Title of Session: Preservice Teachers
Moderator: Jan Naher-Snowden and Marianne Handler
Title of File: 20040212ps
Date: February 12, 2004

Room: On Tap Cafe

MarianneH: Hi, Everyone-- Welcome to this session
MarianneH: This is the group for Preservice Teachers and... often... students. Who have we here tonight?
MarianneH: Della?
Jan_NS joined the room.
DellaS: hello
BjB: Hi, Jan
Jan_NS: Hello, everyone
MarianneH: A line or so about you and we can move through the group, OK
VickiAB: hello
VickiAB: preservice teacher from University of Houston
ElizabethB: Hi, I am a preservice teacher at the University of Houston for PK-4
KristiN: Hi. My name is Kristi. I am a preservice teacher at the University of Houston.
Jan_NS: Jan Naher-Snowden, faculty at U. of Akron (Ohio), specialty: science education integrating tech in curriculum
DellaS: Hi I am Dell and I am a pre service teacher also for the University of Houston
MarianneH: Marianne Handler, faculty at National-Louis University in Chicago area in the Technology in Education program.
MarianneH: I wonder if your teacher at U of H suggested you join us this evening?
ElizabethB: No, she tells us to join any discussion we see fit for our needs.
VickiAB: no, this was by choice
KristiN: We are required to do at least 2 Tapped-In sessions, and I guess this one looked interesting to us.
ElizabethB: I thought this one was perfect, being we are preservice teachers
KristiN smile
MarianneH: That is what I meant... that you learned about Tapped In from you teachers
ElizabethB: Yes
VickiAB: yes
KristiN: Yes ma'am. This is the first semester that we have used this.
DellaS: Yes
Jan_NS: Just curious: what type of orientation to Tapped In did you have in your class?
MarianneH: Some good folks there ... you are lucky guys.
ElizabethB: She gave us a tour kind of like the Tips and Tricks
MarianneH: Can you share some of the other ways you have used technology in your program... before you came to have this online experience?
DellaS: We were walked through the process and also given instructions on how to get from one area to the next.
KristiN: We take 3 technology classes.
VickiAB: 3 semesters of required technology courses

MarianneH: Can you tell us her name? We like to know folks who are helping you in that way.
KristiN: Mary Thompson
MarianneH: thanks
KristiN: You're welcome!
MarianneH: Is this your first, second???
ElizabethB: This is my third
KristiN: 3rd technology class here
VickiAB: third
DellaS: I have had three semesters of technology and I have also learned to incorporate it into my lesson plans as a tool
KristiN: You take the first 2 previous to student teaching.
ElizabethB: I think most of us here are in our last semester of the teaching program before we enter our student teaching
MarianneH: Do teachers that are not technology class teachers have you use technology as well?
KristiN: Each semester builds upon another.
ElizabethB: Yes, we use technology a lot
KristiN: They don't require it, but some suggest it.
KristiN: We do use it a lot though.
DellaS: We use some form of technology every day
MarianneH: for example?
VickiAB: yes, for class projects
KristiN: Especially since we're used to doing it for tech. classes.
ElizabethB: We use a program called eclassrooms.........this is for discussions and postings
KristiN: integrating it into lesson plans
DellaS: The students take their AR test on the computer after reading their books
ElizabethB: Webct is another program we use to submit papers, take test, email, discussion, and this is mainly for online courses
KristiN: We also have a discussion board where we talk with our school district clusters about hot topics in technology.
MarianneH: You guys are really lucky to have this background. What if we had students here that didn't have these courses what would you encourage them to learn on their own because it has been helpful to you?
ElizabethB: Powerpoint has been the most powerful tool for me!
DellaS: We have a board similar to this one that we communicate with our classmates on topics that we all have to respond to.
VickiAB: powerpoint for creating edu games
KristiN: Gather as much info as you can! It makes a big difference in your lessons. It's a great way to spice them up a bit, and it's usually a change for most students.
ElizabethB: Building websites is another great technology tool.
ElizabethB: I agree with Kristi.
KristiN: Yeah! We actually have online portfolios of our work from all 3 semesters.
MarianneH: **KristiN**, What does "gather as much info as you can" mean?

