

Conference report from PODs by Dean KG Smith (October 2012)

1. List and provide a description of a least three sessions attended.

From Pencils to Pixels: Tools for Helping Faculty Integrate Technology

In this workshop, we were tasked to collaboratively build a set of shared online resources as we gained knowledge and skills to assist our faculty members integrate technology.

Technology Centered Course Design

The workshop presented how instructional developers must find effective ways of teaching faculty how to use technology as part of a broader strategy of improving student learning. The purpose was to share a faculty development model that integrated technology with principles of course design and team-based learning theory.

Plenary Session 1: Michael Wesch-The End of Wonder in the Age of Whatever

Dr. Wesch was the plenary speaker on Friday. He was fantastic. I've always been a fan from his original YouTube Digital Divide videos several years ago. He's presentation focused on 'what' is needed to inspire our students to wonder, to nurture their appetite for curiosity, exploration, and con contemplation, to help students attain an insatiable appetite to ask and pursue big, authentic, and relevant questions so they can harness and leverage the bounty of possibility all around .

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGCJ46vyR9o&feature=share&list=PL01C06F0B5E2B9EE4>

<http://ksuanth.weebly.com/wesch.html> - BIO

2. Discuss at least one significant item you learned from the conference that you were unaware of and would like to share with the College.

I was not aware of several new applications that other teachers are using for active learning. I am always collecting new software and website and sharing with the faculty. I believe I was so excited that I shared a few of them while I was attending the conference. Here's a sample of one such helpful URL:

<http://www.freetech4teachers.com/>

3. What one program/activity would you recommend that we implement immediately? (Short Term)

I was motivated to create a new workshop to present to faculty via the Center for Teaching and Learning regarding showcasing my technical communications background by delivering a workshop on trends in presentation technologies and best practices for the classroom: My working title currently is Beyond PowerPoint

4. What one program/activity would you recommend that we implement in FY14 budget.

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*I want to see **release time, special assignment, or stipend** for Faculty Peer Mentors in the Center for Teaching and Learning. I want to make sure faculty have two projects each and work to train their peers, cross discipline and academic divisions.*

5. If we had available funds, what other activities would you recommend we implement?

*An innovation center of technology for students; something more than just a computer lab for students to be users, but producers and problem solvers. I also want to have Dr. Wesch come to OHC or the District and conduct his presentation on *The End of Wonder in the Age of Whatever!**