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## Press release : 2006 : 03 : 21 : Pod Casting Professors Offer Portable Classes

Julie Booth

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## Podcasting Professors Offer Portable Classes

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### Pod Casting Professors Offer Portable Classes

(St. Petersburg, Fla) March 20, 2006 – Imagine taking chemistry from the comfort of your own couch. Not on television or your computer, but on your video iPod. USF St. Petersburg is making that possible in its high-tech studio where four professors will begin broadcasting their lectures to the World Wide Web this summer.

These professors are using a new style of educating known as pod casting, a rapidly growing trend on college campuses. Pod casting allows students to download lectures from the Internet to their home computer or iPods and similar video devices. This allows students to focus on lectures at their own pace and replay as many times as they wish.

"These are designed toward benefiting students," David Brodosi, audio visual specialist, said. Courses include Chemistry I, Autism, Abnormal Psychology, Bible as Literature and School Law. A couple of classes will be offered by pod cast this summer. The other courses will start this fall.

Brodosi explained that some lecturers' courses are taped with a class, while others are created with just the professor taped in front of a chroma key ("blue screen") wall. USFSP is among a few pioneering universities to creatively explore innovations using Power Point downloading technology. The goal is to make the pod casting lectures as student friendly as possible. The classes, offered for fall 2006 via pod casting, are geared more toward lecture-style courses.

"This online version will not replace the face-to-face class. We offer them for those students who have difficulty getting to class because of distance or schedule related problems," Bartlett said.

Pod casts are only available to students enrolled in the course. Brodosi said USFSP will ensure the security of the courses and professors' lectures by having students log in to acquire the course. Only those students accepted by the professor can access the lectures.

The professors taping are: Mark Durand, Ph.D., regional vice chancellor for Academic Affairs; Marilyn Bartlett, J.D., Ph.D., associate professor of education leadership development; Kathy Carvalho-Knighton, Ph.D., assistant professor of environmental science and Keith White, English instructor.

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