DellaS: I would encourage them to use powerpoint, and inspiration to build webs that can be used in all areas

MarianneH: Love that Inspiration!

KristiN: Become as knowledgeable about technology and what you can do with it as you can.

Jan_NS: what about creating lessons using primary source documents that are only easily available on the web.

KristiN: Use any resources available, whether it be taking classes or use a teacher who uses technology on a regular basis.

VanettaN: As an education student new ideas are being presented all the time

ElizabethB: I am learning new ways to implement technology at all levels.

MarianneH: Do you all know how to turn your inspiration project into a powerpoint presentation?

MichaelJK: how would you do that?

VickiAB: yes

MarianneH: Ahhh. the best unknown secret.

VanettaN: Just about anything can be turned in to a powerpoint

DellaS: We as pre service teachers will be glad to help the teachers that have not had the experience we have had

MarianneH: When u have finished your web, have going into outline format and put everything in order go to Export....

VanettaN: Powerpoint is fun because you have the ability to get as creative as you like

MarianneH: You can export as powerpoint... (but only from outline view). When you save it to the desktop it looks like a powerpoint icon,

MarianneH: Open it up and each roman numeral is a slide... ready to be polished for presentation.

DellaS: The students can also be taught to create a powerpoint presentation.

VickiAB: I agree with Vanetta

MarianneH: But this way you work on the content... without worrying about the looks... very important difference

ElizabethB: That is really neat Marianne, thank you for that information.

DellaS: Thanks Marianne

VickiAB: thanks

MichaelJK: Thanks for the information on that switch over.

KristiN: Marianne, do you have some sort of technology classes that your students take that are similar to ours?

Jan_NS: have you explored creating Webquests in your classes?

VickiAB: yes

KristiN: We actually did do that last semester.

DellaS: What all did they create?

MarianneH: Let's go back to Jan's important question... Have you been taking advantage of primary source documents.

Jan_NS: on the web.

MarianneH: right..

ElizabethB: I am confused what do you mean?

MarianneH: They are great used in webquests, right , Jan

Jan_NS: and developing a lesson using these documents for your students.

KristiN: This may sound like a silly question, but what is a primary source document?

DellaS: OK

Jan_NS: yes, webquests are a great way to use them.

Jan_NS: I will get you a URL - hang on

MarianneH: Jan, will you explain what they are...

DellaS: Thanks

MichaelJK: Primary source documents are sources that come from people first hand. Writings, journals, autobiographies

MarianneH: It means, basically, the real stuff... the work of the original writer, scientist, musician.

MarianneH: good Michael, short and to the point... you got it all.

KristiN: I don't recall using much of that. Does anyone else from UH?

ElizabethB: No, I don't think so.

Jan_NS: and don't forget photos, illustrations, posters

MarianneH: You can get a lot of wonderful primary source documents from the Library of Congress... www.loc.gov (I think)

DellaS: No I have not either

MichaelJK: Primary sources are more interesting than their cousins the secondary source, which is a textbook, or info that does not come first hand

VanettaN: No, I'm learning something

VickiAB: no, I didn't use it

MarianneH: Mentioning posters reminds me of a wonderful project about WWI where the student

Jan_NS: Primary sources have not been predigested for your consumption

MichaelJK: good point Jan

MarianneH: used all posters of the period to guide the project. It was very well done! It was designed for middle school students.

MarianneH: Jan, what is the Civil War cite from VA that has the great primary source materials?

[Try visiting http://www.civilwar.org/ Jen Rosenberry from CWPT is a member of Tapped In and has done presentations on the site. The site also has a newsletter of resources.- Ed.]

MichaelJK: I would be interested in seeing that too Jan

MarianneH: 'scuse me while I go look unless Jan knows it -- do you?

Jan_NS: nope, I am trying to access my backflip folder on primary source documents. hang on

MarianneH: Be sure to look at the library of Congress. And if you go to Google and type Civil War + primary sources you might find great stuff.

MarianneH: BTW, Jan said she was looking in her backflip file. Are you familiar with Backflip?

ElizabethB: NO

KristiN: no ma'am

DellaS: I am going to mark this for my social studies class also

VickiAB: no

VanettaN: I have no idea

DellaS: No I am not familiar

MarianneH: www. backflip.com is a FREE (my favorite word) resource. It allows you to collect favorites or bookmarks in a folder on the web.

