

# Learning Design and Technology

Fall 2015 Newsletter

**Learning Design & Technology**  
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Learning Design and Technology  
Purdue University



## Happy Holidays from the LDT Program!

The annual fall newsletter for the alumni and friends of the Learning Design and Technology program at Purdue University is coming to you a little later than usual this year. That's okay! It gives us an opportunity to wish you happy holidays and a terrific new year.

On campus, we're ready to say goodbye to the fall season. It was a year to forget for Purdue on the gridiron, but hopes are high for the hardwood this year. Go Boilers!

The university continues to have a strong focus on affordability and student success. Digital learning, long a focus of the LDT program, is getting attention on campus with a new initiative from the Office of the Provost. LDT faculty Tim Newby and Jennifer Richardson serve on the Provost's coordinating committee for the new initiative.

Here in the College of Education, we are wrapping up the silver anniversary of

the creation of an independent School of Education, which had been a department in the old School of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Education. A decade ago, the School of Education became the College of Education as part of a campus-wide change of nomenclature.



## Revamping the PhD Program in LDT

The online master's degree program in Learning Design and Technology has been the focus of much attention for the past several years. Because of that attention, we are pleased to report that the online MEd program is continuing to flourish. However, we realized that we have been not been paying as much attention to our PhD program as we should.

So, the program has begun to consider how we should

adjust our PhD program to keep our graduates prepared for what has become an increasingly competitive environment in higher education. Planning began more than a year ago and culminated in faculty retreats this fall which led to the development of a framework for a revamped PhD program.

A key component of the new PhD program will be a requirement for all students to develop a badge-based e-portfolio. The e-portfolio

will showcase doctoral students' capabilities related to professional goals, research skills, teaching, service, and experience in design and development. To help students in developing their knowledge and skills to be showcased in the portfolio, the program is moving to a model where students will go through a series of seminars and other courses as cohorts as well as participate in research groups to develop personally and professionally.



Jennifer Richardson

## Learning to Teach Online

While universities look to hire ‘teaching ready’ applicants, graduate students often vary widely in their preparation for teaching. Some graduate students get experience teaching college courses independently while others get little or no experience. The situation is even worse when it comes to teaching in an online environment.

**Jennifer Richardson** is working with Chad Mueller, ITaP instructional designer, and Karen Neubauer, from the Center for Instructional

Excellence, on an instructional innovation project that aims to design, develop, and implement a professional development program that will (1) provide a credit-based course to engage graduate students in how to teach online and strengthen their preparedness as future faculty, and (2) offer a webinar series with speakers focusing on best practices in teaching online for the Purdue community.

The course will model a number of strategies and

techniques considered best-practices for online courses. The webinar series for the Purdue community will focus on topics related specifically to teaching online and in some cases blended learning as an extension of online learning.

The program will benefit Purdue’s graduate students preparing to become future faculty as well as current faculty members teaching online. Ultimately, it may serve as a model for other institutions preparing individuals to teach online.



Peg Ertmer

**Peg Ertmer** is currently completing her final semester at Purdue before she begins full retirement in spring 2016.

Although she is retiring, Peg is not slowing down. She continues to teach and publish about both problem- and case-based learning, including how to scaffold teachers’ facilitation efforts.

With **Judy Lewandowski** and Angela van Barneveld (a PhD graduate from our program), she developed a digital tutorial, aimed at helping faculty become more intentional and effective online facilitators. The tutorial, available at <http://tinyurl.com/post-intention>, was showcased at

the AECT conference earlier this fall.

She is currently writing a chapter for the upcoming *Handbook of Research on Problem-based Learning* with Krista Glazewski (a former faculty member) on scaffolding in PBL environments.

## New Position for Faculty Member



Jim Lehman

**Jim Lehman**, long-time LDT faculty member, has been appointed as the Director of the Discovery Learning Research Center ([DLRC](#)). The DLRC is one of the centers that make up Purdue’s Discovery Park, an engine for large-scale interdisciplinary research initiatives on the West Lafayette campus.

The DLRC plays a key role in Discovery Park focusing on advancing education in STEM and related disciplines through interdisciplinary research and innovation in teaching and learning. The DLRC provides state-of-the-art facilities for studying teaching and learning and works with faculty from across campus on

research proposals, assessment and evaluation, undergraduate research, and funded project support. The DLRC advances STEM education research, practice, and communication. In addition to his new role, Jim continues to serve as the associate dean for faculty development in the college.

## Faculty Updates

**Tim Newby** continues to serve as the convener of the LDT program. In addition to graduate courses, Tim teaches the undergraduate introduction to educational technology taken by all teacher education majors. He is continuing to work on converting the course to a badge-based approach.

**Marisa Exter** continues to work with faculty from Purdue Polytech, the College of Liberal Arts, and Libraries to develop the Bachelor of Science in Transdisciplinary Studies in Technology degree program within the Polytech Incubator, a transdisciplinary, competency-based program. In addition to participating in the design of this program, Marisa leads the research and evaluation team which includes LDT doctoral students Iryna Ashby, Secil Caskurlu, Terri Krause, and Anthony Randolph. The team is currently conducting research on a number of topics, including instructor moves in the design lab, the development and support of competencies, and students' self-regulated learning ability.

