

NSWCEG Conference 2007 - Day 1

TIMETABLE

VENUE: Newcastle Panthers

Time	SUNDAY			
9am	Registration Begins			
9.30	Open and Welcome			
10am	Keynote 1 : Dan Morris			
10.30				
11am	Morning Tea - Exhibition opens			
Room				
11.30	Session 1 (60 mins)			
12pm	<p>Creating Web Sites with WebBlender - Part 1 Gene Bias</p> <p>Keeping Connected: Student online projects Sally Blackwell</p>	<p>Just Another Tool: Beyond Authentic Learning and Psycho-pedagogy Associate Professor Mark Brown</p>	<p>Developing student podcasters through peer tutoring at a regional Australian high school Anthony Chan and Mark J.W. Lee</p>	<p>Creative Digital Storytelling and Production with Finn Cragg Multimedia. Martin Davidson</p>
12.30	Session 2 (60 mins)			
	<p>Linking Teaching and Learning with ICT Simon Walsh</p> <p>Intro to AT Michael Berryman and Kathy Prasad</p>	<p>Keep IT Simple Semir Mustovic</p>	<p>A Project-Based Learning approach to promoting relevance and authenticity for pre-service teachers studying an undergraduate information technology subject Anthony Chan and Mark J.W. Lee</p>	<p>Atomic Learning as an effective just-in-time training tool. Bryn Jones</p>
1.30	Lunch (60 mins)			
2.30	Session 3 (60 mins)			
	<p>Creating Web Sites with WebBlender - Part 2 Gene Bias</p> <p>eSyllabus from Board of Studies Peter Starkey</p>	<p>Podcasts in Education Greg Preston</p>	<p>Software Design and Development (SDD) Y11-Y12 major projects - using peripherals Ian Parker</p>	<p>Online PD Using Moodle - Part 1 Bryn Jones</p>
3.30	Afternoon Tea			
4pm	Keynote 2 (60 mins) Gene Bias			
5pm	Session 4 (60 mins)			
	<p>Unified Wireless Networks Steven Sia</p> <p>Science Simulations - How to use them effectively in your classroom Michael O'Brien</p>	<p>Robotics with Educational Experience Bernard Catt</p>	<p>Developing Technology Together: What has it meant for our schools? Renata Phelps & Damien O'Brien</p>	<p>Engagement: How do we convince the unbelievers? Dr Chris Reading</p>
6pm	Exhibition Mingling			
6.30	Pre Dinner Drinks			
7.30	Conference Dinner			

Time	MONDAY			
9am	Housekeeping and Welcome to Day 2			
9.30	Keynote 3 (30 mins) : Ken Dixon			
	Session 5 (60 mins)			
10am	Creating Web Sites with WebBlender - Part 3 Gene Bias eSyllabus from Board of Studies Peter Starkey	Robotics with Educational Experience Bernard Catt	Professional Development for 21 st Century Skills Sally Blackwell and Ludmila Fedorovitch	"Tools for Schools" - integrating technologies: Ian Parker
11am	Morning Tea (30 Mins)			
11.30	Session 6 (60 mins)			
	SiMERR Project Activity Part 1 C Webber, T Van Zetten & G Mellor AutoHotkey Workshop Andrew Downie	Professional Development for 21 st Century Skills Sally Blackwell and Ludmila Fedorovitch	Creative Digital Storytelling and Production with Finn Cragg Multimedia. Martin Davidson	Software for the Primary Classroom and the Interactive Whiteboard Pete Dailhou
12.30	Lunch (60 mins)			
1:30	Session 7 (60 mins)			
	"Podcasting for Dummies" Kristian Jackson	Creative Digital Storytelling and Production with Finn Cragg Multimedia. Martin Davidson	SiMERR Project Activity Part 2 C Webber, T Van Zetten & G Mellor	Mobility solutions Steven Sia A play classroom Response System Pete Dailhou
2:30	Session 8 (60 mins)			
	Creating Web Sites with WebBlender - Part 4 Gene Bias	Creating a Course in Moodle - Part 2 Bryn Jones	Keep IT Simple Semir Mustovic	Introducing Alphasmart Dana and Neo Pete Dailhou
3:30	Closing Keynote - Greg Whitby			
4:30	Afternoon Tea - Exhibition Closes			

