

Northern Express

Vol. 34 • Issue 3

Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2006

Session Changes

People were literally spilling out of the Medoc room yesterday during the second presentation of session #9. With a standing room only crowd, the maximum number of room occupants exceeded the fire code and people were turned away. The presenters Ron Nichols and Larry Larraga have graciously agreed to repeat their session **“Using Video Podcasts to Enhance Consulting”** on Wednesday during the morning session (8:30am to 10:00am) following the #38 session **“Because We Have Better Things To Do: Automating Common Support Tasks”** (Stephen J. Lewis, Keith B. Erikson).

There are a few other last minute changes to the technical session line-up:

- Session #33 Tuesday, 3:30pm: Part 2 **“Dressing Up, Dressing Down: Where is Your Career Headed?”** has been cancelled.
- Session #34 Tuesday, 3:30pm: Part 2 **“Reactive to Proactive Support: A Corn Dance”** has been cancelled.
- Session #36 Wednesday, 8:00am: Part 1 **“Rollins College Laptop Repair Service”** has switched places with Part 2 **“Compared to Operation Overlord, Deploying and Supporting ILaptop Should Be Easy.”**

If you have any questions about these changes, please stop by the conference registration desk.

• Fact-of-the-Day ... Alberta's first mail carriers begin delivering to Edmonton in 1907. •



Birds of a Feather gather over dinner.

Flock Together

We've all come to share experiences and ideas specific to educational technology. Watch the Notice Board for BOF opportunities that interest you. New topics are continually being added. Current postings include “Managing Student Employees,” “Sharing Blackboard Secrets,” and “Communication Campaign Assessment.”

Or be bold and make your own BOF invitation, formal or informal. Invite someone with a similar job or problem to join you for a meal, or tag along with others going to a restaurant you enjoy. Remember your Passport Quests, Newcomers!

Wanted: Workshops Chair

Look carefully at the conference program and you'll notice that there were several “pre-conference” workshops offered. So what's the difference between a technical session and a workshop? Ethan Benatan of Reed College, the current Workshop Chair, explains that workshops are designed to teach attendees skills or tools that can be immediately applied to the workplace. Registration for workshops is separate from the conference and Ethan feels the investment should be seen as a benefit to the workshopper and the university where he works.

The Workshop Chair position is appointed by the Conference Committee and Ethan's 3-year term is just about finished. He has enjoyed the challenge of

negotiating with speakers to offer workshops that meet the expressed needs of attendees as well as participating in the decision-making processes that go into making SIGUCCS happen.

If you're interested in being Workshop Chair or joining the Conference Committee, contact Leila Lyons, SIGUCCS Chair, or visit the BOF volunteers session.

Gala Dinner Theatre Event

Don't lose your ticket for the Jubilation's Live Dinner Theatre show tonight. Come be entertained with "The Gerry Steinfeld Show." The show begins at 6:30pm at the Jubilation's Dinner Theatre located in the Europa Blvd. lane of the mall. Stop by the conference registration desk for more information.

Local Flavor

When your BOF session turns from technology related concerns to pop culture, it may be time to fly by the local watering hole for more informal conversation. Located in the Europe Blvd. lane, the Sherlock Holmes Pub is a classic local bar featuring Canadian brewed beers and friendly service. Try sampling Big Rock Brewery beers and ales, made right here in Alberta. Big Rock follows the strict Bavarian Purity Law of 1516 which means only malted barley, hops, yeast and water go into their beer. The Traditional is a classic amber and goes down well with dinner and a lively conversation.



Sample some of the Alberta brews at the Sherlock Holmes Pub.



Attendees network over a light dessert in the Ballroom.

Meet the Contributors Ice Cream Social

Monday night attendees gathered in the Ballroom to meet and thank this year's contributors:

- Atomimc Learning
- Cisco
- Cognos
- Monitor 24/7
- Toshiba

Did you know . . .

The making of maple syrup is both a science and an art. Sap is flavored by growing conditions and, once boiled down to syrup, marketed under one of five categories:

Canadian	USDA
No. 1 Extra Light	Grade A Light Amber
No. 1 LightGrade A	Medium Amber
No. 1 MediumGrade A	Dark Amber
No. 2 Amber	Grade B
No. 3 Dark	Commercial

Dark syrups have the most maple flavor and most syrups qualify as organic, since the forests where the trees are tapped are not treated with herbicides or pesticides. (Cornell University, <http://maple.dnr.cornell.edu/FAQ.htm>)