



Wimba Podcaster

Written by Palomar College Academic Technology Resource Center, 2006

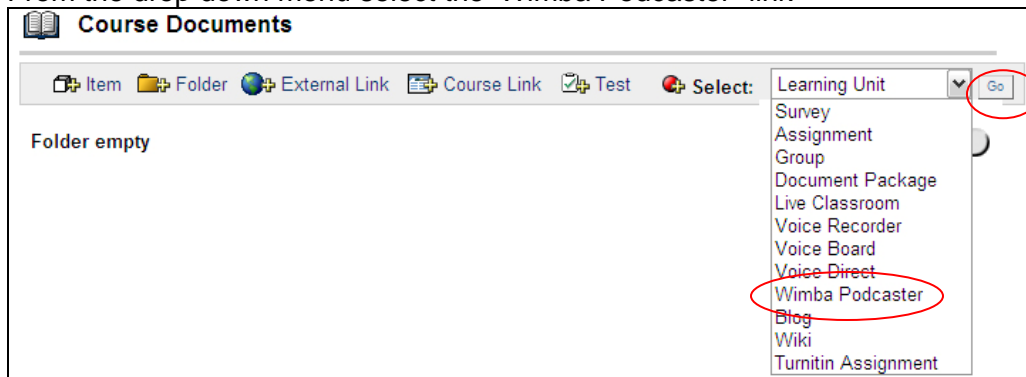
Modified by WCU Blackboard Services, 2008

With the Wimba Podcaster allows you to create and post voice lectures and have your students subscribe to them (a "podcast") via their ipod. If they do not have a portable audio player such as the ipod, they can navigate to the Wimba Podcaster in Blackboard and listen. To begin using the Wimba podcaster, you will need a standard microphone plugged into your computer.

To Create a Wimba Podcast:

Select a content area of your course through the control panel.

From the drop down menu select the "Wimba Podcaster" link



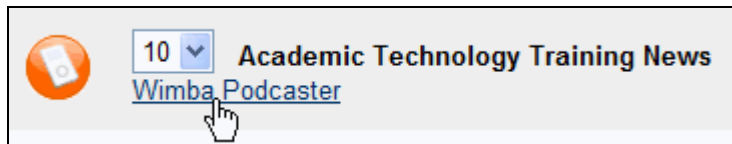
The first time you select this, you may be prompted to install a Java plug-in from Sun Microsystems. This will install quickly on the fly. Then, you may be warned by your computer about trusting "the signed applet distributed by 'Horizon Wimba'." Select "Always" to always trust Horizon Wimba applets.

You may already have gone through these steps, in which case you may not see these messages. In any event, after the applet is installed you will see the "Add a link to the Wimba Podcaster for this course" configuration page:

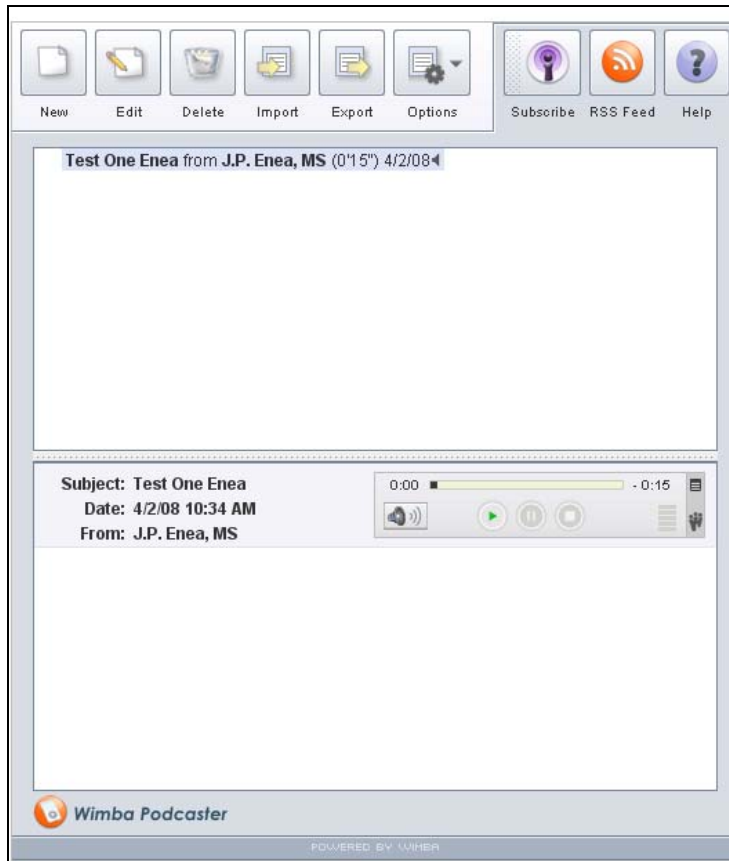
The screenshot shows the configuration page for adding a Wimba Podcaster link. It is divided into three sections: Information, Options, and Submit.

- Information:** Includes a 'Name' text input field and a 'Choose Color of Name' section with a black color swatch and a 'Pick' button.
- Options:** Includes four settings:
 - 'Make the content available' with radio buttons for 'Yes' (selected) and 'No'.
 - 'Open in new window' with radio buttons for 'Yes' and 'No' (selected).
 - 'Track number of views' with radio buttons for 'Yes' and 'No' (selected).
 - 'Choose date and time restrictions' with a 'Display After' checkbox and a date/time picker showing 'Jan 10 2007 12:50 PM'.
- Submit:** Includes a 'Submit' button and a note: 'Click Submit to finish. Click Cancel to quit.'

