

# IT Showcase 2006: Presenters and Projects

## **College of Communication's WebVideo Enhanced Learning Resource** (College of Communication Creative)

The College of Communication augmented selected classroom facilities and added a mobile unit to enable every course experience—lectures, student presentations, and symposia—to be securely captured, archived and retrieved for later use. This flexible, efficient, and scalable system is ideal for any classroom size, and for lectures that focus on showing time-based media. An innovative use of technology that replaces time consuming production processes, enabling more efficient capture of a greater number of events.

## **"Readiness Assurance Technology" for Team-Based Learning** (College of Education Learning Technology Center)

Team-based learning (TBL) is an instructional strategy that uses a sequence of individual work, group work, and immediate feedback to help students evolve into cohesive learning teams. The online system enables the creation and administration of individual and team tests, manages the relational scoring between the two, and provides correctly sequenced feedback.

## **Technology integration in UTeach Natural Sciences** (College of Natural Sciences)

The UTeach Natural Sciences program infuses technology into each course so that pre-service teachers accrue most of the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) for teachers before graduation. This display will highlight how technology is integrated into a program that spans departments and colleges.

## **Interactive Web Simulations** (College of Engineering, Faculty Innovation Center)

FIC's interactive web-based simulations created for the College of Engineering are used for both in-class instruction and as an online resource for students. These simulations are the result of a powerful, intuitive client-side application that heighten interactivity and reduce or eliminate feedback latency resulting from server requests. While we frequently develop with the Flash platform, we remain technologically agnostic and continue to explore new tools.

## **MediaSite Live and Slide Synching** (College of Engineering, Faculty Innovation Center)

This spring semester the Faculty Innovation Center took advantage of exciting new advances in Web broadcasting to install the MediaSite Live system, a rich media encoder that captures and synchronizes slides and video in real time. The quality of the graphics, streaming video, and slides make it possible to accommodate the diverse teaching styles in the College of Engineering.

## **Scientific Data Visualization and Immersive Environment** (Texas Advanced Computing Center, Visualization and Data Analysis group)

Our mission is to help researchers better understand their data through various visualization techniques, from providing computational and visualization resources to collaborating to create visualizations. Our facility includes a 360-degree immersive visualization environment and large-scale computational resources and is available at no charge to the UT community.

On March 6, 2004, UTOPIA opened the doors of UT Austin to people all around the globe. We've widened the doors by adding a fresh look to the UTOPIA Web site. After a concerted effort by the UTOPIA team, the site greater ease of use, and an enriching and rewarding experience for visitors of all ages.

#### **Books R 4 Teens (UTOPIA)**

Books R 4 Teens features reviews and teaching ideas for the most recently published books in young adult literature. Reviews contain a brief summary of the book, information about the author, reading level, genre, and major themes. Online resources and media connections are included, with practical suggestions for using each book to enhance learning. Multicultural voices are represented in over half of the titles.

#### **Study of the Spanish-Speaking People of Texas (UTOPIA)**

The Study of the Spanish-Speaking People of Texas series consists of more than 900 photographs that reflect the lives of people in these Mexican-American communities at a very specific point in time. The images represent a unique visual record for that period, and are unparalleled in their variety, scope, and quality. They include children, schools, churches, housing, migrant workers, professions, trades and vocations, businesses, community organization, health and homecare, politics, and leisure activities.

#### **Texas Architecture: A Visual History (UTOPIA)**

This site provides a look at how architecture in the Lone Star State has evolved over the years, with access to more than 3,900 images of notable Texas structures.

#### **The Papers of Justice Tom C. Clark (UTOPIA)**

Catch a fascinating glimpse inside the Supreme Court's decisions on landmark cases ranging from desegregation to Miranda rights to Communism.

#### **Trail Drivers of Texas (UTOPIA)**

This is part of the Texas Classics Series being digitized by the University of Texas Libraries in collaboration with the University of Texas Press.

#### **Transforming Lives through Resilience Education (UTOPIA)**

Consists of four mini-lectures, or modules, prepared by Dr. Mary Steinhardt, Professor of Health Education at The University of Texas at Austin. Modules are presented in audio form and accompanied by Flash animation and short interactive quizzes to promote learning. Participants can print a PDF file that includes a short assignment, reading materials that summarize the module, and a list of suggested books.

#### **Digital Assets Services - DASE ( Liberal Arts ITS)**

A joint effort of Liberal Arts, Fine Arts, and General Libraries, DASE is an evolving set of applications for the collection, cataloging, and serving of digital media collections from across the University. The project allows faculty and students to search diverse collections of hundreds of thousands of images, videos, audio files, and other media, and download files or organize them into online collections accessible from within DASE.