**Judy Lewandowski** joined the faculty this year as a Clinical Associate Professor. She previously served as a limited term lecturer and as a visiting assistant professor for the 2014-2015 academic year. Judy teaches both traditional and face-to-face courses and serves as the faculty advisor for the Purdue Association of

Learning Design and Technology. In her classes, Judy focuses on connecting the LDT program with the community through service learning projects. In the past year, LDT students have completed service projects for the Indiana Veterans Home, The Lafayette Adult Resource Academy, Hannah House, and also served as technology integration consultants for Indiana K-12 teachers.

**Victoria Walker** serves as the convener of the online MSEd program. With colleagues Anthony A. Piña and Bruce R. Harris, she is co-editing a new book: *What the e-Learning Leader Needs to Know: Leading and Managing e-Learning*. She also serves as associate editor of the *Journal of Game-Supported Interactive Learning*. With graduate student Sha Yang, she published an article this year in the *Journal of Educational Multimedia and Hypermedia*.

**Bill Watson** served as a College of Education Dean's Fellow during the 2015 spring semester, working to implement digital badges through Passport, Purdue's digital badge platform. He continues his work on digital badges and other transformative learning technologies for realizing a personalized paradigm of education. He is conducting research on the application of digital badges for personalized and competency-

based education, and video games and MOOCs for attitudinal learning and change.

**Sunnie Lee Watson** continues to teach and conduct scholarly work in the field of information age, learner-centered education for social justice. She serves on the college Diversity and Social Justice Committee and served on the University's Diversity Transformation Award Panel. In addition, she leads an active LDT research group, the Purdue Action Centered Educational Research (PACER) group, examining case studies of instructional strategies and learning outcomes for attitudinal learning within MOOCs, including such topics as Human Trafficking, Science of Happiness, and Animal Welfare, as well as expert instructor presence and facilitation strategies for case-based-learning within our online master's program.

**Adrie Koehler** is serving as a visiting assistant professor this year. In the spring 2016 semester, she will teach a new LDT course centered on instructional design project management. At the same, she continues to work on research projects focused on case-based learning (with Peg Ertmer and Sunnie Watson) and instructor presence in online environments (with Jennifer Richardson).



Tim Newby



Marisa Exter



Judy Lewandowski



Victoria Walker



Bill Watson



Sunnie Watson



Adrie Koehler

## Awards and Recognitions

**Peg Ertmer** was awarded the David H. Jonassen Excellence in Research Award, which is presented to one AECT member per year who has demonstrated a long term record of excellence in research in the field of instructional design and technology. Peg was also selected as a 2015 AERA Fellow, based on nominations by her peers.

**Jennifer Richardson** received the AECT Division of Distance Learning (DDL) Distance Education Book Award for *Online Learning: Common Misconceptions, Benefits, and Challenges* (2014). With Purdue graduate Cindy York, she also received the 2015 DDL Journal Article Award for an article which appeared in the *Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks* in 2012. Jennifer was also the recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Faculty

Discovery Award in the department and the 2015 Dean's Award for Outstanding Faculty Scholarship for the college.

**Victoria Walker** and graduate students **Daeyeoul Lee** and **Iryna Ashby** received the 2015 AECT Cross-Cultural Research Award sponsored by the Korean Society for Educational Technology. Victoria and Iryna were also the recipients of the 2015 AECT McJulien Scholar Best Paper Award from the Division of Culture Learning and Technology.

**Marisa Exter** and graduate student **Secil Caskurlu** received the 2015 Outstanding Concurrent Session Award from the AECT Division of Organizational Training and Performance.

**Sunnie Lee Watson** was awarded the 2014-2015 Outstanding Faculty Teaching Award for both the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and the College of Education.

**Bill Watson** has been recognized by the Center for Digital Education ([CDE](#)) as an honoree in their Top 30 Technologists, Transformers, & Trailblazers for 2015. The CDE is a national research and advisory institute specializing in K-12 and higher education technology trends, policy and funding. He also gave keynotes in 2015 at Lipscomb University's Driving Innovation Conference, Badges:

Exploring Micro-credentials in Higher Ed and the Workplace, and the Association for Continuing Higher Education – South Region's annual conference.

LDT doctoral students **Erin Besser** and **Belen Garcia de Hurtado** were recipients of a Frank B. DeBruicker Graduate Award for 2015-16. This award, which comes in the form of a graduate scholarship, recognizes excellence in graduate student research. The award was established by the DeBruicker family in honor and memory of their father, Frank. The awards were presented at the 2015 Scholarship Reception in the fall.

## Staff News

**Rhonda Wilson** is the new secretary for the LDT program. Rhonda replaced long-time secretary Aggie Ward who retired in May of 2015. Rhonda has been at Purdue for 13 years and joins us from the Office of Institutional Equity. Welcome Rhonda!



Rhonda Wilson

**Holly Fiock** joined the LDT Program as the Curriculum Coordinator for the online program in 2014. She will graduate with a master's degree from the LDT program at the end of this semester.



Holly Fiock



Happy Holidays