Details of the concurrent sessions on the pages that follow:

Session 1

NSWCEG Conference 2007 PROGRAM

Creative Digital Storytelling and Production with Finn Cragg Multimedia. Martin Davidson - Creative Director - Finn Cragg AnimatED Publishing

Finn Cragg multimedia resources are centred around extremely engaging CGI animations and are currently being used in Australian and overseas schools. Students use these resources to create their own stories in a variety of new media. Finn Cragg Digital Author, Martin Davidson, will share examples of student work produced using Finn Cragg's CARAVAN and EMU AND THE FLYING DOCTOR multimedia resources - storyboards, graphic novellas/comics, animatics and video clips.

Martin will demonstrate how a marriage of ITC, media, the arts and literacy education can form the foundations for aspiring storytellers to develop the skills necessary in the digital world.

Martin will show some stimulating ways to lay the necessary foundations based on Finn Cragg's experiences with Australian schools.

Sample multimedia will be made available for attendees to 'have a go' - so bring your laptop!

Creating Web Sites with WebBlender - Part 1 Gene Bias

You will explore ideas and samples for using WebBlender in the classroom. You will view sample teacher web sites and discuss web page design issues. You will then plan your web site and use WebBlender to add text, images, animations, navigation, and more to it.

Keeping Connected: Student online projects

Sally Blackwell Senior Project Officer New South Wales Department of Education and Training, Centre for Learning Innovation
Communication and collaboration are keys for learning. Experience a number of student internet projects provided by the Centre for Learning Innovation to connect students, to give them a voice and to make learning an interactive process.

Developing student podcasters through peer tutoring at a regional Australian high school Anthony Chan and Mark J.W. Lee - Charles Sturt University

This paper reports on a trial/pilot study in which Year 8 and 9 students at a high school in regional New South Wales developed skills in educational podcasting. The study was part of an ongoing initiative of the high school and a university that serves the region in which it is located, to use 2.0 technologies to promote collaborative learning and knowledge sharing across multiple subject domains. The students' task was to work in teams to each produce a short, three to five minute audio segment to accompany the school's weekly newsletter, for dissemination to their peers, parents and the wider school community. A group of volunteer university students who had been involved in podcasting at an undergraduate level provided tutoring and mentoring to the high school students to assist them in becoming competent in the script writing and editing process, as well as technical facets of podcasting relating to the recording, editing and distribution of digital audio files. This exercise has been a valuable learning experience for both the university students, who consolidated their knowledge through, as well as the high school students, who developed a range of skills including but not limited to script writing, research, teamwork and oral presentation skills. Samples of the students' work will be showcased at the conference, in addition to discussing lessons learnt from the exercise and outlining the researchers' future plans. A future article, to be submitted to the Journal of Information Transfer, will report on the researchers' work in a follow-up study in which students at the school are creating subject-related podcasts for their classmates across the learning areas of Science, Mathematics and History.

Just Another Tool: Beyond Authentic Learning and Psycho-pedagogy Associate Professor Mark Brown - Massey University

This paper reviews the so-called new ways of learning and challenges teachers to think more deeply about some of the popular catechisms associated with the use of new digital technology. The paper argues that more to understanding e-learning than contemporary psychology has to offer. In the rush to wire up and mobilise schools the teaching profession must not lose sight of the moral, ethical, and political dimensions of "authentic" pedagogy for critical citizenship. The paper argues that the metaphor of new digital technology as just another tool is naïve and potentially dangerous; a lot of misinformation, dissembling language and even propaganda is associated with the new digital curriculum. After all, the curriculum is never a neutral assemblage of knowledge as it lies at the heart of a political struggle over what teachers should do and how the curriculum should be taught. In peeling away some of the competing and coexisting rationale for technology-driven curriculum reform, concern is expressed that blind faith in new digital technology may be steering the teaching profession further away from the time honored goals of education—that is, promoting equality, fairness and social justice.

