carrier operating the public wireless LAN.

Single bill

The user who receives services from a variety of public wireless LANs throughout the month will expect a single monthly bill for all his/her internet services – both those received via the public wireless hotspots as well as those obtained through more traditional wire-based internet connections.

Benefits of Public Wireless LAN Hotspots

The following are the primary benefits of public wireless LANs:

- High-speed access to the Internet – 5-6 megabits per second throughput is fairly typical, although this bandwidth would be shared by all simultaneous users of the same public wireless LAN.
- The ability to stay connected to the internet from more places
- Convenience – no waiting or time-consuming hookups in order to get connected
- Freedom of movement while remaining connected – especially attractive to PDA or other handheld device users.

Costs

A radio card today costs about \$150, although Jim says to expect this to drop to around \$50 within a few years. A subscription to mobile Internet services from MobileStar for 120 minutes per month runs about \$20, while 400 minutes would cost \$50. Some hotspots will charge an additional fee (say \$5 or

\$10 per day) for use of their public wireless LAN.

Limitations

While this is indeed an exciting new technology, there are some limitations:

- Limited number of hotspots
Public wireless LAN hotspots are not at present abundant. There are less than 1,000 in the U.S. right now, and none in the Dayton area. The closest one is the Hampton Inn in Blue Ash (a Cincinnati suburb). Starbucks is in the process of installing hotspots in all its shops, but the rollout will take years to complete.
- Limited standards
While the 802.11b standard for wireless LAN communication – currently the de facto standard for hotspots -- is mature, standards for roaming and "AAA" (Authentication/Authorization/Accounting) are not, with incompatible proprietary solutions the rule. Fortunately, the WECA (Wireless Ethernet Connectivity Association) is pursuing standards in these areas vigorously.

The 802.11b wireless LAN standard uses the 2.4 Ghz radio frequency. Unfortunately, so do most of today's digital mobile phones, so RF interference is always a potential concern.

- Interference
The 802.11b wireless LAN standard uses the 2.4 Ghz radio frequency. Unfortunately, so do most of today's digital mobile phones, so RF interference is always a potential concern.
- Security Issues
It is, sadly, fairly easy for anyone with an 802.11b radio card to pickup your broadcasts in a typical 802.11b wireless LAN. Some hotspots encrypt transmissions within their LANs using the 802.11-specified encryption algorithm. While this helps, flaws in this algorithm have been widely publicized, and all it takes is about a day's worth of monitoring of an 802.11b LAN to enable determination of the encryption key. Jim indicated that the WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) standard under development should help resolve these deficiencies.
- Competition from 3G mobile

phones

As mobile phone service purveyors eventually migrate their systems to the so-called 3G (third generation) standards, it should be possible to get throughput rates on a mobile phone as high as 1 or 2 megabits per second. This conversion, however, requires replacement not only of the communications infrastructure but also new handsets. Furthermore, the radio frequency spectrum needed for 3G is not completely available (government and educational users already occupy some of this landscape in the U.S.) As a result, it will likely be 3-5 years before 3G phones are available to most users. And signal strength – and thus data rates – will not be consistent everywhere.

Components and Operation

The following is the set of components involved in the operation of a typical public wireless LAN hotspot. See Figure 1 at the end of this document.

- End user device with radio card
The end user must have an 802.11b radio card installed in his/her laptop, PDA or handheld device. This radio card will manage the actual wireless transmissions to and from the hotspot-provided access points.
- Access point

The access point is a piece of wireless communication equipment that provides the other side of the communications with end user's radio cards. The public wireless LAN hotspot operator installs a number of access points within the physical environment of the public facility. The number and location of access points required depends on the size and configuration of the area within which the hotspot is to be operative. In general, no more than 100-200 feet can separate a radio card and an access point in order for successful data exchange between the two. The access point is also connected to an

ISP (Internet Service Provider) via a broadband wired network. The access point receives requests from end user radio cards, and forwards them to the ISP via the wired network.