MarianneH: You create folders, save them and get to them from any computer, anywhere when you need them.

KristiN: Is that the same thing as "Favorites" on my toolbar?

MarianneH: Yes and no Kristi,

VickiAB: thank you so much...I wanted something like that

MarianneH: It is bookmarks... but they are not on your one computer...

MarianneH: They are saved in way that you can get to them no matter where you are. We teach on more then one campus and I go to schools... My bookmarks are with me wherever I go.

VanettaN: so no matter where I log into the backflip will be available

Jan_NS: http://www.backflip.com/dir_folders.ihtml?folder=11600607&sort=0

KristiN: Oh I see...As long as you can access the internet, you can access the backflip?

DellaS: That is great that you can assess them from any computer

MarianneH: Right!! It is web based.

KristiN: That's pretty cool!

KristiN: Thanks for the info!

Jan_NS: try that link, if it doesn't work - I will see what I can do

ElizabethB: That will definitely come in handy.

Jan_NS: that is my public folder on primary source documents in backflip

ElizabethB: It works. Thanks.

MarianneH: no... public would be

MichaelJK joined the room.

MarianneH: www.backflip.com/members/mhandler1

DellaS: This is valuable information that I can pass on to my other classmates

DellaS: Thanks

KristiN: Della, I was just thinking the same thing!

MarianneH: That is my public folder... Jan can put her address up with her name after members. OK, Jan

KristiN: I will post it to my cluster's discussion board later on. They will be psyched about it!

DellaS: Good ideas Kristi

Jan_NS: http://www.backflip.com/members/jnaher_snowden

MarianneH: I always change what is in my public folder... It depends on what friends and students have asked for or what I am teaching or presenting.

MarianneH: Funny, Jan, doesn't look too different then mine does it?

MichaelJK: what do you typically put in the public folder

KristiN: So can you just save links to websites or can you save actual presentations, etc.?

Jan_NS: just links to websites

MarianneH: If your presentation is on the web. you can.

MichaelJK: Thanks for the info

Jan_NS: good point, create your websites and add whatever you would like.

Jan_NS: getting back to primary sources...

MarianneH: When you create bookmarks you don't want them to disorganized so you put them in folders. someone might ask for you bookmarks on a specific topic so you would make it public for them.

KristiN: Right...So I can include a link to my portfolio, and then people can use that link to access my portfolio. Gotcha!

MarianneH: You can 'unpublish' it later.

Jan_NS: http://www.library.cornell.edu/olinuris/ref/primary.html

Jan_NS: this site is a great beginning for you.

MarianneH: The neat part when you start is you drag a button (they tell you how) to your navigator bar and click on it when you are searching for sites.

DellaS: Like a rolodex.

MarianneH: Thanks, Jan, I just did a backflip on that one... See, once a learner, always a learner.

MichaelJK: thanks for the primary site

MichaelJK: How often do you all use primary sources

Jan_NS: I encourage my university students to go to these sources instead of using something that has already been interpreted by another person. Especially in the development of resources for a lesson plan.

MarianneH: The Valley of the Shadow

http://www.iath.virginia.edu/valleyredirect.html/http://www.iath.virginia.edu/valleyredirect.html/

MarianneH: This is the one I was looking for about the Civil War.

MarianneH: Primary source documents, I am sure Jan will tell you, cause really good classroom discussions and points of view.

KristiN: Wow, taking just a glance I can see that it looks really interesting!

KristiN: It looks like something that students would like too! You know, real stuff...letters, pictures, etc.

Jan_NS: If you are a science or math person, using real-time data is another type of primary source document.

Jan_NS: or web-cams

MarianneH: I wonder how many of our participants have used a web-cam as a part of an assignment, project, lesson or unit? Such a good idea, Jan. I use them for info but integrated. Love it!!

KristiN: Some of the schools in the district that we're working in are involved in a technology/social studies related thing where they talk to other kids from other schools across the country about social studies ideas such as the Underground Railroad.

