Welcome from the LDT Program

Hello to all of our alumni and friends from the Learning Design & Technology program at Purdue University! Another academic year is in full swing. The days are getting cooler, the football team is getting hotter, and the turning leaves are adding to the campus color. We’re pleased to bring you our annual fall update!

At the university level, President France Cordova stepped down over the summer. Provost Tim Sands has become the acting president as the university prepares to welcome our next president, Governor Mitch Daniels, when he completes his governmental term of office in January. President-elect Daniels has already made several trips to campus to begin learning the ropes.

The College of Education went through a successful NCATE accreditation last spring and is preparing for new campus initiatives including a core curriculum and plans to transition to a trimester calendar. There is always something new happening at Purdue!

Online Master’s Program Growing!

The online master’s degree program in Learning Design and Technology was launched last fall with great fanfare and expectations. The chart at the right depicts the rapid growth of the program over the past year. From a start of nearly 40 students last year (double what we had initially expected), the program has grown to more than 140 students this semester. We expect to achieve our “steady state” enrollment of approximately 200 students in the spring. We’ve been gratified by the success of the program and very pleased with the overall quality of the students who are enrolling in the new program.

The program’s rapid growth is due in large part to our project partner, Deltak, a leading company in online higher education, which has done an excellent job of marketing and guiding potential students through the application process. Deltak also provides added value through student support services and basic instructional design help.

Big thanks also go to Tim Newby, LDT program convenor, who spearheaded the approvals process and guided the launch of the new program. Tim is also hard at work on EDCI 27000, the required undergraduate course in LDT, as he participates in IMPACT, Purdue’s project to reform large gateway courses to improve student success.
LDT Program Welcomes New Faculty

Two new faculty members joined LDT and will assist with the online degree program.

Victoria Walker, clinical assistant professor, comes to Purdue from Regent University where she taught in master’s and doctoral level education programs and held positions as Director of Professional Licensure Programs and Director of Continuing Education and Instructional and Web Technologies. She holds a Ph.D. in Education with concentrations in Distance Education and Higher Education Research and Institutional Planning and a M.Ed. in Educational Technology. Her scholarly work focuses on using online and virtual technologies in education.

Sunnie Lee Watson, clinical assistant professor, holds a dual major doctorate in instructional systems technology and educational leadership & policy studies from Indiana University. She has both teaching and corporate work experience. Before coming to Purdue, she taught at Ball State University for four years. Her scholarly work focuses on international technology policies and leadership for digital equity, multicultural education and peace education, and critical systems theory/thinking for educational change and research.

STEM Learning Focus of SLED

Johannes Strobel, LDT and Engineering Education faculty member and Director of INSPIRE (Institute for P-12 Engineering Research and Learning) and Jim Lehman, LDT faculty member and associate dean in the College of Education, continue as part of the leadership team of the Science Learning through Engineering Design (SLED) project.

SLED, an NSF Math Science Partnership project, is using engineering design as a vehicle for science learning in grades 3 through 6. Four Purdue colleges and four Indiana school districts are participating. Last summer, the SLED summer institute worked with 43 in-service teacher and 5 pre-service teachers, and hundreds of grade 3-6 students are involved this year.

For more about the project, visit http://sledhub.org.

PBL Work On-going

Peg Ertmer, LDT faculty member, continues her efforts to promote problem-based learning (PBL) among K-12 STEM teachers through a professional development course offered each summer. The course enrolls both pre-service teachers, drawn from Purdue’s STEM Goes Rural project, and in-service teachers affiliated with Purdue’s Research Goes to School project. The teachers work in small groups to create a PBL unit that is then implemented in their classrooms the following school year.

Dr. Ertmer also facilitated a PBL workshop for 20 teachers in the Attica school district in Indiana last spring.

In addition, Dr. Ertmer is involved in research efforts that examine the critical relationship between teachers’ pedagogical beliefs and their classroom uses of technology. She recently spent 5 weeks at the University of Ghent in Belgium, working with colleagues to write a chapter for the upcoming International Handbook of Research on Teachers’ Beliefs.
Minchi Kim has authored two chapters to appear in the 3rd *Handbook of Distance Education*, one with three doctoral students in LDT and one with colleagues from the University of Georgia. With support from a COE Synergy Grant, she partnered with a local science teacher to implement technology-enhanced curricular materials to enhance 8th graders problem-solving. This work has been selected as a Featured Research Paper at the 2012 AECT conference.

