CUNY ACADEMIC COMMONS

Building Communities Since 2009
commons.gc.cuny.edu
The CUNY Academic Commons is a social-networking platform created by and for CUNY faculty, staff, and graduate students. Through a variety of features, including blogs, groups, member profiles, discussion forums, and wiki pages, the Commons provides you with tools to create your own networks, connect to your colleagues, and share your projects with the larger CUNY community and the wider public.

Getting Started

Create and fill out your member profile to get the most out of the Commons. Use your profile to describe your research interests, promote your projects, and link to your other websites or social-media accounts. Connect with your colleagues by adding them as friends and sending messages via public or private messaging systems. Searchable keywords can help you find others across the CUNY system who share your interests.

Members Case Study

Joseph Ugoretz, Associate Dean of Teaching, Learning, and Technology at Macaulay Honors College, uses his profile to share links to his blog, his Twitter account, and his Flickr photos. He also highlights the YouTube channel sponsored by MHC.

Making Connections

Across the Commons, you will find hundreds of groups that reflect the diversity of the university. Groups are easy to create and join, and they can be public, private, or hidden. Each one comes equipped with forums that allow members to generate discussion within the community, as well as space to upload and archive documents that can be shared with other group members. Each group has a variety of tools for keeping members up to speed with the latest news, including email notifications when new content is added. Groups can help small or large communities communicate effectively with one another; they provide a dynamic space in which committees and departments can work together in a collaborative fashion.

Groups Case Study

When two professors from Queens College needed advice on creating an accurate survey of student gaming habits, they found assistance by posting in the forum of The CUNY Games Network, a research group that focuses on games and learning. Members of the group helped craft a survey that included up-to-date references to current gaming platforms and genres.
The Commons hosts a vibrant community of bloggers who share their passions and insights with their peers. Members can create a virtually unlimited number of blogs; these flexible online publishing systems can be used as project homepages, promotional websites for recent book and article publications, or ongoing discussion of events and news stories that interest you.

The CUNY Academic Commons fosters collaborative work on its wiki, which gives members the opportunity to contribute to the collective body of knowledge housed within the university. We currently host wiki pages that cover topics ranging from philosophy to web publishing to ePortfolios to composition, and we invite you to add your own resources to the site.

You can use the Commons to create social connections, as well. CUNY Pie, an adventurous group of pizza aficionados, hosts monthly meetings at some of New York’s most legendary pizzerias.

Adding Your Voice

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How Do I Join?

Point your browser to commons.gc.cuny.edu and click on “sign up” to create an account. Registration requires a cuny.edu email address, though you are welcome to associate another email address with your account after your profile has been created. You may also invite your colleagues to the Commons after your account becomes active.

Assistance and Solutions

The CUNY Academic Commons has a dedicated team that provides support to members of the site. Our Community Facilitators can answer questions and can be reached by clicking the Help tab located at the top of the page. We appreciate suggestions on ways to improve the Commons, and we encourage you to reach out to us with ideas.

Privacy

The CUNY Academic Commons values your privacy. Throughout the site, many features allow you to control the visibility of your work. If you have concerns about your privacy, please reach out to the Community Facilitators, who will be happy to answer any specific questions you may have.
Powered by WordPress and MediaWiki, the CUNY Academic Commons helps you:

**CONNECT**
Join or form groups related to your interests.

**CREATE**
Use blogs to share your work.

**EXPLORE**
Contribute resources to our dynamic wiki.

What will you build?