

MEMBER profiles

Evelyn Woldman

Part of a Family of Ed Tech Pioneers

Long-time educator and ISTE member Evelyn Woldman loves being part of the ISTE family.

"I have been an ISTE member since I was a student taking my CAGS degree at Lesley University, back in the mid 1980s," she says. And "I have loved my membership since the day I began. It immediately connected me to a national network of people who do what I do. Now, that is not such a big deal. However, when I first joined, there were just not that many of us doing what we do."

In 1989, Woldman served on the executive committee for the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC). Serving as the registrar "at a time when most registrations were done in pencil and paper and needed to be 'transcribed' on a computer" was

nothing short of a trial by fire, she remembers. It left her reeling, but it was the experience that cemented lifelong professional and personal relationships with her fellow ISTE members. In fact, she says, "I wouldn't miss NECC for the world every year and the chance to network once again with my new and old friends."

Woldman is currently technology education coordinator for the Massachusetts Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA). She is pictured in the library of software



programs she built from the ground up. In her role at MESPA, she sees that the main obstacle to effective use of technology in education is time. "To continually ask teachers to take time on their own" to keep up with current technology "is just not fair, and unattainable. One cannot be effective in a bubble; you

are a product of all who feed into your experiences, and collaboration is essential for growth."

ISTE SIG

Nothing Remote about the SIGTel Community

One of the most active, and perhaps most effective of ISTE's SIGs to date, SIGTel (telelearning) has run a respected annual awards contest, published a successful online newsletter, and maintained a strong member community.

It shouldn't be a surprise that a group dedicated to telelearning has been quick to benefit from the new community tools available on the ISTE Web site.

In a recent message to the members of the group, SIGTel President Susan Silverman said, "We are very proud of our accomplishments and welcome new members to join us as we explore ways that technology can enhance teaching

and learning. Although we only see each other in person at ISTE's annual conference (NECC), virtual communication is now easier through ISTE's new online e-communities via My Communities on ISTE's Web site. In our SIGTel community, we will all be able to share ideas, plan events, share documents, and solve problems."



Even with opportunities presented by the e-communities, established projects promise to remain a priority. The SIGTel Online Learning Awards contest (see nominations ad on p. 17) will once again highlight and reward

innovators. Likewise, the group is committed to the *SIGTel Bulletin*, a repository of peer-reviewed articles about telelearning including aspects of K-12 and college instructional use of telecommunication, with emphasis on computer-mediated communication.

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Professional Development Is Key to Ed Tech's Future

Intel, the computer chip powerhouse, is no slouch in the educational technology department. According to Stephen Andrews, U.S. Program Manager, K-12 Teacher Development for the company's Teach to the Future initiative, Intel invests \$100 million annually in education across 50 countries.

"We collaborate with educators around the world, primarily through Teach to the Future and our program for community centers, Intel Learn," Andrews said. "Our commitment really is growing. It's our mission to improve education for the knowledge economy, and to be a trusted educator for schools and governments worldwide."

Teach to the Future is a worldwide program to help current and preservice teachers develop students' higher-order thinking skills and enhance learning by integrating technology into instruction, Andrews said. Participat-

ing teachers receive extensive training and resources to promote effective technology use in the classroom.

According to Andrews, Intel has three overall objectives relating to education:

- To improve teaching and learning through the effective use of educational technology
- To advance math, science, and engineering education and research, and
- To advocate and celebrate 21st-century educational excellence.

Intel recently announced that the Teach to the Future program has reached three million teachers in 35 countries, with 800,000 teachers trained in 2005. The company also announced plans to train an additional

10 million teachers in developing nations over the next five years. As part of the expanded program, Intel will donate 100,000 PCs to classrooms in developing nations.

According to Andrews, professional development for teachers is the key to educational success. "All the investment in technology in the world doesn't matter without training. As our CEO Craig Barrett says, 'Computers aren't magic, teachers are.'"

"We're really good friends with ISTE, and have been for a long time," Andrews said. "We see it as a valued friendship with trusted colleagues and collaborators in this mission. It's a long-term relationship. We learn from one another. Through ISTE we have a venue for ongoing work and collaboration with fellow educators around the world."



<http://www.intel.com/education>

ISTE Affiliate

Leadership in Information and Media Notable Assets for MEMO

The Minnesota Educational Media Organization (MEMO) is one of the newest ISTE affiliates, yet the organization has roots that reach back to the 1940s.

Originally an organization dedicated to library and audiovisual specialists, MEMO took its current name in 1976. According to the organization's Web site, it serves "school media and information technology professionals. MEMO is committed to providing leadership and professional growth for quality media and technology programs which meet the learning and instructional needs of our students, staff and administration."

A strong and active organization, MEMO provides a number of resources to its membership. In addition to a deep, well-organized Web site, MEMO publishes a monthly newslet-

ter, *MEMOrandom*, during the school year, as well as a special interest newsletter from the organization's information technology special interest group. Additionally, MEMO hosts fall and mid-winter conferences each year.

Building strong ties is a theme for the the organization. In an earlier president's message, Garlie and Conzemius discussed organizational connections.

<http://www.memoweb.org>



Mary Garlie and Laurie Conzemius, MEMO co-presidents, say in the January issue of *MEMOrandom*, "MEMO has spent the last several years in transition, as our organization broadened to include technology personnel from across the state. We welcome that presence, as it increases not only our membership, but more importantly, our knowledge base.

"More and more we recognize that we are stronger because of our collaboration with others."

"MEMO holds strong affiliations with MLA (Minnesota Library Association), the MN State Dept of Ed, AASL (American Association of School Libraries), ISTE, as well as our close relationships with many other educational organizations."

MEMO's high-quality resources and motivated and active membership make it not only a valuable asset for educators in Minnesota, but a valuable partner for all ISTE members.