Minnesota State University, Mankato
Learning & Technology Roundtable
Tuesday, September 1, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
CSU 238

Present: Jane Baird, Evan Bibbee, Queen Booker, Marcius Brock, Ron Browne, Matt Clay, Diane Coursol, Marilyn Delmont, Marni Dunning, Jan Eimers, Jennifer Guyer-Wood, Jeff Henline, Catherine Hughes, Linda Jacoby, Avra Johnson, Ted Johnson, Brian Jones, Don Larsson, Peg Lawrence, Dawn Leech, Gary McKinley, Jayme Pretzloff, Danae Quirk Dorr, Murtaza Rajabali, Joan Roca, Bryan Schneider, Wayne Sharp, Steve Smith, Julie Snow, Gary Urban, Steve Vassar
Absent: Yvette Dulohery, Steve Robinson, Julie Snow
Guest: Scott Olson, Jayme Pretzloff

Introductions
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Evan Bibbee (Arts & Humanities), Diane Coursol (Education), Peg Lawrence (reappointed for Library & Unaffiliated); Linda Jacoby (Extended Learning), Marcius Brock (Interim Registrar); Murtaza Rajabali and Bob Dooley (MSSA).

Announcements & Upcoming Events/Conference (FYI)
• LTR Meetings this semester: 9/1, 10/6, 11/10, 12/1 (CSU 238)
• EDUCAUSE Conference 2009, Denver, CO – November 3 – 6, 2009 http://net.educause.edu/e09 - This is a very good conference.
• LTR Faculty meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 8 at 2 p.m. in ML 3105
• Other Announcements – None

OLD BUSINESS
Approval of Minutes of 5/5/09 – A motion was made by Steve Smith, a second by Avra Johnson to accept the minutes of May 5, 2009 as written. The minutes were unanimously approved without change. LTR minutes posted at: http://mnsu.edu/ltr/ltrinfo.html

NEW BUSINESS
1. LTR Charge and the year ahead – (Provost Olson)
Provost Olson attended this meeting of the LTR and thanked everyone for serving. This is the 12th year for the LTR. The LTR evolved from the recommendations of the TLT project in 1997. MSU’s LTR is one of the few that have survived. The LTR is a real credit to our campus and has proved its usefulness.

The charge to the LTR is ongoing since 2008. Provost Olson recognized the effort of the committee for the important work that they do for the University. A summary of the ongoing charge is:
1) Strategies for enhancing the campus vision and direction for the future use of information technology, such as integrating technology into the learning environment, encouraging faculty involvement in technology-oriented innovations, and improving campus communication by leveraging technology.
2) Procedures and standards needed to support campus use of information technology, including the exploration of “green” IT practices.
3) Improving communication internally and with the System Office about information technology issues.
4) Other pressing IT issues as they come up during the year.
The charge to the LTR also goes along with the President’s Strategic Priorities. We can be thinking about Quality and Excellence and how MSU can prepare to be a campus of the future.

LTR members are encouraged to share information with their colleges and/or units. Feel free to forward the minutes or extract portions of the minutes that are of interest. Please collect and bring information to the LTR from your colleges/units. We can all be more effective in communicating our story and make sure that everyone is informed of happenings.

The faculty members of the LTR will be meeting separately to discuss issues related to technology and teaching, from D2L concerns to more in-depth pedagogical matters.

Provost Olson was asked if he felt there were any interesting items that the LTR should be discussing. He stated that there are many different ideas and technologies available but he isn’t sure that all of them are improvements. He is interested in the idea of netbooks and the role they could play at MSU. There is so much available now. People need to be informed of new technologies that are available and where to find them. People want to learn from personal experience. It might also be useful to review the availability of textbooks on an e-Book platform. We might be able to save the students some money. The Merlot Project is another interesting repository of online tools and content for teaching and members are informed of new applications. Technology is always changing.

Marilyn Delmont attended an e-Learning Conference that showcased a lot of tools for social impact games. These are simulations that can be used in the classroom.

Provost Olson thanked the LTR members for all they do and looks forward to future discussions.

2. **ITS Progress Report (Marilyn Delmont)**
Marilyn Delmont distributed a document that described the work of ITS for the last fiscal year. She plans to distribute this progress report to the whole campus every six months. This document highlights all of the things that IT has been working on. She reviewed the document with the LTR members.

3. **Telepresence Technology – Update (Marilyn Delmont)**
Marilyn stated that there are a group of 12 or 13 MnSCU institutions that are interested in pursuing Telepresence as a pilot project. MSU is one of them. Telepresence offers virtual classrooms with life-size images. It is very expensive but fascinating. If you are interested in seeing this new technology, please contact Bryan Schneider. He can arrange a field trip to go to Cisco and view it. To see several interesting demonstrations you can go to YouTube and type “cisco telepresence.”

4. **MnSCU Enterprise Funding FY 10-11 (Marilyn Delmont)**
Marilyn attended the statewide MnSCU CIO meeting in July and found out that MnSCU will be distributing funding again. The distribution of this funding still needs to be discussed at the Cabinet level. Over the last two years, about 25 – 30 projects have been funded and that leaves us with bandwidth issues. Main infrastructure needs will have to be earmarked with this money due to the budget cuts that ITS has implemented. LTR will be further discussing this process.

5. **Other**
Brian Jones announced that he is working with the MnSCU Students First Initiative. This will combine information from several different institutions together and offer a single sign on application for students. There is a challenge because state universities need space to do things differently than two-
year institutions. There are also special admissions and registrars needs to take into consideration. John O’Brien, president at Century College, is leading this effort.

