

Technology Teaching Circle Report
June 19, 2007

The Technology Teaching Circle met once during 2007-08, the first meeting on October 25, 2007 and the second on February 1, 2008. Both meetings were conducted over lunch in the President's Dining Room in Hogarth. The first meeting had six in attendance and the second meeting had four in attendance.

Members of the Circle included:

Marty Brock	David Carter	Rodney Godfrey	Eric Harlan
Richard Holden	Joshua Hollis	Dustin Nolan	Marco Obaid
Scott Tollison			

Topics of discussion included:

1. Increased use of open source software (worldwide)
2. Productivity software changes (Microsoft Office 2007, Google Apps-plus Google Earth and Google Sky, Apple applications)
3. Multimedia authoring software – producing, editing and publishing videos via the Web.
4. Educational storytelling using technology
5. Educational use of latest software
 - a. Storytelling with technology
 - b. Blogs and podasts
 - c. Social networking
 - d. Robotics and programming robots
 - e. Educational gaming
 - f. Animations, simulations, virtual tours
 - g. Avatars and Second Life
 - h. Augmented realty using GPS technology
 - i. Wireless sensors
 - j. Classroom responders (clickers)
 - k. E-books
6. Replacement of Tech Prep (7th-9th grade) with ICT I & II and STEM and discussion of how MUW faculty, staff or students with technology expertise could visit local middle schools to enhance this program. Also, the new technology magnet elementary school provides an opportunity.

Biggest ideas included the following:

1. Research open source software and ensure students are taught procedures for downloading, installing and using open source options. (Note: Subsequently, I gave a presentation on open source software at the Mississippi Educators' Computing Association (MECA) conference, and a move was initiated on campus to provide a Google Gmail account for each MUW student.)
2. The idea of offering an educational MUW course entitled Emerging Technologies was considered. The course could include guest speakers throughout campus based upon individual expertise in using latest popular technology (e.g. podcasting, blogs, avatars, GPS navigation, Windows moviemaker, smartphones, PDAs, etc.) The course would be updated each semester to stay abreast of current ideas for integrating the newest technologies into education.

Richard L. Holden, Associate Professor
Teaching Circle Director