

May 2014



[Spring Workshop 2014] Keynote and Facilitators

Keynote: Dr. Jentery Sayers Jentery Sayers is Assistant Professor of English and Director of the Maker Lab in the Humanities (<http://maker.uvic.ca/>) at the University of Victoria. His research interests include

comparative media studies, sound studies, and computers and composition. His work has appeared in *American Literature*; *Digital Studies / Le champ numérique*, *e-Media Studies*; the *International Journal of Learning and Media*; *Kairos: Rhetoric, Technology, and ...*

[Read more.](#)



Meet Michelle Harrison at TRU

Submitted by Melissa Jakubec at TRU

Tell us a bit about where you work and what you do.

Michelle is an instructional designer at Thompson Rivers University in the Open Learning Division, a major distance education provider in Canada. She manages course development teams. She mostly works on math and science courses, but has also been involved in the Master of Education and Graduate Certificate in Online Teaching and Learning, in which she also teaches. She will soon be chair of the Instructional Design Department.

How long have you been involved in teaching and Learning and ed technology?

I've been an instructional designer for the past 8 years, but prior to that I was a K-12 teacher. I used educational technology in teaching science and math in China. It was also during this time that I completed my Master's degree in Distributed Learning through Royal Roads University. I am currently a doctoral candidate at Lancaster University, studying people's perceptions of their learning spaces.

What's one thing you really love about the work you do?

I get to work with a great team and it's always exciting to see the end product come together. When you get to see ideas implemented to solve a problem it's fun! I particularly enjoy having the opportunity to implement multimedia in our courses. Lots of people don't have access to the resources we have here at TRU.

How long have you been a member of ETUG?

About 7 years.

What do you like best about this community and its activities?

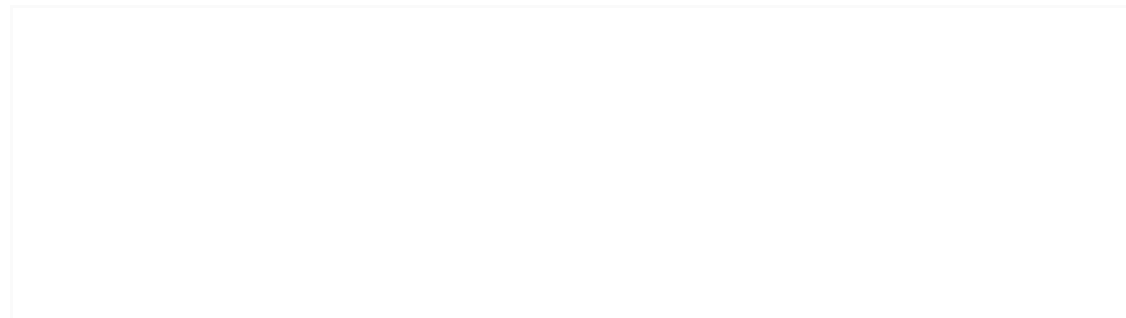
I enjoy all the different perspectives. The ETUG conference is always one of the best professional gatherings each year – I love that it highlights innovation here in BC. It's also a very welcoming community.

Do you have any special interests/hobbies?

I'm an avid skier, mountain biker, gardener, reader, student and environmental advocate. I try to live as sustainably as possible.

Anything special you want to ask or share with members?

After spending the last 10 months wandering the globe, it is always great to get such a warm welcome back from this engaging community and I also enjoyed checking in on ETUG activities as we travelled. That's the great thing about being online – you can check in and participate from anywhere. Highlights of our trip were hiking in Iceland and Ethiopia, hanging out in Italy, snorkelling in Sulawesi, Indonesia and surfing and watching elephants in Sri Lanka – too many memories to capture all.





Institutional Report: College of the Rockies (COTR)

This post contributed by Gina Bennett, COTR and SCETUG member.

Over the past year, we've experienced a period of steady, reasoned growth in educational technology uptake at College of the Rockies. We upgraded our Moodle server, and introduced SMARTboards, clickers and lecture-capture to even more of our faculty. Pushing a little bit beyond the status quo, we managed to increase faculty exploration of three new multimedia apps to enrich curriculum:

- many faculty jumped at the opportunity to use PoodLL to add audio input and feedback into their Moodle courses
- a couple of faculty added more video-based activities and assignments to help us pilot our shared service Kaltura video platform (check it out at [https://stream.cotr.bc.ca/!](https://stream.cotr.bc.ca/))
- a few brave souls played with our pilot version of BigBlueButton, a very promising synchronous classroom environment (like Adobe Connect or Bb Collaborate, only open source and arguably easier to use).

In the past academic year we've also seen much stronger uptake of online learning resources among our Trades-related programs, with levels of involvement varying from the adoption of online quizzing options (e.g. for our Hairstyling program) all the way to fully online learning (e.g. for the theory portion of Fire Training programs). We made some modest inroads with the Open Textbooks movement, gradually getting the word out and encouraging some interest among faculty in the potential for adopting, editing and authoring open texts.

The past year has been barely above status quo for educational technology innovation -- but the coming year promises to be MUCH more exciting. We have new leadership: president David Walls just joined us last August, Marilyn Petersen became (Acting) VP Education in January, and we are currently in the process of crafting a new Strategic Plan. Our library has received approval to develop a Learning Commons and we have a brand-new teaching and learning concept in the works which will be called the Inspire Centre. Given all the institutional changes (current or in the works), we're anticipating some newsworthy developments in how we adopt and integrate technology for education in the coming academic year.



[T.e.I.I. May] The BCcampus Sandbox

Title: The BCcampus **Sandbox**

When: 12 Noon (PDT) , May 27th, 2014

Who: Frank Fucile - Manager, Collaborative Services - BCcampus

Where: Big Blue Button URL: bcc.blindsidenetworks.net/bcc/

To join the session:

Full Name: First Name + Last Name@ Institution ie Frank Fucile@BCcampus

Room: Choose BCC -- Room 4 (recorded) from the drop down menu

Password: student << JOIN THIS SESSION >>

If you are new to using Big Blue Button take a few minutes ...

[Read more.](#)



[\[T.e.I.I. May Summary\] Do you Poodll when you Moodle?](#)

This post contributed by Leva Lee. We missed our April T.e.I.I. session so we are doubling your happiness by offering two Tuesday lunch and learn webinars for the month of May. Last week, our T.e.I.I. was facilitated by the ineffable Gina Bennett, eLearning Specialist at College of the Rockies, a long-time SCETUGger and Moodler. Her session, though designed initially for newbies of ...

[Read more.](#)



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