- Access Controller

Within the ISP's environment will be an access controller. The access controller satisfies the following duties:

- First, it queries the end user (via its wired-network connection to the access point) for his/her userid and password.
- Second, it submits an authentication request to the AAA provider via a PVN (Private Virtual Network) to make sure the user is known and supportable. It receives back from the AAA provider the user's authorization information – what services this ISP should provide to the user
- Third, it uses this authorization information to approve or reject the end user's requests for various internet-based services.
- Finally, it captures billing record documenting the services provided to the user and forwards these to the AAA-provider's settlement services.

Technologies and Standards

- 802.11b Wireless LAN Standard

The 802 working group of the IEEE organization was formed about 30 years ago to develop Ethernet, token ring, and other local area network standards. In the late 1980's, they spun off the 802.11 sub-group to develop standards for wireless LANs. Cont. on page 6



Public Wireless LAN Hotspots: Applications & Technology *cont. from page 5*

The most widely implemented of this sub-group's protocols has been the 802.11b protocol. It provides 11 megabits per second of throughput, although this is shared among all the active users of the wireless LAN using a listen-before-speaking protocol (only one radio card can be exchanging data with the access point at any instant in time). 802.11b, also known informally as WiFi, operates in the 2.4 Ghz spectrum. It uses what is called "direct sequence spread spectrum" encoding

of data to minimize the affects of interference. 802.11b is designed to operate with a maximum distance of about one or two hundred feet between radio cards and access points. The 802.11b standard supports roaming among access points within the same hotspot LAN, but not between hotspot LANs. 85-90% of wireless LANs implemented today are 802.11b LANs.

Note: By this time next year, we should start seeing the emergence of 802.11a wireless LANs, capable of 54 megabits per

second throughput.

- WISPs (Wireless Service Providers)

- End users should incur costs roughly similar to those for wired broadband ISP access
- Broadband access

downloads (or the user installs on it) software agents that automatically reconfigure the radio card for each public wireless LAN.

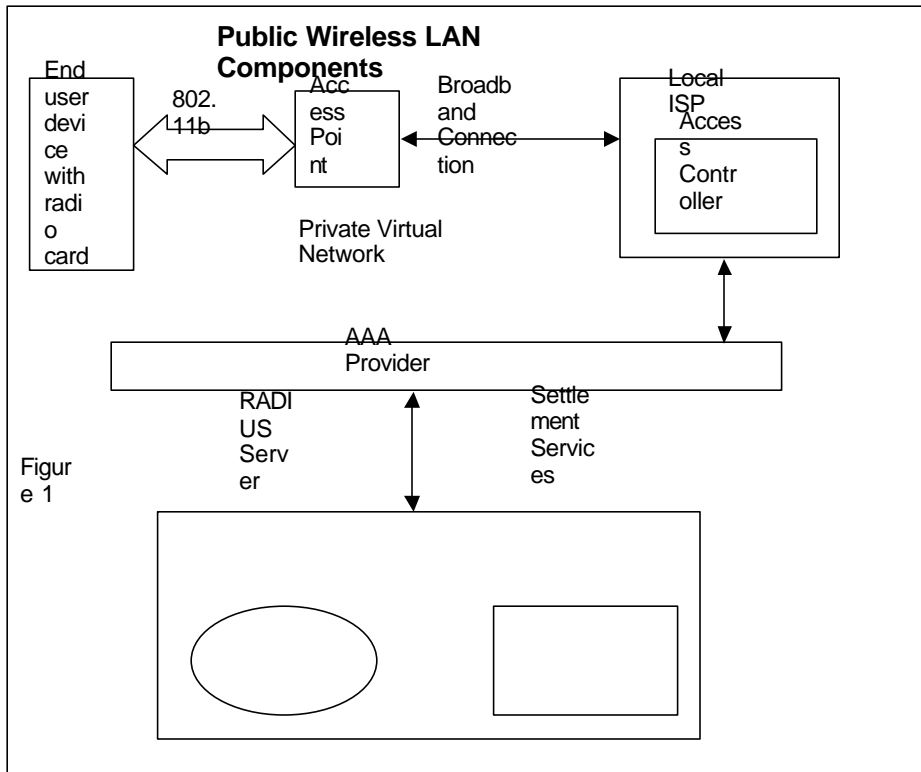


Figure 1

For More Information

For further information on this and other wireless communication topics, see the following web site: www.wireless-nets.com

