Learning & Technology Roundtable  
Tuesday, November 11, 2:00-4:00 pm  
CSU-238, Nickerson Room

Present: Queen Booker, Ron Browne, Matt Clay, Yvette Dulohery, Jan Eimers, David Gjerde, Jeff Henline, Linda Jacoby, Brian Jones, Ted Johnson, Dan Larsson, Peg Lawrence, Dawn Leech, Judith Luebke, Jayme Pretzloff, Danae Quirk Dorr, Joan Roca, Bryan Schneider, Wayne Sharp, Steven Smith, Julie Snow, Gary Urban, Steve Vassar  
Absent: Marilyn Delmont, Marni Dunning, Terry Flaherty, Jennifer Guyer-Wood, Catherine Hughes, Avra Johnson, Joan Klanderud, Patricia Lipetzky, Gary McKinley, Pat McKinzie, Murtaza Rajabali, Steven Robinson  
Guests: Al Essa (MnSCU), Rollie Rowe (Institutional Research)

Announcements & Upcoming Events/Conferences (FYI)
- Last LTR Meeting this semester: Tuesday, 12/2 (CSU-238)
- Tentative LTR Meeting dates for Spring semester: 1/13, 2/3, 3/3, 4/14, 5/5 (CSU-238)

OLD BUSINESS
- Approval of Minutes of 10/14/08 (attached in PDF)  
  [LTR Minutes available at: http://lib.mnsu.edu/ltr/ltrinfo.html]  
Queen Booker moved to approve the minutes of 10/14/08 and Steve Smith second. The minutes were approved.

- MnSCU Enterprise Funding - Proposal Review Subcommittee Update (Bryan S.)  
Bryan Schneider announced that the committee has met and is reviewing proposals. They will be meeting again next Thursday and reminders will be sent out. The total allocation from MnSCU is $467,000 and the committee has received approximately one million dollars in requests from MSU.

- Oracle Migration and impacts - Update (Ted J.)  
Ted Johnson announced that the timeline for the migration to Oracle has slipped. Originally planned for Thanksgiving break, it will now probably happen during the winter. Additional databases have been identified that need to be converted. Expect the migration to occur late winter or early spring.

- Energy Management - greening IT - Updates (Gary U., Murtaza R.)  
Jayme Pretzloff reported that MSSA is setting up an Environmental Committee with approval from President Davenport. Appointments are being made and the group has not met yet. Murtaza should be able to provide a complete update at the next meeting. If you are interested in assisting with the student Committee, please send an email to murtaza.rajabali@mnsu.edu. Faculty appointments will be made through the Faculty Association. Gary Urban reported that he is compiling an idea list and he will share it with the group at a future meeting.
NEW BUSINESS

1. Feedback from EDUCAUSE attendees
Several members of the LTR attended the EDUCAUSE conference (Ted Johnson, Bryan Schneider, Shannon Jeffries, Joan Roca, Linda Jacoby, and Stewart Ross from CETL) and shared their experience. There were many interesting exhibits and the new technology was very exciting.

Bryan stated that EDUCAUSE provides a great opportunity to get together and share information with representatives of other colleges and universities from around the world. We are doing a lot of things right, such as virtual servers, but he feels that we have lost some ground in infrastructure such as emergency notification and continuity of operations. It seems that we were much more prepared two years ago. Bryan stated that we also seem to be behind in the area of networking and Internet security awareness.

He also learned that, at many universities, the CIO is responsible for file sharing and copyright issues. At our campus, the MnSCU contact for Intellectual Property is the Dean of Graduate Studies. The Library and Printing Services also play a role in Copyright and Intellectual Property matters. ITS gets any official notifications in regards to illegal file sharing activities.

Bryan attended a workshop on best practices in emergency notification and stated that we are ahead of the curve with our VOIP phone system and in using the phones for emergency notification. A meeting will be occurring soon to review the new “Star Alert” text message notification system provided by MnSCU. The system is in place but procedures have not been identified. The role of the Safety committee within the Emergency Notification policies/procedures will need to be clarified. We also need to identify a way to notify individuals on campus that are not in classrooms or in offices (i.e. parking lots, rec facilities, etc.)