**ONGOING TECHNOLOGY UPDATES**

A. **Student MSSA/STR (Students)**
   Murtaza Rajabali announced that the students appreciate the work that is completed by the LTR. He said that they are happy that this venue exists because it is a perfect place for new ideas. The students are looking forward to the review of the laptop program in the College of Business and to exploring E-Books.

B. **Extended Learning/7700 France (Linda Jacoby)**
   Linda Jacoby stated that at last count there were 180 PSEO students. Online enrollment is at 2,400 for a total of 7,500 credits. There are 52 different faculty teaching online this fall. Close to 250 faculty have had experience teaching online in the last year. The focus this year is to support students and faculty. Extended Learning will be working with CETL. A learning community of 17 faculty exists and they will be sharing their best practices in online learning. They will also be able to solve issues along the way.

C. **Library Services (Peg Lawrence)**
   Peg Lawrence reminded everyone of the Maverick Textbook Program, an initiative of MSSA. This program was very well received and the students wrote a resolution praising the Library and those who made it possible. The Library has added large LCD screens on all floors to provide general information but they are not functional yet. With funding from the technology fee the ACC has upgraded much of the computer equipment in the Library: the hallway in the lower level has been updated with furniture and computers; the Global Learning Lab has been upgraded; new computers have been installed in the ERC, 2nd and 3rd floors; and there are 20 new laptops available for check out by students in the ERC.

D. **ITS – VP/CIO (Marilyn Delmont)**
   Marilyn Delmont stated that she would like to see the Student Technology Roundtable begin work this fall and asked Student President Rajabali to get her the names of the committee members.

E. **ITS – Networking/Systems (Bryan Schneider)**
   a. **IMAGENOW PROBLEMS** – following 2 – 3 identified problems. Making process.
   b. Trafton Remodel – rewire most of the building.
   c. MavCard replacement – banking partner change from TCF to Wells Fargo
   d. Green IT
      i. From 3 to 116 virtual servers over the past 7 months
      ii. Redundant data center – McElroy for critical services
      iii. Student Printing
         a. Five million student pages printed
         b. Duplex printing default decreased paper use by 40% overnight
            BUT
            Student printing volume increasing over the last year:
            a. Library 66% increase
            b. College of Business 402% increase
            c. Overall 47% increase
      iv. COOP – Fire suppression system, vitalizing of servers/services
      v. Expanded LAN to University Square – two SBS, two COB entities, and wireless to the Stadium Cinema.

**THINGS COMING UP...**
   i. Air conditioning replacement in computer center - power savings - improved redundancy
ii. Phone system upgrade - End of September - looking for some feature enhancements and electronic faxing capabilities

iii. PILOT of Office Communication System - chat, desktop web conferencing,

iv. PILOT of new version of Exchange / MavMAIL.

v. Star Alert – went from 1066 subscribers to 1523 in 24 hours. Still REALLY LOW. Last spring we had nearly 6000 subscribers

F. ITS – ACC (Wayne Sharp)
Wayne Sharp said that they have been busy installing 200 machines in various places. All new laptops were installed in the GLL and the soundproofing was updated. The College of Educations’ lab in the Library has received 25 new Macs. This is a flexible seminar area. ML 111 has been turned into an ITV room. The hallways in the lower level of Memorial Library has been designed by Norleen Turensky. There are study kiosks and study areas for students. Soundproofing, new furniture and computers have been added. Matt Clay has been busy at Trafton. He has performed 50 upgrades for Standpoint. Jeff Henline and Marni Dunning have been busy with D2L. There are over 2,000 courses using it.

G. ITS – Customer Service (Dawn Leech)
Gary McKinley stated that they have been busy with incoming students. The lines at the Help Desk seem to be shorter this year probably because students have more expertise. This year the Help Desk also had a station in the Union during the first few days that helped some students up front.

H. ITS – ISRS (Ted Johnson)
Ted stated that there have been no surprises with the conversion from Oracle.

I. ITS – MSU Web & Portal (Ted Johnson)
The web and portal are operating as we intend them to. The College of Education deployed their new website today using the new template. The Portal Development Team is creating new features and services. Image Editor for web editing has been released. It will allow people to upload .jpg images and edit them to resize.

J. ITS – COMET/METNET (Ted Johnson)
Ted Johnson announced that the new ITV rooms in the basement of the Library and in Trafton C 123 have been opened. The Codex was provided by COMET/METNET. They are in the process of piloting some new services such as streaming and media capture. Individuals can access and upload video to whatever output they want. Jeff Henline, Marni Dunning and Jerry Anderson are working with this project.

K. ITS – D2L (Jeff Henline)
D2L was down for about 10 minutes yesterday but the problem has been taken care of.

L. Other tech updates/announcements (Don Larsson, …)
Don Larsson announced that faculty members of the LTR will be meeting next week to discuss, among other issues, training and support for online teaching and course development. Guidelines are needed for packaged courses as the way of paying faculty changes for these types of courses. There are new Federal regulations that define correspondence courses. That is a contractual issue too. We also need to address the technology needs of non-traditional students, as they may be just getting used to coming back to school and may have less computer skills than our average freshman. We need to identify ways to assist these types of students. The Students First Program from MnSCU looks good on paper but faculty have had no involvement in the discussions. The IFO Executive Committee will be monitoring this closely.

TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE
Shannon Jeffries presented a PowerPoint on the benefits of Microsoft IT Academy. The link to the PowerPoint will be shared with the LTR members.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by: Julie Dornack