



From the SIGHC Chair

All,

Welcome to the March 2008 newsletter of SIGHC. We have four months to go until the NECC Conference in San Antonio. If you haven't registered yet, don't forget that the early bird registration ends on March 31. SIGHC will be pretty active again this year, and we hope to see many of you at our first annual Forum, as well as the business meeting.

Mark van 't Hoof
Chair SIGHC

SIGHC News

SIG Elections

SIG Elections will open on March 11, 2008. However, because nobody was nominated for the at-large position, we will have no elections for SIGHC. This is an issue that will need to be discussed at the SIGHC business meeting at NECC, especially as we need to start making some long-term plans for officer succession with the impending changes in the overall SIG structure. More on this to follow...

SIGHC Mission and Vision

We've been discussing a potential adjustment of our mission and vision. Do we need to adjust our mission statement to accommodate

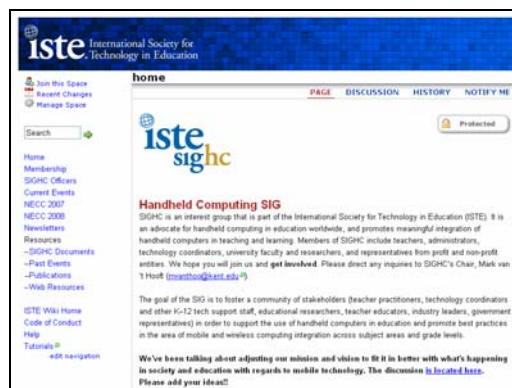
- o Learning while mobile
- o New tools such as cell phones
- o New practices such as podcasting
- o Informal learning

We cannot change the name of our SIG easily, as we discussed last year. However, we can change the mission statement. A page has been set up at the wiki to play around with some changes and discuss them:

http://sighc.iste.wikispaces.net/mission_vision

Please take some time to check this out and provide your input.

SIGHC Wiki



The SIGHC wiki is growing, and many people visit our site, but we'd really like to see more participation, as we know there are many good ideas out there. Please go to <http://sighc.iste.wikispaces.net/space> to check it out. Participation in the wiki is free. Just create a user name and password for yourself and start adding content. If you have ideas for topics that should be added to the wiki, please let us know, or add them yourself! Some topics we could add include:

- Mobile phones
- Podcasting
- Assessment
- Informal learning

SIGHC Website

And of course, if you have updates for the SIGHC website, please contact Mark van 't Hooft (mvanthoo@kent.edu)

SIGHC Discussion Listserv (sighc-discussion@iste-listserver.iste.org)

We've had a discussion listserv for a while now and we've had some questions about why it's not being used. First of all, make sure that you sign up for the listserv using the SIG Manager tool (<http://www.iste.org/inhouse/membership/myprofile/sig-manager/index.cfm?>). Note that you will need to be logged on to the site using your username and password. Second, if you have questions, stories, links, articles etc. related to the use of mobile devices for teaching and learning, please post them to the listserv. Somebody has to get the discussion started. If you would like to volunteer to post something to the discussion listserv on a regular basis (say, once per month), please contact the SIGHC Chair Mark van 't Hooft at mvanthoo@kent.edu.

SIGHC Announcement Listserv

If you are a SIGHC member, please make sure you are subscribed to this listserv as we use it to make announcements related to the SIG, including elections, newsletters, and NECC events. Note that only SIG officers can post to this listserv. Everybody else should post to the discussion listserv.



SIGHC SlideShare

SIGHC recently set up a space on SlideShare (<http://www.slideshare.net/sighc>) If you'd like to share your mobile learning presentations with other SIG members and the rest of the world, please email your presentation to Mark van 't Hooft (mvanthoo@kent.edu). Please put "Presentation for SIGHC SlideShare" in the subject line of your email. SlideShare accepts ppt, pdf, pps, pot, odp, and keynote formats).

NECC News



Information about the 2008 conference is available here (<http://web.uoregon.edu/ISTE/NECC2008/>). The Program is now online. Early bird registration ends on March 31.

Here are the events sponsored by SIGHC. Make sure to attend them!

