



Building the “I” in ISTE

ISTE CEO Don Knezek discusses some of the organization’s international initiatives

Over the past decade we have seen a dramatic increase in demand for ISTE’s leadership and services from outside the United States. We are active in countries from Brazil to Malaysia, working with education leaders and governments to define technology standards for students and teachers. Our own National Educational Computing Conference attracts participants from 60 countries and ISTE’s members hail from as many. We work from Asia to Europe to Central America collaborating to host conferences, forums, and summits. And we provide professional development from Canada to Egypt to the Caribbean. Activities with international schools and Department of Defense schools around the world contribute to ISTE’s opportunities globally.

Standards Development

In addition to use of ISTE’s NETS around the world and the standards development consultancy in individual countries, ISTE along with other partners Cisco, Intel, and Microsoft participated in the development of UNESCO’s *ICT Competency Standards for Teachers*. This important work—designed to influence standards development around the world—led to ISTE attending the launch of these

standards in London in January 2008, to ministry of education representatives from more than 70 countries, and it encouraged our attendance at BETT, the British educational technology conference. See <http://www.unesco.org/en/competency-standards-teachers/> for more information.

International Conferences

ISTE is planning an international conference with the Singapore Ministry of Education. The International Conference on Teaching and Learning with Technology (iCTLT) will take place in Singapore, August 5–6, 2008, with pre-conference workshops on August 4. The inaugural program of iCTLT will focus on teaching and learning practices for engaging and effective digital-age education with the theme, “Learning, Leading, Innovating.” Sir Ken Robinson, Cheryl Lemke, and Mitch Resnick are keynote speakers. For more information, go to <http://www.ictlt.com>.

ISTE collaborated with representatives from the IT Special Interest Group of the European Council of International Schools to lead the Summit of European Information Technology Leaders, January 31–February 2, 2008, in Prague. Representatives from more than 20 countries attended this leadership event.

PD with ISTE 100 Partners

HP Canada and ISTE have entered into an agreement to offer online professional development modeled on the HP Technology for Teaching program. HP Canada will market the HP/ISTE Professional Development program for teachers to any school board that purchases HP equipment.

ISTE is collaborating with HP to develop a Mobile Digital Garage program. Originally planned for Venezuela (as described in the December/January issue of *L&L*), PDS will now develop technology integration curriculum and training materials in both Spanish and English for educators in Costa Rica.

As part of Intel’s Teach to the Future program in New Delhi, ISTE participated with training for administrators of teacher education programs related to ISTE’s NETS.

The Global Education Community

As ISTE continues to embrace our commitment to learning *with* and *from* the global education community, and as we see the continued globalization of education, we invite all members—individuals, affiliates, and ISTE 100 partners—to take advantage of our global connections and to join us around the world. ■