

## Announcements

### Mike Behrmann Wins Prestigious Award

We are thrilled to announce that Mike Behrmann has won the J.E. Wallace Wallin Special Education Lifetime Achievement Award for 2007!!!! He will be formally given this prestigious national recognition of his lifetime achievements to improve the success of individuals with disabilities at the national Council for Exceptional Children meeting in April in Boston. This important award has only been given to a handful of outstanding special educators.



### Proposed New Ph.D. Program

The Instructional Technology Program in George Mason University's College of Education and Human Development (CEHD) is in the process of creating its own Ph.D. program. This proposed new Ph.D. program will allow students to do in depth research in disciplines like: design-based research methods, innovation and creativity in the design of learning technologies, cross-disciplinary applications, and emerging technologies and practices.

The estimated times for the proposed new Instructional Technology Ph.D. program are based on receiving the appropriate approvals at all required levels at George Mason and with Higher Education officials in Richmond, Virginia.

Because of the amount of time required for the process of establishing a new Ph.D., the earliest that we can start accepting applicants into the proposed program is Spring 2009 to start the program in Fall 2009. If you would like to start in our existing Ph.D. in Education program, please visit the CEHD Ph.D. website at <http://gse.gmu.edu/programs/phd/>

For additional questions please contact:

Dr. Brenda Bannan-Ritland  
703-993-2067  
bbannan@gmu.edu

or

Dr. Kevin Clark  
703-993-3669  
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To keep updated on the progress of this exciting new Ph.D. degree go to <http://it.gse.gmu.edu/degrees/phd/>

## Assistive Technology (AT) Institute Summer 2008

The AT Program at George Mason University is designed to provide supplemental training to practitioners needing to apply AT solutions within their specific discipline or school, work, home or community setting. You can take classes towards the 15 credit certificate program, or the 30 credit masters program.



EDSE/EDIT 510 is the first course students should take in the program. This course fosters an understanding of assistive technology and its application in instructional programs, career tasks and life skills for persons with disabilities. This course is 90% online and begins in May.

The electives are offered in a condensed fashion throughout July and August, and enable students to take courses that focus on the population(s) of persons with disabilities with whom they work and to engage in practical applications of AT:

### Summer Schedule

EDSE/EDIT 510: Introduction to Assistive Technology (3 hr) May 19-July 7, meets first and last class, remainder of class is online

Courses meet online: 6/23-8/11

EDSE/EDIT 525: Software for Individuals with Special Needs (2 hrs)

EDSE/EDIT 529: Internet as an AT Tool (2 hrs)

Courses meet for 5 sessions during the AT Institute (6/30-7/11) plus a presentation day on 8/18

EDSE/EDIT 522: Assistive Technology for Individuals w/ Sensory Impairments (2 hrs)

EDSE/EDIT 523: Accessibility/ Input Modification (2 hrs)

EDSE/EDIT 524: Assistive Technology for Individuals w/ Learning Disabilities (2 hrs)

Courses meet for 2 sessions during the AT Institute (6/30-7/11) plus a presentation day on 8/18

EDSE 527: Adapted Sports, Recreation, and Leisure (1 hr) 7/1 & 7/3

EDSE 528: Low - Tech Assistive Technology Solutions (1 hr) 7/8 & 7/10

For more information, please contact Marci Kinase Jerome at the Kellar Institute for Human Disabilities, [mkinas@gmu.edu](mailto:mkinas@gmu.edu)

## Tools for Teaching - Summer Offerings of Tools Courses

During Summer 2008, the Instructional Technology Program will offer courses in: **Web Accessibility**, **Photoshop**, **iMovie**, **Captivate**, and **Web 2.0 Social Software**. This is an excellent way to build upon or improve your technology skills for the classroom or the office. We will also be offering **Technology and Teacher Education (EDIT747)**. For a complete list of courses being offered and to register go to <http://patriotweb.gmu.edu>

## Learn Instructional Design by Doing Instructional Design

The full-time Instructional Design and Development (IDD) program, known as Immersion, is still accepting applications. Students will get a real-world Instructional Design experience, complete their master's degree in one year, and receive tuition assistance. If you're interested, send a resume and cover letter to Ms. Kelley Shillingburg at [kshillin@gmu.edu](mailto:kshillin@gmu.edu) and then apply to the master's degree program at <http://admissions.gmu.edu>. For more information visit <http://it.gse.gmu.edu/degrees/immersion/>

<http://it.gse.gmu.edu>

## **Dr. Nada Dabbagh Keynotes in Oman**

Dr. Nada Dabbagh has been invited as a keynote speaker at the 2008 International Conference on Educational Technology (ICOET) at Sultan Qaboos University in Muscat, Oman. Her talk will center around the following 2 conference themes: (1) ecology of learning technologies and pedagogy, and (2) evolution of distance learning from traditional settings to social and virtual realities. Dr. Dabbagh will travel to Oman the first of March to attend the conference and then travel to Lebanon (her country of origin) where she will spend a few months visiting with family and working on her new book.

## **IT Open House, Friday, March 7, 2008**

The Instructional Technology Program at George Mason University will be having an Open House on **Friday, March 7, 2008** from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Commerce I, Room 100 located at 4085 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia. Please stop by to meet the faculty and learn about exciting career opportunities in the emerging field of learning technologies. Information will be available on our certificate and degree programs emphasizing:

- Instructional Design and Development
- Integration of Technology in Schools
- Assistive Technology

If you plan on attending, please RSVP to 703-993-3798 or kshillin@gmu.edu. Refreshments will be served. Plenty of parking is available.

