

# 2015 CIT Faculty Technology Showcase Program

The University of Alabama  
Gordon Palmer Hall, Room A232

**9:00-9:50**

## **Just flip it: The benefits [of the flipped classroom] for faculty and students**

*Laurie Bonnici, Katherine Klose and Kendra Perry-Mullis*

Flipped Learning is a pedagogical approach in which direct instruction moves from the group learning space to the individual learning space, and the resulting group space is transformed into a dynamic, interactive learning environment where the educator guides students as they apply concepts and engage creatively in the subject matter (Flipped Learning Network 2015). In this session, the benefits of the flipped classroom will be presented. Perspectives are discussed by instructional designers and faculty with experience employing the flipped classroom model.

## **To Click or Not to Click—**

*Rainer Schad*

This presentation is an exploration of clickers and other audience response tools as a way to reclaim the classroom from distractions. Take advantage of practically universal wireless connectivity in order to poll and engage students in-class rather than allowing that same connectivity to distract students with Facebook. Beyond student engagement, other welcome results and possible challenges will also be explored.

## **Teaching Classics with Modern Technology**

*Alecia Chatham (9-9:30)*

This presentation focuses on the innovative ways the Classics Program at UA jumps into the challenges brought on by the rapidly increasing demand for the use of technology in teaching and the lack of information and resources readily available to meet this challenge specifically with ancient languages. Our program is currently exploring solutions with each new group of students that help not only our own students, but also those of anyone who can learn from our journey into this new way of teaching.

## **Helping Students Feel like Students: Fully Online, High-Volume Classes with McGraw-Hill's Connect**

*Tiffany Guidry*

Students taking high enrollment, fully online courses have a tendency to feel less like a student and more like a number. The tools available through McGraw-Hill's Connect platform help students reclaim the feeling of being a student, while letting Instructors focus on the student instead of just on the numbers.

## **10-10:50**

### **Student Perceptions of Engagement in an Online Course (MyStudentSuccess Lab for distance learning)**

*Jennifer Humber*

In order to facilitate advising relationships with students enrolled in a distance business undergraduate program, an online Orientation course was developed and required of incoming students admitted to the program. With the assistance of instructional designers of the College of Continuing Studies and Pearson Education, Inc., we developed an interactive online course that includes a variety of presentations, videos, websites, and group activities to enhance the engagement of learners by building an online community. In addition to showcasing the course design, qualitative case study results will be presented that share students' perceptions of engagement in this online course.

### **VideoScribe: Easy Animation for Engaging Videos**

*Josh Sahib*

Learn about the VideoScribe desktop and iPad app. VideoScribe requires minimal technical and artistic ability and can be used to create short animated whiteboard videos.

### **Nyingi: Designing a Game to Teach Multiplicative Reasoning**

*André Denham*

Designing and developing games for learning is a difficult endeavor. Educational game designers are tasked with not just making an engaging and motivating game, but ensuring that learning takes place as a result of gameplay. This presentation will report on the effectiveness of a design and develop approach centered on play testing in order to ensure the proper intrinsic integration of multiplication properties, concepts, and strategies within the game's mechanics.

### **People.ua.edu – Welcome to Easy**

*Karen Burns*

People.ua.edu offers a simple web development tool for all UA faculty members and graduate students. Try it out and learn how you, too, can have a professional website.

## **11-11:50**

### **Roving Reference: Combating Library Anxiety by Extroverting the Reference Desk**

*Jennifer L. Pate and Kayla Johnson*

To combat library anxiety, the University of Alabama Libraries has started a Roving Reference program that utilizes our student workers at the Information Desk. Armed with iPads, these student workers, all of whom are graduate students in the LIS program, rove each floor of the library looking for patrons who may be in need of assistance. This roving program helps the anxious student in the stacks find what s/he needs while also teaching the LIS student worker how to conduct a reference interview away from the desk.

## **Creating an Automated, Modern Web Development Workflow Using Bower, Angular, and Grunt**

*Will Jones*

To give users the tools they need, web developers need tools of their own to efficiently build and manage their web applications. AngularJS allows you to easily build modular, templated, data-bound web interfaces; Bower allows effortless management of third-party dependencies; and GruntJS makes automating repetitive tasks a cinch—file concatenation, minification, obfuscation, deployment, and more with one command.

## **Acumen Digital Archives Explorer: New Functions and Features**

*Kathryn Matheny*

Recently, UA Libraries' digital archives interface, Acumen, saw an upgrade to its viewer and exciting developments in its functionality. This presentation provides a demonstration of the interface, especially recent search enhancements, new ways to extract content, and an integrated tagging and transcription system.

**12:12-50**

## **EMNON: Using Digital Humanities in the Classroom to Engage With Historical Knowledge Networks**

*Emma Annette Wilson*

This presentation introduces EMNON or the Early Modern Network Of Networks, an online project using Digital Humanities techniques to visualize the social and intellectual connections and relationships among prominent writers and thinkers in England in the seventeenth-century. EMNON was conceived, designed, and built by Dr. Emma Annette Wilson and her graduate students from the Department of English in course EN666 in Fall 2014, working in the Alabama Digital Humanities Center, and whilst it is still a work in progress, this presentation will explore what was achieved in a 14 week period.

## **Non-Standard Uses of Blackboard Learn**

*Randy DeCelle*

While Blackboard Learn has many features that are useful for classroom situations, it can also be used in non-academic situations within the university. The Department of Theatre and Dance uses Blackboard Learn as a data collection tool within its production department and is in the process of developing methods to use its organizational capabilities to handle aspects of productions. Demonstrations of how Blackboard is used for these situations will be shown and questions can be presented as how to think outside of the box with Blackboard.

## **Student Testing at ODS: Faculty Update**

*Heather Baker*

When students registered with the Office of Disability Services (ODS) have testing accommodations, whether for extended time, a quiet environment, or the use of specialized technology, students can schedule to take their tests at ODS. Starting this summer, ODS will be moving to an online test scheduling system with an updated faculty confirmation component.

## **The Capstone College of Nursing Accessibility Plan**

*Rachel S. Thompson and Karen Silliman*

Technology accessibility is important in higher education because it is a federal requirement, it helps us reach current and potential students, and it is the right thing to do! The Capstone College of Nursing has begun its accessibility initiative with a focus on college web and instructional technologies. This presentation will explore the College's plan and rationale, as well as share accessibility best practices for higher education.

Sponsors include: Blackboard Inc., Turning Technologies, Extron Electronics, The University of Alabama SUPE Store, and the Paul W. Bryant Museum