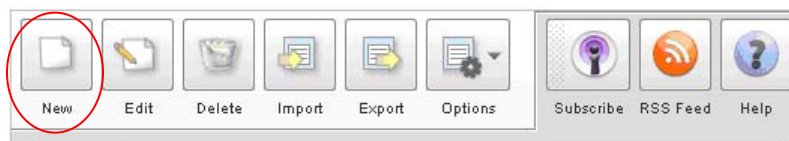
**Congratulations! You have deployed your podcaster!
Click to enter....**



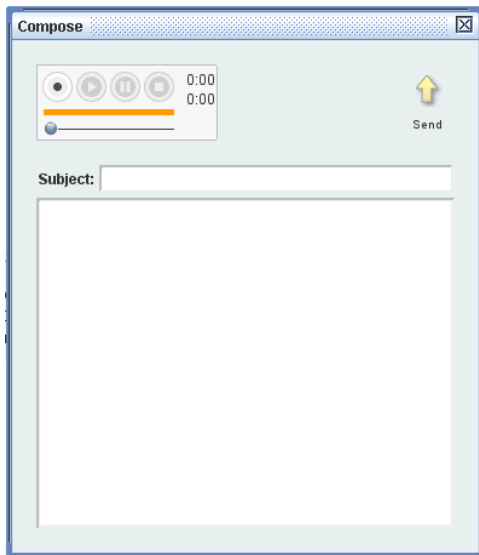
The main Wimba Podcaster interface:



To record an entry, click the New button:



The "Compose" window will appear:



Type a title for your recording in the Subject field. Type any accompanying text in the text box below the Subject, and then click the record button to record your message:

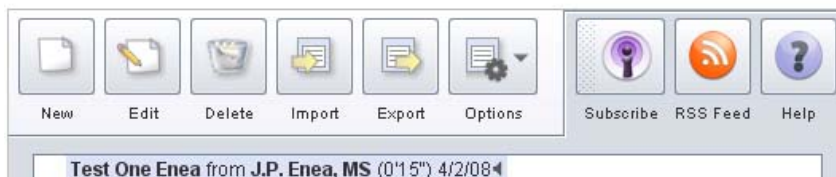


A recording level meter will appear as you record, and the elapsed time of your recording will also be displayed. You may click the Pause button during recording and then resume if you wish. When done, click the square Stop button. **You may record up to 20 minutes.**

Any microphone will do.

Once you have recorded your audio in the Compose window, and are satisfied with it (you may re-record, if not) click the Send button.

You will see your podcast posted in the Podcaster main screen:

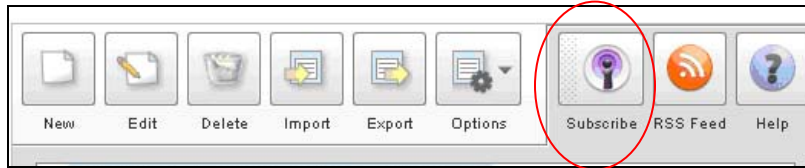


That's it. You are done. Remember that it takes about 5 minutes from the time you record the podcast before your students can receive it with their podcatching software.

Next: Subscribing to your podcast.....

Subscribing to a Wimba Podcaster podcast

The real strength of this approach to podcasting is the ability of you and your students to subscribe to podcasts and receive them automatically completely apart from the Blackboard system. To subscribe to a podcast created with the Wimba Podcaster use the "Subscribe" RSS feed button or the 1-click button in the upper right corner of the Podcaster in Blackboard:



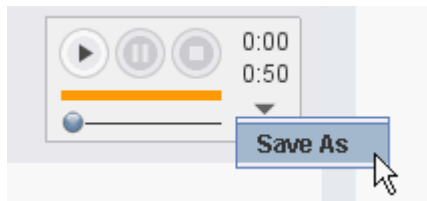
Itunes. The 1-click Subscribe button is designed specifically for those who use iTunes to receive podcasts. Click the 1-click button, wait for iTunes to load, wait for the subscription to complete. It is very simple. Alternatively, you can drag the RSS feed button (not the 1-click button) to the "Podcasts" window in iTunes and that will also complete the subscription.

Other podcatching software. To subscribe in the built-in RSS readers in IE 7 or Firefox 1.5 and above, simply click the RSS feed button and then complete the subscription function in IE 7 or Firefox. To subscribe using any other podcatching software (such as Juice or Doppler) click the RSS feed button, copy the address from the address bar of the browser or from the pop up box it appears in, and paste it into the subscribe field in your software.

Once subscribed, you will receive additional postings to the podcast as they are posted. If subscription to podcasts is new to you, [click here](#) for an explanation.

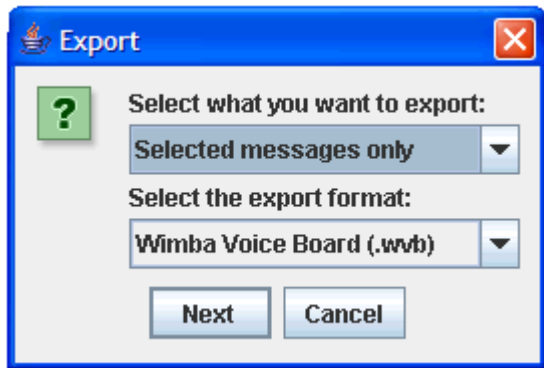
Exporting your audio files

If you wish to save a particular posting from the Podcaster, select it then click the dropdown below the Play time in the voice player:



A Save dialog will appear. Navigate to the disk location where you wish to save the file, select the file format from the "Files of Type:" field (it can be mp3, wav or spx format - we recommend using mp3), and click Save:

An Export dialog will appear giving you the option to select some or all messages, and select an export format (we recommend using the mp3 audio archive zip format):



Click Next after you have made your selections then, when the Save dialog appears, select the disk location where you wish to save the file.