Session 2

A Project-Based Learning approach to promoting relevance and authenticity for pre-service teachers studying an undergraduate information technology subject

Anthony Chan and Mark J.W. Lee - Charles Sturt University

The contemporary approach to teaching ICT favoured by many teacher education schools appears to be an integrated one, in which technology is taught holistically with pedagogical content knowledge and skills. However, in some contexts, constraints related to economies of scale and/or the availability of ICT expertise may dictate that some or all of these components are delivered as separate subjects. Information Superhighway, a technical subject on Internet technologies and web authoring, was designed primarily for students majoring in information technology at Charles Sturt University. This paper describes how the learning and assessment strategies were customised to suit the specific needs and interests of Bachelor of Education and Bachelor of Teaching students, without impacting on the other students in the class. Through the adoption of a project-based learning approach and working in partnership with a local high school, the pre-service teachers were motivated and encouraged to learn about ICT and perceived their learning to be highly relevant to their future professional practice in schools.

Keep IT Simple

Semir Mustovic - 2Simple Software Australia

Founded by ex-teachers and IT professionals, 2Simple makes award-winning software that is simple, powerful and creative. We have a clear mission to “keep IT simple” at the cutting edge of the ICT curriculum. We are committed to improving teaching and learning.

Our applications are designed to meet the development needs of Early Years and Primary school children. We are pleased to announce that 2Simple is now available in Australian/New Zealand versions. Our office will be able to help Australian and New Zealand schools with advice, sales, support and training. Come and have a look!

Intro to AT

Michael Berryman and Kathy Prasad

This presentation will provide participants with an overview of Assistive Technology, the kinds of technology available to people with disabilities and how that equipment may assist them within their everyday lives.

By the end of this session, participants will:

- Describe a variety of ways a person with a disability may be able to optimise access to standard technology equipment
- Describe a range of handwriting alternatives
- Describe a range of alternate access modes available for computers
- Describe a range of communication options and devices
- Describe a range of alternate access modes available for everyday appliances

Key Topics

- Who are CATS?
- What do CATS do?
- What is Assistive Technology?
- How does Assistive Technology apply to handwriting, computers, computer software and communication?
- What additional alterations can be made for people with disabilities?

Atomic Learning as an effective just-in-time training tool.

Bryn Jones - ICTPD Services

Atomic Learning is an award winning and cost-effective software training and support resource. It provides over 25,000 short video tutorials covering 100 software applications and ready to use projects. Workshop participants will learn more about Atomic Learning and see how it can be used in a variety of ways from just-in-time support to the production of customised training material and desk functions. Schools that use Atomic Learning may be available to discuss their experience: effective strategies for its use. There will be lots of opportunity to ask questions and try it out to improve a few personal skills.

Linking Teaching and Learning with ICT

Simon Walsh, Director - Ideal Resources Pty Ltd

It has been claimed that for most Australian teachers, IWBs are nothing more than a novelty. Most agree that they are an effective way of using technology in a whole class setting and the exploitation of e-content but what content?

This practical ‘hands on’ session will demonstrate quality e-learning content and introduce new technologies in interactive teaching in a primary setting.

Session 3 Software Design and Development (SDD) Y11-Y12 major projects - using peripherals
Ian Parker

A number of projects I have given students for their SDD major project. They all make use of a hardware serial port peripheral device, such as RFID reader, GPS receiver and microprocessor that can be used to control a model car, or in one case move a slide on a microscope stage I believe it has considerably enhanced their understanding of many aspects of SDD. Last year two students gained early entry into Uni of Wollongong on the strength of their projects.

