

Maximizing Your Use of ANGEL via Alternative Media Storage

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Penn State's Course Management System, ANGEL, has experienced tremendous growth over the past several years. As one of the leaders in the use of ANGEL, your course(s) are over one GB in size. You are probably aware that when a course exceeds one GB in size, it becomes difficult to upload anything to the course or to archive it.

Due to this issue, on August 28, 2006 all ANGEL Courses will be restricted to one GB of storage space. Fortunately, Penn State now has alternative storage services available to store content both inside and outside of ANGEL, and one can easily link to this content from ANGEL.

Here's more information on the alternative services.

Within ANGEL itself, resource libraries (<http://cmshelp.psu.edu/ResourceLibrary.htm>) are an ideal place to store Lesson Tab content that will be reused over and over again in courses. Also, master courses (<http://cmshelp.psu.edu/MasterCourse.htm>) can be a good place for developing entire course content. One major plus about Master Courses is that as courses, they are by default allowed 1 GB space, unlike groups, where the default limit is 300 MB.

Outside of ANGEL, video and audio can now be hosted on via Penn State Streaming Services. Please see <http://its.psu.edu/streaming/> for detailed information. All you have to do is request an account by emailing streaming@psu.edu. A consultant will contact you. You can limit who can view the video to the general public, Penn State only, Penn State users and Friends of Penn State accounts, or even selected courses and userIDs. The main benefit of using the streaming server is quality of experience. ANGEL is not designed to serve large video and audio files; the streaming server is designed to do so.

Podcasts can now be added to <http://podcasts.psu.edu>. Although this service is still in a pilot phase, if you have podcast content ready to use, we can host it there now. The main benefit of using this service is the easy ability for students to subscribe to the podcasts. ANGEL does not provide a subscription service for podcasts.

Personal Storage Space (PASS) is also available to you. See <http://www.personal.psu.edu> or more information. You may store any type of file here, initially have one GB of storage space, and may request more space if you need it. You can also restrict access to this space.

Course On-Line Account (COLA) space has existed at Penn State for many years. See <http://aset.its.psu.edu/accounts/cola.html> for more information. You may store any type of file here, have 50 MB of initial space, and may request more space if you need it. You can also restrict access to this space.

Thank you for working with us to better manage our resources and allow for their best use. We hope you understand that our goal is not to hamper any legitimate use of ANGEL's resources, but rather to maximize awareness of all available means for developing and delivering online content for PSU faculty and students.