Many interesting products were mentioned:
• There are several online chat products that lend themselves well to deliver support to students and would work well at the Help Desk or ACC.
• The Microsoft “surface computer” was demonstrated and looked really neat.
• VBrick – video feed in and stream things out automatically.
• Google mail and live@edu seemed possible products to be piloted. About 60% of Universities our size have outsourced their student mail systems to Google.

Wayne Sharp discussed a new video capture system that has been purchased. There is one available in the T-n-T. This system work best if they are fixed into a room and the professor doesn’t wander around a lot. He also mentioned that at our LabMan conference in June we had 220 people from all types of universities in attendance and many were highly impressed with our resources. Notre Dame will be hosting the next conference and seemed intimidated by the high bar set by MSU.

Other interesting ideas from EDUCAUSE:
• Some colleges offer a weeklong event to students that showcase different technology and software. This is done in a ‘science fair’ type setting. It seems to be really effective. It sounds like it will be a lot of work but could be extremely valuable to students.
• A small 4-year college deployed a multi-user blogging tool. Issues such as monitoring posts on blogs were addressed. This isn’t like Facebook or MySpace, it is a very public space. It was creatively used and has elevated courses to the next level. Ted added that ITS staff is considering having blog software on campus.

• “Cloud computing” is a growing trend that is made possible by companies like Google, Amazon, Yahoo, Microsoft, ... and stores information on all kinds of servers across the Internet, usually for free. This facilitates research collaboration across institutions. The law has not kept up with 3rd party storage and it will pose interesting questions.

• More and more universities are addressing the needs of mobile devices, as most students have cell phones and PDAs. This may be something that we should be considering.

Linda commented that is easier to become overwhelmed with technology but we need to ask first what problem we are trying to solve and keep that in perspective before selecting something new. She stated that SecondLife sessions were all full and were trying to address if this was fad or future. She also attended a session on the pros/cons of social networking (Facebook, MySpace, etc.).

2. Feedback from Teaching with Technology Conference
Judith Luebke announced that there were 132 registrants and the Conference was very successful. People were very interested and interacted together. The vendors provided a nice array of new products as well. An evaluation will be sent out this week. Positive comments were received about the keynote speaker and many voiced appreciation for the conference. Judith thanked the LTR, CETL and ITS for their support.

3. Telepresence technology - Update (Bryan S.)
Bryan Schneider did a demo on the Cisco Telepresence system. For more information, see: http://www.cisco.com/en/US/netsol/ns669/networking_solutions_solution_segment_home.html
This technology could be beneficial for MSU as it could replace ITV in serving remote areas that are either un-served or underserved. It would also work well at 7700 France, North Minneapolis or Chaska. This technology actually makes you feel like you are part of the meeting, it seems like you are right in the room with other people. This would be very neat for online learning. Bryan will be scheduling a road trip to 7700 France on December 12th that will include a demo at Cisco so that people can view this new technology in real time. If you are interested, please let Bryan know. He will be sending out additional details and an agenda. The cost of these system was $300,000 per room at one time but they have been getting more affordable. Al Essa agreed that the Telepresence technology is worth checking out.

4. MnSCU Update: Action Analytics, Future IMS, E-Application, ... (Al Essa, MnSCU)
Al Essa from MnSCU provided the LTR members with a MnSCU update. He stated that he appreciated being invited and that he likes to come to the LTR, as it is a great model of collaboration.