Creating Web Sites with WebBlender - Part 2
Gene Bias

You will explore ideas and samples for using WebBlender in the classroom. You will view sample teacher web sites and discuss web page design issues. You will then plan your web site and use WebBlender to add text, images, animations, navigation, and more to it.

eSyllabus from Board of Studies
Peter Starkey - BOS

This presentation covers the changes the BOS is making regarding the manner in which syllabuses and support material is currently presented and the new website to provide this information. I call this project eSyllabus and I will present the new syllabus format from a staging site where it currently resides, it will be a live demo, not death by powerpoint, so I will need a data projector and an active broadband connection. I will be asking the participants to provide feedback on this website and unfortunately it is not a hands on demo as the site is hidden away and protected, in fact it has not been shown outside the BOS, the CEG will be the first time the site will be viewed publically BUT remember it is still in beta production.

Online PD Using Moodle - Part 1
Bryn Jones - ICTPD Services

Participants will have an opportunity to explore the issues, benefits and challenges of providing professional learning for teachers from a range of backgrounds and locations including remote isolated areas. They will examine a course designed and delivered using Moodle, an environment that was developed specifically to support a constructivist approach to learning. Participants will be provided with access to an online course. This workshop will focus on the challenges of providing online professional development for teachers rather than the detailed use of Moodle. A second workshop will provide participants with an opportunity to learn more about Moodle.

Podcasts in Education
Greg Preston - The University of Newcastle

This session will provide a review of the use of podcasts in Education. Consideration will be given to various modes of podcast use, and the learning theories underpinning these approaches. Examples will be provided of these styles. Additionally, resources will be explored which allow teachers to use podcasts in classroom situations.

Session 4 Engagement: How do we convince the unbelievers?

Dr Chris Reading - SiMERR National Centre, University of New England
Engagement is a critical element of the ideal Quality Learning Environment outlined in the Quality Teaching Model for pedagogy. The expectation of engagement, and claims of occurrence of engagement, are often connected with the use of ICT in the classroom. This session will explore the nature of engagement and how this might be recognised and reported on when ICTs are used for learning. Some experiences from projects undertaken in NSW primary schools are shared. The opportunity will be provided to explore possible indicators that could be used to assess engagement for future implementations of ICT in learning.

Unified Wireless Networks and Mobility

Steven Sia – D-Link

Over just a short few years wireless adoption has grown exponentially, whipping up a storm in all markets. Hot on the heels of this expansion is a need to better manage the deployment and maintenance of wireless networks, with scalable, fault tolerant solutions. D-link will demonstrate the latest Wireless Switching technology and discuss recent C.E.O. implementations.

Beyond the product we explore D-Link partner development programmes, our certified training courses, and other initiatives creating the network of people who support your network.

Science Simulations – How to use them effectively in your classroom

Michael O'Brien - Newbyte Educational Software

Good simulations are some of the most valuable teaching tools we have in science – however, do we use them as effectively as we could? Using examples produced in Australia we will examine various techniques for extracting the maximum benefit from this style of software. The simulations will cover areas of ecology, genetics, enzymes, chemistry and radioactivity. Attendees will receive a fully function demonstration CD to take home and several will win a fully licensed package. Michael was a science teacher before becoming a software developer and international consultant in the area of interactive teaching tools.

Robotics with Educational Experience

Bernard Catt

To introduce a range of robotics, control technology, energy, and machines products for teaching a wide variety of curriculum areas in primary and secondary schools. This is a hands on, practical workshop for Teachers.

Developing *Technology Together*: What has it meant for our schools?