SIGHC Forum (Monday, 6/30/2008, 10am-12pm). Location: TBA mid-May *Registration required.*

SIGHC Business Meeting (Monday, 6/30/2008, 4:45pm-6:15pm). Location: TBA mid-May

There will also be a list of SIGHC recommended sessions which will be included in a future newsletter and be posted on the wiki soon.

Feature Articles

Mobile Phone Learning Tips

By Lucianne Sweder

The mobile phone offers benefits for learners of all ages as a computer learning device and supports different learning styles (Attewell, 2005.) It is recognizable as a computer learning device because students who are introduced to the mobile phone use it to extend their persona. The mobile phone is similar to a laptop for a middle school student a few years ago. Students preferred the frequent use of the laptop versus the maybe once in a while use of the computer lab down the hall. Just as the laptop was the emerging technology a few years ago, the mobile phone is the emerging technology medium presently.



I am completing a study of ninth graders using mobile phones in reading. I would like to emphasize how important it is for educators to get involved in developing instructional design (ID) for students on mobile devices. Twenty-first century educational instructional designers need to be involved in this developmental process for mLearning because they are trained with an understanding of how to use proven ID models, educational pedagogies, technology innovations, content analysis skills, and collaboration techniques.

Twenty-five years ago, the personal computer provided a hopeful vision to change K-12 education in the United States, but we learned that without focused educational objectives and assessments, placing the computers in computers labs down the hall from classrooms and/or one or two computers in each classroom have a minimal effect on improving student learning (Culp, Honey, & Mandinach, 2005). Education first tried to make students into mini programmers, rather than design what they needed for learning.

References

- Attewell, J. (2005). *From research and development to mobile learning: Tools for education and training providers and their learners*. Retrieved August 1, 2006, from <http://www.mlearn.org.za/CD/papers/>
- Culp, K., Honey, M., & Mandinach, E. (2003). *A retrospective on twenty years of educational technology policy*. Washington D.C.: Unites States Department of Education, Office of Educational Technology.

Member News

SIGHC members contributed the following news items this month:

Carnival of the Mobilists (<http://mobili.st>)

The Carnival of the Mobilists is a weekly blog publication, aggregating some of the best writing about the mobile world. Each week, it is hosted at a different site, so you can visit the Carnival and experience both new writers about mobile, as well as all your old favorites. Read the summaries on the host's site and click through to any story you'd like to read in its entirety.

In order to host a weekly installment (or more), a blogger has to submit three posts to the Carnival (mobilists@gmail.com). Ideally, that person would then volunteer to be the host. The advantages of getting traffic are worth the effort for bloggers doing the posts and hosting! In addition, it is important for us as mobile educators in getting the message to mobilists to think about education.

The Carnival always needs volunteers to host, so if you're interested, why not give it a try? Please visit http://mobili.st/?page_id=2 for more information or contact Judy Breck (judybreck@gmail.com) with questions or to volunteer.

MAHET 2008

We invite you to check out the 2008 Mid-Atlantic Handheld and Emerging Technology Conference slated for July 24-25, 2008 in Salisbury, Maryland. This is the 4th year for the conference that has expanded to include informative hands-on workshops and concurrent sessions in emerging technology and mobile technology. The two day event draws educators from across the country with nationally known presenters like Tony Vincent from [Learning in Hand](#) and Karen Fasimpaur from [K-12 Handhelds](#).

This is a great opportunity for educators to hone their technology integration skills as well as to learn about new Web 2.0 tools for the classroom and beyond.

Please visit the web site below for more information on the conference and have a great school year – 2008 Mid-Atlantic Handheld and Emerging Technology Conference Planning Committee!

www.seaford.k12.de.us/mahc

CECA 2008 Conference: “Surviving and Thriving in an eLiterate World”

Tuesday, October 21, 2008 Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford

Call For Presenters

The Board of Directors of the Connecticut Educators Computer Association invites applications to present at the 2008 CECA Conference from experienced educators who successfully integrate technology in education to improve student learning.

Application deadline: March 15, 2008

For details see: <http://www.CECA-CT.org>

And Finally...

Thanks to everybody who contributed to this month's newsletter. As always, don't forget to participate by submitting articles, or adding content to the SIGHC wiki ☺. Its success is depends on YOU! Also consider attending the first annual SIGHC forum at NECC. Registration is now open on the NECC website!

The next newsletter should go out in early April. Please send in your contributions for that one!

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