Al showed a brief presentation on emergency responses at the World Trade Center catastrophe and how having a plan was instrumental in evacuating the building and saving thousands of lives. MnSCU has been working on an “All Hazards Plan” and coordinating with the Chief Safety Officer of each campus. The system will provide text messages and email messages across campus when danger is present.
Al then presented some slides on Action Analytics and discussed how important it is to move to a higher level of using data to support evidence-based decision making. MnSCU ITS is working on data integration so it is more relevant to what the campus users need for day to day decisions. A new pilot project will be ready in a couple of weeks that will involve the directors of institutional research. Standards for data format will be set. Oracle experts will be brought in the first week of December and Version 1 of the enterprise data will be up by early next year. The system takes advantage of what has been developed at Winona and St. Cloud and will continue as a full partnership across the system.

A system wide committee will be formed by Linda Baer soon to identify the future of IMS. He expects that we will be on D2L for at least two more years (August 2010). In the meantime, a workgroup is looking at where to go next. This will be comprised mostly of faculty. Other systems such as Moodle and e-College will be piloted.

**ONGOING TECHNOLOGY UPDATES**

A. **Student MSSA/STR (Students)**
   Jayme Pretzloff reported on behalf of Murtaza Rajabali, as he was unable to attend today’s LTR meeting. The students are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the printer in Armstrong Hall. They have been updating the MSSA website and have installed a flash update and a ‘question of the week’. It is “Meet the Senator Week”. Boards have been placed in the CSU for students to write down their comments and concerns.

B. **Extended Learning / 7700 France (Pat L./Judy L.)**
   Judith Luebke stated that 7700 France continues at full steam. The ITV seems to be working well. A satisfaction survey will be completed by the College of Education.

C. **Library Services (Peg L.)**
   Peg Lawrence announced that the Maverick Textbook Reserve program has been increasingly popular. There are 57 textbooks on reserve and these have been checked out upwards of 400 times. Faculty are urged to put textbooks on reserve as soon as possible.

   The Library is reviewing ways of going green. After working with Ryan in the Copy Shoppe, we will be using “green paper” in the printers. The production of this paper uses 50% fewer trees and reduces fossil fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions by 75% during manufacturing.

D. **ITS - VP/CIO (Marilyn D.)**
   Bryan Schneider reported that the Emergency Broadcast System has been working very well. We need to improve the system that plugs into the fire alarms. This will also be tied into the Residence Halls that have newer fire alarms. There is a Star Alert meeting tomorrow.

   Mike McLaughlin will be returning to ITS from MnSCU. ITS is also interviewing for another Systems Manager position.

E. **ITS - Networking/Systems (Bryan S.)**
MavPrint at Armstrong Hall will be coming soon. ITS has been busy working on the wiring closets that contain the networking equipment. The problem is that the uninterruptable power supplies have been failing. This is a high priority task.

IT will be piloting lib@edu and Cloud Computing. Bryan will send out a message to get LTR thoughts and recommendations.

F. ITS - ACC (Wayne S.)
   No report.

G. ITS - Customer Support (Dawn L.)
   No report.

H. ITS - ISRS (Ted J.)
   No report.

I. ITS - MSU Web & Portal (Ted J.)
   Admissions has had the entire site updated to the new template. They are still working on the details. The new template will be rolled out to the rest of the campus. Please look at the content pages of the Admissions site: http://www.mnsu.edu/admissions/

J. ITS - COMET/METNET (Ted J.)
   No report.

K. ITS - D2L (Jeff H.)
   No report.

L. Other tech updates/announcements (Don Larsson, ...)
   Don Larsson stated that registration problems reported at other campuses have decreased. A proposal for web-based master classes is being discussed at Meet & Confer.
   Ryan Anderson has spoke to the Executive Committee. Faculty members have discussed the success of the textbook program at the Library. They are looking for an assessment of the College of Business Laptop Business Initiative.

   A question was asked about the PALS fee charged to MnSCU. Joan explained that the PALS system is funded by the user libraries and includes other non-MnSCU libraries as well. A fee increase for every library is expected in 2010. MnSCU pays the fees centrally for all the MnSCU campuses.

   Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

   Respectfully submitted by: Julie Dornack

TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE
- Bryan demonstrated Telepresence earlier in the meeting