The Texas Politics Web site uses a wide range of multimedia designed to enhance instruction in Texas government and politics, and available on an unrestricted basis. Texas Politics resembles a traditional textbook, but contains original interactive features and digital video based on interviews with political participants from all levels of government and politics.

#### **Liberal Arts Language Initiatives (Liberal Arts ITS)**

Liberal Arts ITS specializes in supporting the development of original and innovative Web sites used in language instruction in dozens of courses reaching thousands of students. Sites have been built or are under development for French, Spanish, Italian, German, Hebrew, Arabic, Persian, and American Sign Language instruction.

#### **Liberal Arts ITS Student Technology Assistants (STA) Program (Liberal Arts ITS)**

The STA program employs UT students and connects them with faculty members to support the development of technology-enhanced teaching. Since the program's inception in 2003, students and faculty members have collaborated on dozens of projects.

#### **UT Mobile (ITS)**

UT Mobile is a new service that offers familiar university services built specifically for your phone or other mobile device. UT Mobile allows you to search the UT Austin Directory for contact information, find your next class or meeting using Campus Maps, receive and respond to e-mail, read headline news from the Daily Texan, and much more!

#### **Blanton Information Technology Systems - BITS (Blanton, CoFA, ITS, Texas Box Office, Utopia)**

Want to know how IT supports a new museum? From the eLounge to tickets, audio tours to online image galleries, redesigned web site to museum store...learn about the pieces and the people that helped the Blanton's Information Technology Systems fall into place.

#### **The Blanton Museum Website (Fine Arts IT)**

A timely example of flexible re-purposing of existing campus technology infrastructure to develop a new Web site.

#### **The Fine Arts Library Renovation Project: A collaboration between Fine Arts IT and Fine Arts Library (Fine Arts Library, Fine Arts IT)**

The Fine Arts Library implemented an assessment to determine improvements and needs of the students, faculty and staff in the College of Fine Arts. The results are evident in the newly renovated library and learning space, which accommodates its users in both technology and aesthetics.

#### **Tools for Teaching with Images (Fine Arts IT)**

Tools and image repositories such as DASE and ARTstor allow faculty to find, organize, build, and show collections of quality images in the classroom.

#### **Projects from the Digital Media Collaboratory (IC2 Digital Media Collaboratory)**

A prototype of a configurable training environment for decision-making and information synthesis, created for the US Army Medical Department.

### **Enhancing the techno-literacy and problem solving skills of students using Second Life MUVE (DIIA)**

This project uses the Second Life Multi-User Virtual Environment (MUVE) platform in a composition classroom to explore new literacy practices that evolve as a community of students attempt to complete writing projects.

### **Alien Rescue III: Developing a Problem Based Learning (PBL) Game Meta Engine for Instructors (DIIA)**

This project will re-engineer the existing Alien Rescue project to produce a gaming environment that includes a set of templates and an abstraction layer that allows faculty members to construct their own Problem Based Learning (PBL) games with a minimum of programming skills.

### **eGradebook (DIIA)**

The eGradebook is an online system that allows instructors to communicate assignment scores and grades to their students. Integrated with the Office of the Registrar class roster and grades submission system, the eGradebook provides faculty and students dynamic, real-time interaction with administrative processes for their classes.

### **Ongoing Course Assessment (OCA) (DIIA)**

The Ongoing Course Assessment (OCA) system is an in-semester survey tool that allows instructors to gather feedback for instructional improvement. Online surveys are conducted securely within UT Direct, protecting student anonymity from access by instructors.

### **ePortfolio (DIIA)**

The ePortfolio system is an online portfolio application that emphasizes the building of conceptual connections among a student's formative experiences by facilitating documentation, reflection, and showcasing on the Web. The ePortfolio allows faculty to consistently evaluate students' inter-disciplinary work.

### **Eureka! (DIIA)**

EUREKA! is a Web-based guide to faculty research opportunities for undergraduate students at UT. It features an online directory of faculty research interests and serves as an interactive information repository for students interested in research.

### **Project highlights from ~FASTTex and IITAP (DIIA)**

Outstanding projects from the 2006 Innovative Instructional Technology Awards Program (IITAP) and Faculty and Student Teams for Technology (~FASTTex) feature creative examples of teaching with technology and resource development. Projects range from experiential learning, simulations, visualizations, to self-evaluation, and were developed with tools such as mobile technologies, Flash, and Maya.

### **Instructional Assessment Resources (DIIA)**

The Instructional Assessment Resources (IAR) Web site provides tools, techniques and instruction on the assessment of classroom instruction, instructional technologies, and instructional programming. See examples of program and technology evaluation, such as DIIA's webcasting impact study results.