

Conference Session Descriptions

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Morning Sessions

9:45 AM to 10:40 AM

Distance Learning and International Practices: The USA and France – A Comparative Analysis

**Aurelien Mazura, Faculty Member
ESCIP International School of Business
Longuenesse, France**

Tunica Room

Description: As the world's leader in almost all fields, the USA plays a very innovative role in the development of new practices in Distance Learning. Other Western countries, such as France, have a very traditional approach to education. Top-ranked academic institutions in France have implemented innovative solutions that work and Distance Learning seems to be tool number 1 for the development of quality education. Meet Dr. Mazura and learn how the USA and France compare in distance learning technologies.

Setting Up a Video Conferencing Network in Your School District

**Cedric Banks
Network Specialist
Louisiana Board of Regents**

OFO Room

Description: This session will help participants understand how to design robust and expandable distance-learning networks that can be used to transport high definition video.

Grant Writing for Dummies

**Cindy Wallace
Evangel Christian Academy
Shreveport, Louisiana**

Biloxi Room

Description: Learn the art of writing a successful distance-learning grant. Ms. Wallace will share her writing strategies and funding sources.

11:00 AM – 11:55 AM

eNSU: Online Learning, Anytime, Anyplace

Darlene Williams, PhD

Vice President

Technology, Research and Economic Development

Tunica Room

Are you or someone you know ready to seek a new degree to meet the challenges of today's ever changing environment? Do you need help preparing to meet the challenges of incorporating online delivery into your curriculum? Don't have time for traditional classes? *Northwestern State University*, a leader in distance education since 1995, now has 21 online degree programs and 2 add-on certifications available. Fully accredited *online programs* from the associate through the specialist levels are stimulating and interactive and some are compressed into a fast track format. A full array of support services and adult friendly faculty await you as an online student.

Today's Classroom and the World We Live In

Elaine Shuck

Global Director Primary/Secondary Education

Polycom USA (video conference)

OFO Room

Descriptions: Discover the latest video conferencing collaboration tools and FREE VC content. Today's classroom environment and the world we live in are quickly changing. Given the right opportunities and right technologies, teachers can transform the learning environment, motivate students to learn, and ultimately, raise student achievement in a tight time frame. Examine technology trends in education and how technologies may be combined to create a 21st century classroom.

Teaching Mathematics Course via Video Conferencing

(Integrating document cameras, response devices and more)

Cindy Wallace

Evangel Christian Academy

Shreveport, Louisiana

Biloxi Room

Descriptions: This session will focus on tools such as the document camera, interactive student response devices, etc. I will also discuss virtual field trips that have enhanced science/ math at our school. I will also want to VC with my class.

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Afternoon Sessions

1:00 PM -2:00 PM

From Lake Arthur to Vermont, to Astronauts and Satellites: Going Beyond the 4 Walls with Video Conferencing

**Vickie Broussard and Laura Duhon
Lake Arthur High School
Lake Arthur, Louisiana**

Tunica Room

Description: Our superintendent and principal encourage faculty members to utilize video conferencing technology to expand curriculum. Participants will how Jeff Davis Parish and Lake Arthur High School has expanded our classroom walls as well as our thinking. Presenters will demonstrate how to locate, plan, and execute a collaborative project. Participants will interact through VC with students who will give testimonials regarding the benefits of VC capabilities. We will share online resources that highlight videoconferencing, collaboration, and professional development.

Integrating Smart Board's in Your Distance Learning Classroom

**Skyla Menard
Educational Trainer, Smart Technology**

OFO Room

Description: Learn how to integrate a Smart Board and Sync, the latest Smart Board software, into a video conference. Using interactive white boards will help engage students at near and far-end sites.

Take a Virtual Field Trip... and Save It for a Rainy Day

**Todd Pennington, VSGi & Brian Sellers, Polycom
Distance Learning Specialists**

Biloxi Room

Description: Virtual field trips are a great way to integrate technology in the curriculum. This session will uncover the mystery of locating worldwide experts that are using video conferencing to connect with students.

3:15 PM – 4:00 PM

“A kid’s Eye View of the Best Interactive Content for Your Classroom”

**Adora Svitak, 11-Year Child Prodigy
Redmond, Washington**

Description: Meet Adora Lily Svitak; a self proclaimed teacher. Adora is an American child prodigy and internationally published author. She is known for her essays, stories, poems, blogs, and full-length books. Adora has been teaching writing workshops since she published her first book at age seven, has been featured on Oprah, CNN's Young People Who Rock, NBC Nightly News, and other programs. She excites the reader, the writer, and the learner in all of us, and she is now sharing her insights directly with educators!

Louisiana Virtual School

**Al Dauenhauer
Louisiana Virtual School, Outreach
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

Description: The Louisiana Virtual School (LVS) is a Louisiana Department of Education initiative that provides Louisiana high school students access to standards-based high school courses delivered by certified Louisiana teachers via the Internet. Learn what’s new for the fall and how LVS is reaching students across Louisiana.

Friday, May 15, 2009

8:30 to 9:30

“IVC Big Picture: Virtual Fieldtrips, Collaborations, Content Streaming/Capture”

**Tad Duhe and Jane Zanetis
BT Conferencing (formerly Wire One)**

Description: As video conferencing is more widely used in classroom, teachers have increased their requirements from not only interactive and live streaming capabilities but to they want to be able to record and archive the content for anytime viewing. This session will help participants understand “the big picture” of video conferencing in the classroom.

Mission Control: A NASA Event

**Dava Powell
City of Bogalusa Schools
Bogalusa, Louisiana**

Description: e-Missions™ are simulated, problem-based, learning adventures delivered right into the classroom via distance learning technology. With the use of the internet and video conferencing equipment, these “live” scenarios are conducted in your classroom. Experience this live simulation and learn how teachers can access this wonderful resource.

Calcasieu Parish Goes the Distance for Their Students

**Sheryl Abshire, PhD
Calcasieu Parish Schools, Technology Director
Lake Charles, Louisiana**

Description: Calcasieu Parish is a leader in deploying cutting edge technology. Learn how Calcasieu Parish is using distance learning technologies in their school system.

10:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

**Virtual Tour Tunica-Biloxi Cultural and Educational Resources Center
Chris Lemoine**

Description: Take a virtual tour of the new Tunica-Biloxi Cultural and Educational Resources Center. The Center will offer video conferencing educational virtual field trips to K-12 schools in Louisiana.

Latest News from LADOE

**Carol Mosley
LA DOE State E-Rate Coordinator**

Description: Learn the latest news about the Louisiana Department of Education distance learning initiatives.