

WEB 2.0 TECHNOLOGIES: WHAT ARE THEY AND HOW CAN THEY BE USED FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING?

Sharon Dennis, M.S., Susan Roberts, and Sandra McIntyre, M.Ed.
Eccles, Health Sciences Library, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT USA

Format of workshop: Half-Day, Hands-On, Maximum 14 Participants

Expected Skills or Knowledge: Basic / Novice

Summary: “Web 2.0” technologies are rapidly changing the way in which users interact on the Internet. The move towards “social media” or user generated content has led to a proliferation of online blogs, wikis, photo sharing sites like Flickr, video sharing sites like YouTube, and social networking sites like MySpace. Users are able to collaborate and express ideas in ways never possible before. In addition, the open application programming interfaces (APIs) offered by many of these services allow them to be combined easily into new services, or “mash-ups.” This is not designed for power users, but for educators looking forward or feeling the generation gap.

This workshop will introduce participants to each of these technologies; participants will gain hands-on experience with blogs, wikis, and photo and video sharing. The group will discuss ways in which this technology currently is being used by students, and how it could be incorporated into teaching and learning.

Sharon Dennis received her M.S. in Library and Information Science from Drexel University in 1983. She is currently Technology Coordinator for the MidContinental Region (MCR) of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NN/LM) and Co-Director of the Health Education Assets Library (HEAL <http://www.healcentral.org>). She has over thirteen years of experience teaching a variety of technology classes to both librarians and health sciences faculty, including classes related to web page coding, dynamic programming, videoconferencing technologies, and multimedia development. Most recently, she has taught classes related to video streaming, videoconferencing, and new "Web 2.0" technologies, including a Medical Library Association continuing education class called "Introduction to Blogs and Wikis." She regularly researches and demonstrates new Web 2.0 technologies for the MCR membership, and has designed and implemented two blogs for the region.

Sandra McIntyre, MEd, has managed geographically dispersed educational technology teams for the last 15 years, using a variety of collaboration tools. She is currently the strategic communications manager for HEAL and project director for Utah Vital Signs, an environmental research organization. She has used wikis to create a collaborative workspace for grant writing, research, and planning for four different workgroups. She will share information about the ease of setting up wikis for collaborative authoring and the selection of appropriate wiki tools for both faculty and student projects.

Sharon E. Dennis
Co-Director, HEAL Project
University of Utah

Spencer S. Eccles Health Sciences Library

Salt Lake City, UT 84112
sdennis@lib.med.utah.edu
Phone: 801-585-3928
Fax: 801-581-3632