Jennifer Richardson has been working in concert with Purdue’s Extended Campus (PEC) to assist the faculty who are moving to online instruction. She and select advanced graduate students have been working with faculty across campus to design, develop, and implement online courses and migrate them to the new Blackboard platform. The graduate students work in small teams and consult with the faculty. It’s a win-win situation. The students get invaluable practical experience and the faculty get free instructional design services.

Scott Schaffer spent the past year in Washington, D.C. as an on-site instructional technology expert at the National Science Foundation. Scott was the Project Leader for the LearnNSF where he developed strategy and led implementation of the foundation-wide talent management system.

Bill Watson has been visualizing new learning management technology to facilitate learner-centered educational systems. He collaborated with Information Technology at Purdue (ITaP) developers on the design of a piece of the platform he envisions, a badges-based assessment app called Passport. Passport uses digital badges to certify learners’ mastery of targeted competencies and supports the collection of evidence of mastery from informal as well as formal educational settings. He is piloting the new software in his course this year.

Wen-Hao David Huang is an Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (see profile). This year, he was appointed to the editorial board of *International Journal for Technology and Management*; served as President Elect of the AECT Training and Performance Division; and conducted design-based research to develop learning engagement systems to support online learning among working adults.

Kim Fong Jason Lei and Teri Schmidt have been working at JetBlue Airways for more than 5 years. A recent major accomplishment was the launch and delivery of an internal performance-based certification program, accredited by ISPI, focused on assessment, measurement, and evaluation. Teri is Assessment, Measurement, and Evaluation (AME) Manager and participates in several professional organizations, including AEA and ISPI. Jason is active in ISPI at both the international and local levels and helped to start the ISPI Central Florida Chapter (www.ispicfc.com) in order to cultivate HPT research and practice in Central Florida.

Anne Ottenbreit-Leftwich has been supervising and teaching technology integration at IU-Bloomington for the past 5 years. She and colleagues have been working for the past 2 years to develop and implement PBL-Tech, a USDOE project focused on designing, developing, and field-testing Web 2.0 tools to support development of technology-enhanced problem-based learning curriculum for use in both K-12 and higher education settings. In September 2011, she had her first child, a baby boy, Ryjker.
LEARNING DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Honors and Awards

LDT graduate students have garnered a number of awards and honors during the past academic year and for the current year.

Yi Luo and Ji Hyun Yu, both doctoral students in the LDT program, were recipients of a Frank B. DeBruicker Graduate Award. This award, which comes in the form of a graduate scholarship, recognizes excellence in graduate student research. They are shown in the photo at left.

Ayesha Sadaf completed a year as president of the AECT Graduate Student Assembly. Last year, she received the ECT Mentor Endowment Scholarship, and this year, in recognition of her service to the organization, she will be receiving a 2012 AECT Presidential Award. This award is given by the outgoing president of AECT to recognize a member who has provided valuable service to the organization during his or her presidential year. Ayesha was also the recipient of a Bilsland Dissertation Scholarship from Purdue during the past academic year. She is currently finishing her doctoral degree.

Xiaojun “June” Chen was awarded the Dean’s Doctoral Scholarship for 2011. She was also the recipient of the 2011 outstanding graduate teaching award from both the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and College of Education. In addition, she received a campus-wide CETA graduate teaching award and was inducted into Purdue’s Teaching Academy as an associate member. June has now graduated and has taken a position at St. John’s University in New York.

Faculty Chosen as Teaching Fellows

Three members of the LDT faculty were chosen as Teaching for Tomorrow Fellows for 2011-2012. Jennifer Richardson was selected as a senior resource faculty member, and both Minchi Kim and Bill Watson were selected as junior faculty participants in the Purdue University program.

Keep in Touch!

Let us know what you are doing! We want to keep in touch with all of our great alumni. Just send an e-mail to aggie@purdue.edu with any news or updates.

Also, if you have the means, please consider making a tax-deductible donation. Your support would mean a lot! You can donate specifically to the LDT program by specifying that your gift go to the College of Education LDT Gift Fund.

Your gift may provide support for student travel to conferences or other important program needs. For more information, see http://www.education.purdue.edu/makeagift/.