In particular, there are three web pages on this site of special interest: www.wireless-nets.com/guide/html

This web page contains an online guide to wireless LANs and links to other interesting sites with related content.

www.wireless-nets.com/newsletter.htm

throughout the roaming user's travels

WECA has proposed two different models

- Universal Access Model This model supports all common operating system and portable devices (laptops, PDAs, Windows 9x, Windows CE or Palm OS, etc.). Under this model, the end user is required to manually reconfigure the radio card with the SSID (network ID) of the public wireless LAN to which that user wants to connect.
- Smart Client In this model, the portable computing device

[htm](#)

This web page lets you sign up for a free newsletter on wireless communications. www.wireless-nets.com/workshops.htm This web page lets you register for a workshop on October 16-18 in Cincinnati on wireless LANs.



SOASIST Member Suzie Allard Wins ASIST SIG Member of the Year Award

SOASIST member Suzie Allard, Opportunity Fellow and Doctoral student at University of Kentucky College of Communications and Information Studies, School of Library and Information Science, has won the ASIST 2001 Special Interest Group Member of the Year Award. The award consists of a certificate to be presented by the SIG

Cabinet Director during the SIG Cabinet Meeting held during the ASIST annual meeting.

The award is given to recognize the service of an individual to the program of a particular SIG. It is given for significant contributions to the membership of the SIG through participation in and support of its events at the

annual and mid-year meetings, its publications, and its other activities.

Congratulations Susie!



soasis&t ... ON THE MOVE Wins ASIST Best Chapter Electronic Publication Award

soasis&t ... ON THE MOVE has won Best Chapter Electronic Publication Award, established by ASIST in 1998, as a modification of the former Best Chapter Publication Award.

The award consists of a certificate presented to the Chapter members

listed in the nomination package. A certificate is also presented to the Chapter Chair for purposes of chapter publicity and for the chapter's archives. Patricia Neff, SOASIST Assembly Representative, accepted the award from the Chapter Assembly Director during the Chapter Assembly

Meeting held during the ASIST annual meeting in November.

Criteria for the award include coverage of Chapter activities and announcements and other relevant society information; coverage of topics of professional interest to Chapter members; presentation quality, clarity of expres-

sion and appropriate use of technology; and timeliness of information and evidence of a regular updating mechanism.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed articles, program reports, interviews, and more .

SOASIST Member John Budd Wins ISI/ASIST Citation Analysis Research Grant

John M. Budd, Associate Professor in the School of Information Science and Learning Technologies at the University of Missouri at Columbia, has won the 2001 ISI/ASIST research grant for citation analysis. Funded by the Institute for Scientific Information, the \$3,000 grant is given to support underway or proposed research based on citation analysis.

SOASIST Shares ASIST Chapter of the Year Award

During the ASIST annual meeting in November, our Chapter was awarded Chapter-of-the-Year Award by the Chapter Assembly. Given to recognize outstanding chapters for contributions to ASIST and the advancement of information science, each member of SOASIST's governing body will receive a certificate.

SOASIST last won the Chapter-of-the-Year Award in 1981.

SOASIST

Nov. 2001 to Oct. 2002 Officers

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is produced four times each year by the Southern Ohio Chapter of the American Society for Information Science & Technology, Patricia Carter, Chair. Current and past issues are available on the Southern Ohio Chapter web page at <http://www.asis.org/Chapters/soasis>.

Upcoming Events

January 30, 2002

Day-long workshop: PDAs, Co-Sponsored with GCLC
Cincinnati State Technical & Community College

February, 2002

Program to be announced
Dayton

March, 2002

Joint program with I-ASIST
Indianapolis

April 10, 2002

Virtual Reference Program, Co-Sponsored with GCLC
Cincinnati State Technical & Community College

Welcome New Members

James Andrews
Assistant Professor
University of Kentucky

Angela Gooden
University of Cincinnati
who comes to us from COASIST.
