Minnesota State University, Mankato  
Learning & Technology Roundtable  
Thursday, May 4, 2 – 3:30 p.m.  
ML 3012

Present:  Gale Allen, Jane Baird, Ronald Browne, Don Descy, Corinne Dickey, Jan Eimers, Nancy Geistfeld, David Gjerde, Catherine Hughes, Joel Jensen, Mark Johnson, Kent Kalm, Mark Kump, Peg Lawrence, Roland Nord, Joan Roca, Warren Sandmann, Gerald Schneck, Wayne Sharp, Steve Smith, Gary Urban, Steven Vassar  
Absent:  Daniel Cronn-Mills, James Dye, Jim Grabowska, Brian Groh, Joan Klanderud, Patricia Lipetzky, Stewart Ross, Ben Weihrauch, Robert Zelin  
Guest: Bryan Schneider

Don Descy welcomed the group to the last meeting of the semester. The LTR will resume meeting next September. A revised agenda was distributed. Joan Roca and Steven Vassar will be the LTR Co-chairs next year. Richard Kiefer-O'Donnell, from the Department of Special Populations, will serve as Don’s replacement next fall.

Announcements & Upcoming Events
1. Meetings this semester: “See you in September”
2. 2006 Minnesota E-Learning Summit, May 18 – 19, Augsburg College, MSP
3. 2006 MERLOT Conference: Aug. 8 – 11, Ottawa, Canada
4. EDUCAUSE and AECT Conferences: October 9 – 13, Dallas, TX

Old Business
5. Approval of Minutes – Gerald Schneck made a motion to approve the minutes, a second was made by Steven Vassar.

6. D2L Issues (ongoing item) – No update.

7. Faculty Exchange Series Update (Kent K.) – Kent Kalm is putting together a series for the fall.

8. Simulation/Games Subgroup Update (Kent K.) – There is a games/simulations meeting at the Chancellor’s office. A request for $300,000 has been submitted for support for development on campus of games and simulations. Gerald Schneck mentioned the e-school news. This is aimed mostly at K-12 but there is a higher education portion. The reduced rate for an online course on gaming is $150. It was $185. This is a 4 week course that is offered totally online. The gaming institution website has the outline:  
http://www.gameinstitute.com/news.php#1142298478

Updates
10. ITS/ETS (Mark J.) – Mark Johnson said that a 60 million dollar recommendation was made by the Chancellor’s Office to increase funding for MnSCU’s IT effort but it seems that there will be no money from the legislature this year for this purpose. The original request was 20 million. The first year the IT budget will increase to 12 million, half will come from the central office and the other ½ will come from the campuses. This means that MSU will contribute approximately $600,000. Mark cautioned that, in spite of this, we should try to keep the technology fee for campus use only.

Mark has been asked by the Chancellor’s office to keep track of professional development for the entire state.

Vice Chancellor Ken Niemi would like to review the imaging project. He is interested in using this model.

11. Extended Learning (Pat L.)
   Gerald Schneck and Pat Lipetzky appeared before the Meet & Confer to present the tuition rate proposal that sets in-state level for all online programs.

12. MnOnline (Roland N. /Joan R.)- No update. Both Roland Nord and Joan Roca are ending their terms on the MnOnline Council. There was a request submitted to have more IFO positions on this committee but the number remains at 3 for the state. The terms of service were not staggered. Mary Hadley, from Chemistry, is replacing Roland at the Council.

13. COMET/METNET (Mark J.) – Mark said that they are working on solidifying the agreement between the two groups and is hopeful that the partnership will continue.

New Business

14. Presentation: “Technology at Other Universities” (Wayne S.) – Wayne presented a slide show of technology on other campuses. After viewing this presentation, it was agreed that we are very fortunate here at MSU with the state-of-the-art technology and has nothing to envy from other institutions.

15. WebCams (Mark J.) – Mark Johnson received a memo from the faculty association with questions regarding the use of campus webcams. Mark Johnson understands the concerns with cameras but their use has been beneficial to the University. They have assisted in security issues such as monitoring equipment. They have also been helpful in marketing our University. We have been able to show others what we are doing and show potential students our campus. Wayne Sharp stated that he has been contacted by several other campuses and has been praised for our use of webcams. Another positive aspect was brought up during the lab building in the GLL. The workers used the camera to show the home office which parts they needed. International students have also been able to contact their loved ones. The cameras have also proved to deter theft of
equipment (there were many instances prior to installing them). The cameras have been set up to monitor or showcase technology and not people and no detailed views of activity is available. The group agreed that we do not have enough information at this time to make a recommendation on their use and that the issue should be revisited in the fall.

More Old Business

16. Proposal from Academic Integrity Subcommittee (Gerry S.)
   The subcommittee recommends the renewal of the TurnitIn licensing for an additional year as a continuation of the pilot project. A motion was made by Ron Browne and seconded by Jane Baird. The vote to support the endorsement of this proposal was unanimous.

   At the conclusion of the meeting, the LTR members thanked Mark Johnson for his leadership. He received a standing ovation and a gift from the group. Mark then did a short presentation to the group about his new career opportunity and where he will be living. Mark has done a great job for us and we all wish him continued success.