

Evaluation of CIT Showcase 2008

The annual Showcase event of Duke's Center for Instructional Technology (CIT) was held on April 24, 2008 in the Bryan Center. This year 287 people attended the Showcase, an increase of 28% from the previous year. Eight concurrent sessions were held in three different time slots in the morning on such topics as:

- Second Life at Duke
- Tips and Tricks for Incorporating Web 2.0 in Your Class
- Google Earth for Teaching and Learning
- Duke's New Teaching and Learning Spaces
- Duke Digital Initiative 2008-2009

A keynote presentation "*Pedagogy before Technology*" was delivered by Sarah "Intelligirl" Robbins, who is a PhD candidate at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana and the Director of Emerging Technologies for Media Sauce.

Vendors from Blackboard, Wimba, and Hewlett Packard were also available to show their products and answer attendees' questions.

In the afternoon, invited faculty presentations were featured rather than posters, with these faculty demonstrating projects interactively to small groups of Showcase attendees with plasma screens at set times. In keeping with the emphasis on web 2.0 technologies, CIT staff provided still cameras and video cameras from CIT for participants to document the Showcase. These photos and video were uploaded to Flickr and YouTube for immediate sharing and were also fed immediately into the event web site (see links below).

CIT Showcase 2008

Program and full details as well as photo feed from Flickr and video feed from YouTube
<http://cit.duke.edu/showcase/2008>

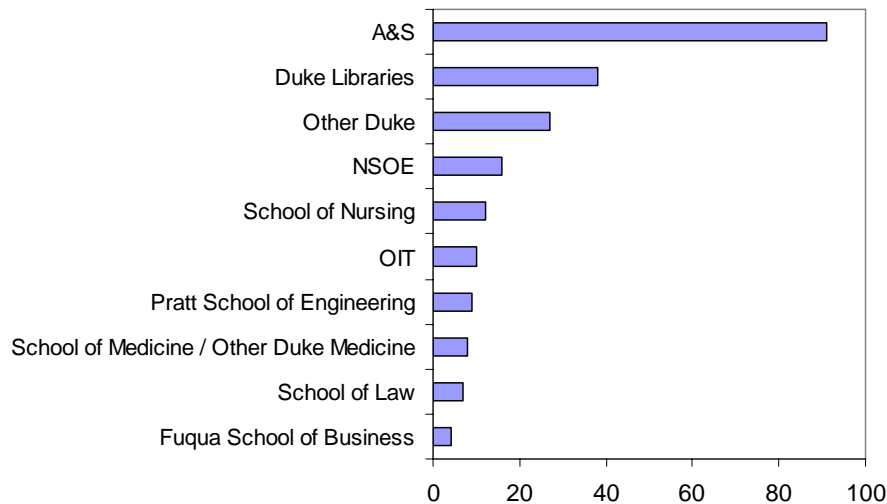
Recording of the keynote address, "*Pedagogy before Technology*"

<http://lectopia.oit.duke.edu/ilectures/ilectures.lasso?ut=130&id=8485#>

Who attended the CIT showcase?

The majority of all attendees were from Duke (89%). Other higher education institutions, K12 schools, and business were also represented (11%). Arts & Sciences affiliates comprised the largest portion of attendees (*see Figure, pg. 2*), with 20 different departments and programs represented by at least one faculty or staff showcase attendee. The Schools of Law, Nursing, Business, Medicine, Environment and Engineering were also represented, as were campus-wide units such as Duke Libraries and the Office of Information Technology (OIT).

Duke Attendees by Affiliation



Based on information gathered from attendees via an online survey after the event (38% response rate), a large majority of attendees teach or directly support teaching at their institutions. Roughly half of all attendees had attended a previous Showcase, and half were first-time attendees.

Attendee Reactions and Feedback

The majority of respondents reported satisfaction with the overall schedule and structure of the event. Particular aspects of the Showcase which attendees commented on positively include:

- Attendees benefited not only from learning about what faculty are doing with technology in teaching but were able to ask questions about how a particular idea might work in their own discipline
- Attendees learned a lot by having informal discussions with other attendees while milling around
- Attendees felt that the keynote address was informative and that Sarah Robbins' morning discussion "*Tips and Tricks for Incorporating Web 2.0 in Your Class*" was helpful.
- Attendees liked the new afternoon format and felt that it was useful for faculty to speak to small groups without having to say the same things to each attendee individually.

Some suggestions for future Showcases were:

- Group similar projects together (for example, projects using Wimba, projects using tablet PC's together, perhaps in groups of three or so, and have the presenters rotate so that they might enjoy some sharing and collegiality as well.

- Have demonstrations about faculty projects that CIT will follow up with more detailed workshops about how to use the tools.

Some attendee comments about Showcase 2008:

"I like having some tables at lunch designated for specific topics and others that were undesignated."

"It is especially valuable to see the strategies and methods being applied in courses at Duke, and to hear first-hand the observations and comments from instructors about what's working well and what's not."

"I really appreciated the small group meeting with the keynote speaker at lunch. One can learn more in 60 minutes of this than 2 hours of presentations! It is also a great way to network."

"The sessions were useful, but it was also useful to have enough time to talk to other attendees informally. Sometimes that centered around one of the demos; sometimes it didn't."