Name: Dr. Marc Spooner

Faculty: Education

Title of Project: Inter-institutional Collaborations and Learning-Enhanced Re-presentations of Lectures

Overview of project's teaching and learning goals (1 paragraph):

There were three main components to the project: a) testing the feasibility of inter-faculty, inter-institutional videoconference-enabled collaborations, b) employing learning theory (e.g., Constructivism, Authentic Learning, Multiple Intelligences) to underpin the creation of Learning-Enhanced Re-presentations (LERs). Briefly, LERs are basically, 7-15 minute class snippets that when used in conjunction with blogging applications/sites, such as Wordpress, allow for the development of value-added extensions to the traditional lecture and learning community. LERs permit students to use a wide spectrum of intelligences and sign systems through which humans think and communicate thus increasing the potential for optimizing learning and knowledge translation. They represent an ideal vehicle for delivering a learning experience that includes: 1) an opportunity to re-visit and re-reflect upon particular exchanges that took place during the face-to-face class and videoconference presentations; 2) added commentary or further explications of reviewed concepts with links to supplementary textual, visual, or auditory resources; as well as 3) active community engagement with members/students being prompted to produce commentary and original content reflecting their understanding and personal construction of the concepts being examined via student-produced podcasts, graphic/visual representations, poetry, and/or other re-constructed artefacts of their learning, c) finally, students were asked to respond and critique the present project's unique approach to teaching and learning and technology (interviews completed, analysis under way).

Outcomes achieved:

Peer-reviewed National conferences:


**Peer-reviewed International conferences:**


- Panel presentation: Spooner, M (2008, October). *The Teaching and Learning Scholars Initiative at the University of Regina.* The International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning Annual meeting, Edmonton, AB.
  With Ken Leyton-Brown

**Invited Speaker:**


**Local Presentations:**

- Presented at several TGIF (Talking about Good (teaching) Ideas on Friday) sessions for TDC March 14 “Doing SoTL projects”

- Presented TGIF (Talking about Good (teaching) Ideas on Friday) April 15th “Technologies and Stories of How This Technology is Being Used – With Julie Machnaik, Marc Spooner & Glenn Enright

- Presented on a panel on Oct. 24th to discuss sessions attended at ISSoTL 2008 as part of Innovative Teaching with Technology Seminar Series

**Next Steps:**

This promising research avenue examining teaching and learning and technology has moved to a second phase where I have received funding to continue from:
- Teaching and Learning Scholar 2009 call ~$3 000
- President’s SSHRC fund ~$5 000
Local Impact:

I have also received this feedback via email stemming from one of my presentations here at the University of Regina:

“Hi Marc,

I've just finished marking final projects for my Music Cultures of the World course, and had to write to thank you for the idea of requesting artifacts of learning rather than just traditional essays. I've had some truly wonderful submissions! Here are a few of the most outstanding:
- a composition for erhu (Chinese violin) and piano, composed, performed, recorded, and mixed (he played both parts) by a talented 4th-year violin & composition major.
- a set of beautiful paintings and collages created while listening to and reflecting on various recordings.
- an interview with a student's Russian grandmother (done by an aunt who still speaks Russian) about the music she heard growing up in Russian under Stalin.
- a really thoughtful essay about how spirituality is reflected in music from different world music performers.

Plus several Power Point and web site presentations.

So thanks again for this terrific idea! I think that the freedom students felt in their choice of topic and medium allowed them to show a much greater range of responses to the ideas we discussed in the course. I think they also spent a lot more time and effort on the projects because they were more interested and motivated, with more of a sense of ownership. And it was so much more fun than reading lots of essays....

Very best wishes for the holidays, and for a terrific New Year.

Pauline

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