## **4th Annual Innovations in e-Learning Symposium, June 3, 4 & 5, 2008**

The 4th Annual Innovations in e-Learning Symposium is scheduled for June 3, 4 & 5, 2008 in the Johnson Center at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia.

### **Topics for 2008**

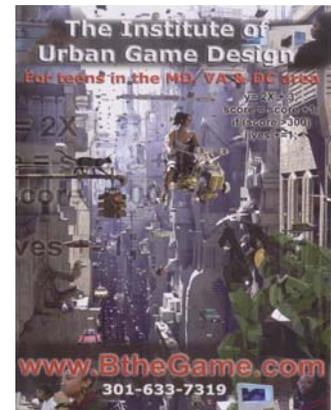
- Mobile Learning and Gaming
- Web 2.0 and Cyberinfrastructure
- Innovative Design and Research Partnerships
- Collaboration in a Virtual World

The GMU Instructional Technology Program and the Defense Acquisition University are issuing a "Call for Presentations" for individuals interested in presenting at the 2008 Symposium. The Call for Presentations form and guidelines can be found at <http://innovationsinelearning.gmu.edu>

## Projects & Partnerships

### Gamers Wanted: Students Design Math and Science Video Games

Through a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant recently awarded to Dr. Kevin Clark, Dr. Kim Sheridan, and the Institute of Urban Game Design at McKinley Technology High School in Washington, DC, students ages 10-18 can learn to design videogames based on science and math content. The sessions introduce fundamental concepts of video game design as students develop human animation, multimedia authoring and rapid game prototyping using 3D tools. The next 10-week session begins on February 23, 2008. To register visit <http://itest.gmu.edu/> or <http://www.bthegame.com/> or call 301-633-7319.



### Dr. Kevin Clark Hosts Norwegian Delegation

The Norwegian Research and Educational Network visited George Mason University and the Washington, D.C. area to learn more about issues related to research and development of distributed learning practices as well as developments within the e-learning/distance-learning market. The Norwegian Research and Educational Network delegation consisted of approximately 25 people representing several large Norwegian corporations, research institutions, and governmental organizations, including University of Oslo, University of Trondheim, SAS Braathens (Norway's largest airline), Telenor (Norway's largest telecom company), DnB NOR (Norway's largest bank), Statoil (Norway's largest oil company), Norwegian Association for Distance and Flexible Education, and Norwegian Directorate for Education and Training. The delegation's visit concluded with a reception at the home of the Norwegian Ambassador.



<http://it.gse.gmu.edu>

## Dr. Bannan-Ritland Presents in China

From November 16-26<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Drs. Bannan-Ritland and Kelly were invited to present as two of six international faculty experts at the International Seminar on Educational Design Research held at East China Normal University in Shanghai. In addition, Drs. Bannan-Ritland and Kelly were invited to give presentations at Beijing Normal University on design research and cognitive neuroscience. Eamonn and Brenda interacted closely with faculty from the Educational Technology and



Learning Sciences departments of East China Normal University and faculty from the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience and Learning at Beijing Normal University. At the design research seminar, Drs. Kelly and Bannan-Ritland had the valuable opportunity to discuss and advise IT faculty representatives from 10 Universities across China. Multiple opportunities may evolve from this including faculty and student exchange and research collaborations.

## Dr. Kevin Clark hosts 120 Students and Parents from McKinley Technology High School

As part of a National Science Foundation grant entitled "Game Design Through Mentoring and Collaboration, <http://itest.gmu.edu/>, Dr. Clark hosted 120 students and their parents from McKinley Technology High School in Washington, DC at the George Mason main campus on Dec. 7, 2007. The goal of this campus visit was to expose the students and their parents to the game design, science, and technology opportunities at George Mason. Their visit to George Mason included presentations by



George Mason's Geography department, Volgenau School of Information Technology & Engineering, Instructional Technology program, Educational Psychology program, and the admission office. Students also had a tour of the campus and had the opportunity to speak with current George Mason undergraduate students. Pictured from left to right are Dr. Kevin Clark; Mr. Rick Kelsey, coordinator of the gaming program at McKinley Technology High School; and Dr. Bernard White, Associate Dean of the Volgenau School of Information Technology and Engineering.

## Stay Connected

### Calling All Alumni

Because we'd like to keep up with you when you graduate, we're encourage alumni to become part of the George Mason Alumni Directory. Everyone who graduates from George Mason is a member of the University and College Alumni Associations. If you go to the Alumni Association website you can get information on the association, events, benefits etc. The link is <http://www.gmu.edu/alumni/>

<http://it.gse.gmu.edu>

## **IT Listserv**

Join the IT Listserv to learn about new job opportunities, upcoming and new courses being offered, and Instructional Technology Program events. To join go to <http://it.gse.gmu.edu/listserv/>

## **Give to IT - It's Us**

In an effort to help the Instructional Technology Program grow and continue to deliver innovative programs, we're asking students and alumni to donate specifically to the program. Donations will be used to support program activities, scholarships, and outreach efforts. To give any amount (check with employers for matching opportunities) please visit <http://www.gmu.edu/development/annual/index.html> and specify the Instructional Technology program.

## **IT Program Contact**

If you have any questions or would like more information on the Instructional Technology Program, please contact Ms. Kelley Shillingburg, Program Office Manager, at [kshillin@gmu.edu](mailto:kshillin@gmu.edu) or 703-993-3798.