Renata Phelps, Centre for Children and Young People, Southern Cross University

Damian O'Bryan, St James Primary, Yamba

Professional development of teachers in information and communication technology (ICT) continues to be an urgent educational imperative. While many teachers are integrating ICT (with varying degrees of confidence and creativity), there are still a significant number who remain hesitant, reluctant or simply stick with what they are most comfortable at. Many teachers are daunted by the rapid rate of technological change, and have difficulty coming to terms with the feeling that they will never 'know enough'. Far from being a simple process, ICT professional development necessitates not only personal and professional changes for individuals, but changes in school culture. This paper describes a professional development program known as *Technology Together* that has been collaboratively developed through a three year action research project funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC). The approach focuses on the values, attitudes, beliefs, confidence and learning strategies of teachers, and on building a culture within a school that supports ICT capability, not just competency. Teachers involved in the project will discuss the process of implementing *Technology Together*, what involvement meant for their schools and the impact it has had on their school culture. The consolidated report from the research will be available for conference participants who are interested in knowing more about the research resultant professional development approach.

Session 5 "Tools for Schools" - integrating technologies –

Ian Parker

This next project (Tools for Schools) mainly uses Apple technologies. The second would deal with the development of workflow tools for teachers in a school using: PDA (and iSync), laptop, workstation, Apple servers, Using Filemaker Pro, Apache Web Server with php, AppleScripts, iCal, Wiki. Basically the system is for administration but I am building on modules such as a Wiki, and course management modules. This system is not an (Integrated learning System) ILS in that it is not meant to be the focus of a student's work. The core focus is the teacher and what the teacher needs to perform his/her duties. For example I have implemented a teacher's daybook in FMPPro that links into the Web and an iCal calendaring system. Most admin systems have the ****admin**** functions as the core focus. I note that it looks likely that the next version of MacOS X ie. 10.5 (Leopard) may implement some of what I have done but more consistently. I have tried to build a system based on readily available tools. I would be interested in setting up a Special Interest Group of people interested in developing this system. Much of the software is based on Open Source software and I am willing to share it (free!) with people willing to contribute to its further development.

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Session 6 AutoHotkey Workshop

Andrew Downie SEO, Adaptive Technologies, Connected Learning Team Centre for Learning Innovation

AutoHotkey is free, open-source scripting software for Windows. It allows automation of a vast range of tasks and has huge potential to be of benefit to a wide variety of students who have special needs.

Workshop Outline

There will be two major components to the workshop. Initial focus will be on the types of tasks that can be performed with AutoHotkey, together with practical examples. Towards the end of the workshop, participants interested in learning the scripting language will be taken through some coding examples. People who attend the workshop will be offered follow-up support. Subject to time constraints and complexity of the task, I would be happy to write scripts to meet individual needs. I am also more than happy to provide support to those who are prepared

Professional Development for 21st Century Skills

Sally Blackwell Senior Project Officer New South Wales Department of Education and Training, Centre for Learning Innovation and Ludmila Fedorovitch Education Program Manager Intel Australia

The Intel(r) Teach Program is a professional development program that helps K-12 class teachers effectively integrate information and communication technology (ICT) into the classroom to enhance student learning. Over 10,000 Australia teachers have successfully completed the program. Teachers trained in the Intel Teach Essentials Course are better prepared to support today's students in developing 21st century skills particularly digital literacy, problem solving, critical thinking and collaboration. The Essentials Course strongly aligns to the NSW Quality Teaching strategy and the program evaluation highlights the positive changes that are occurring in schools who participate in the Essentials Course. The Essentials course has been accredited by the New South Wales Institute of Teachers. In a joint presentation from the New South Wales Department of Education and Training and Intel, delegates will leave the session with an understanding of the Essentials Course goals; unit portfolios developed by NSW teachers; understand the program impact in NSW government schools and receive an introduction to the free teaching resources available on the Australian Education website (www.intel.com/education/au). Finally, there will be a preview of the new Teach Thinking with Technology Course where teachers build on ICT integration skills by using online tools with students to support higher order thinking.

Creating Web Sites with WebBlender - Part 3

Gene Bias

You will explore ideas and samples for using WebBlender in the classroom. You will view sample teacher web sites and discuss web page design issues. You will then plan your web site and use WebBlender to add text, images, animations, navigation, and more to it.

eSyllabus from Board of Studies

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AutoHotkey Features

Just some of the tasks AutoHotkey can perform include

- Abbreviation expansion
- Automation of a wide variety of tasks
- Remap keys and buttons on the keyboard, mouse or joystick
- Identify specific images and colours and perform tasks based on the outcome
- Perform mathematical tasks
- Provide customised user interfaces

Software for the Primary Classroom and The Interactive Whiteboard

Pete Dailhou

A quick look at a range of curriculum software, appropriate to a primary classroom that also works on an interactive white board.

SiMERR Project Activity

C Webber, T Van Zetten and G Mellor

This is a combined project of NSWCEG and CSTA to improve the quality and quantity of Assessment Task Resources for Senior Computing Studies Subjects. This session is to introduce and explain what we have done so far. The second session is to help compile more resources to add to what we have for the project. Benefits to participants will be explained at each session.

Session 7

"Podcasting for Dummies"

Kristian Jackson - Head of Professional Learning Services - MAC1 Head of Professional Learning Services - MAC1

You've heard about them. You may have even heard or seen one, but have you made one? Far more than a passing craze, Podcasts have become an invaluable learning experience for students of all ages. Learn how to implement one of the easiest teaching and learning tools into your classroom.

Creative Digital Storytelling and Production with Finn Cragg Multimedia.

Martin Davidson - Creative Director - Finn Cragg AnimatED Publishing

Finn Cragg multimedia resources are centred around extremely engaging CGI animations and are currently being used in Australian and overseas' schools. Students use these resources to create their own stories in a variety of new media. Finn Cragg Digital Author, Martin Davidson, will share examples of student work produced using Finn Cragg's CARAVAN and EMU AND THE FLYING DOCTOR multimedia resources - storyboards, graphic novellas/comics, animatics and video clips.

Martin will demonstrate how a marriage of ITC, media, the arts and literacy education can form the foundations for aspiring storytellers to develop the skills necessary in the digital world.

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A play with the Classroom Response System

Pete Dailhou

What is a Classroom Response System (CRS)? How does it work, what can you do with one? Imagine a classroom where all of you students fully participate S where all of them are brimming with enthusiasm for learningS. Where you can instantly assess how they are doing on quizzes tests and formative assessments to help you better guide instruction. Now you can do all of this and more with the classroom response system

SiMERR Project Activity Part 2

C Webber, T Van Zetten and G Mellor

This is a combined project of NSWCEG and CSTA to improve the quality and quantity of Assessment Task Resources for Senior Computing Studies Subjects. This session is to develop other Assessment Tasks or obtain Assessment Tasks from participants. As a result, they will be included in the SiMERR Project and they will receive their own copy when the Project is finished all the tasks. This session is to look at Assessment Tasks that have been created.

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Steven Sia - D-Link

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Title - Creating a Course in Moodle –Part 2

Bryn Jones - ICTPD Services

Participants will have an opportunity to explore the features of Moodle and see how it can be used to design and deliver courses. Moodle is an open source online learning environment developed specifically to support a constructivist approach to learning. It provides structured course content, assessment, email lists, chat rooms, messaging, forums, journals and communication and is relatively simple to use. Participants will become learners in a course to explore Moodle's functions and features and can then play the role of teacher with an opportunity to create a trial course and maintain it for a period.

Introducing the AlphaSmart Dana & Neo

Pete Dailhou

The AlphaSmart Dana is a Palm Powered Computer. It is shipped with a Microsoft compatible word processor, spreadsheet, chart and slideshow. They are used extensively for writing and keyboard skills. There is a wide variety of curriculum software available for the Dana. The AlphaSmart Neo is a note taker that is gaining acceptance in Special Needs and in primary schools as a very simple, robust note taker. It comes complete with a keyboarding program, quiz maker and IR communications. It is ideal for teaching writing skill and note taking