Jan_NS: If you consider the development of critical thinking skills (higher levels of Bloom's Taxonomy) as a priority for your students, these "real-world" materials have greater impact and more opportunities for wrestling with engaging information

MarianneH: but not integrate.

ElizabethB: I have never used a webcam before.

KristiN: I haven't either.

Jan_NS: actually, you don't really use the webcam per se

MarianneH: most of you have probably read about the importance of 'authentic' experiences.. Primary Source materials are a piece of that concept.

Jan_NS: You visit the site where you can view what the webcam is recording. To make observations, make inferences. gather information, etc.

DellaS: I have not seen one before.

ElizabethB: But the school I am doing my Preservice teaching with has a system where they can communicate with other schools. It is a tv and it has cameras and a main control where you can see the other people and talk to them. This is kind of like a webcam

Jan_NS: video conferencing. slightly different

ElizabethB: what is the difference?

Jan_NS: a webcam (in the sense that I am using it) is a one way viewing opportunity.

Jan_NS: you can see what is going on but cannot communicate directly with those you are observing.

Jan_NS: for example, some day cares have webcams so parents can peek in on their kids during the day.

KristiN: So like you can see each other, but you can't talk to each other. You have to type to each other to talk?

MarianneH: Those being viewed often do not know the camera is there.

MichaelJK: how often do you use this tool

MarianneH: Many are used in science... watching zoos, or one of the most interesting

Jan_NS: no, in this situation, you might be observing birds at a bird feeder, or a horse in a stable, or a watering hole in Africa

KristiN: oh okay

Jan_NS: you can make primary observations this way. for building science skills

MarianneH: that I have seen was during the restoration of a famous statue in Florence... It was put in a setting where the world could watch the restoring of this marvelous work of art.

DellaS: Ok now I understand what a web cam is.

Jan_NS: not a useful as video conferencing but definitely something that can be used for education,

VickiAB: definitely

Jan_NS: I have had students develop inferences watching ducks at a pond in Britain, and make estimates of the weather in Ireland, and Florida

Jan_NS: just by using webcams

Jan_NS: Given a list of teacher approved webcams, students can develop their own observation project, establishing the frequency and duration of their observations, keeping records, organizing the records and presenting their findings to the rest of the class. This is an authentic learning experience

MichaelJK: those sound like cool uses

VickiAB: it sure is

DellaS: A learning experience.

Jan_NS: and one definitely taking advantage of the unique opportunities that are provided by the Internet and the technology involved.

MichaelJK: those are definitely innovative uses

MarianneH: Can you share with us tech projects you have done that were especially satisfying for you as learners?

Jan_NS: And that is what all of us need to doing with the technology around us - finding the best tool for the job.

MarianneH: RIGHT!!!

Jan_NS: Let the desired learning outcomes drive the integration of the technology if it is the best tool.

DellaS: That is true.

Jan_NS: Any other thoughts, all of you?

KristiN: I agree Jan! We have actually talked about that in our tech. classes.

MarianneH: When designing lesson don't determine the technology ahead of time. Plan the experience and then determine which, if any, technology expands and enhances the lesson.

KristiN: Tech. is great, but it should be used to enhance a lesson. There is a time and place for technology.

Jan_NS: Sometimes it is difficult to remember because we all get so excited by the technology.

ElizabethB: Everything you have said has been very useful. I will be looking into those primary sources and backflip.

MarianneH: I would like to send a message to your teacher.

Jan_NS: All those neat bells and whistles!

KristiN: Yes, THANK YOU so much Jan and Marianne.

MarianneH: thank her for preparing you so well to participate... that is what made this such a good session.

KristiN: I will definitely share this info with my cluster members.

Jan_NS: Thank you for joining us!

VickiAB: thank you for all the good information

MarianneH: Thanks to you all.

Jan_NS: And please come back next month

Jan_NS: even if it is not a course requirement!

VickiAB: I sure will

Jan_NS laughs

DellaS: I have really been informed tonight and I appreciate all the websites as well and how to use [back]flip.

MarianneH: That is when you become a member of a community of learners.

MarianneH: We do have a group you can join as well to keep informed.

MarianneH: Jan, Can you take them there and show those who wish how to join?

Jan_NS: It is Preservice Teachers Group [to join the Preservice Teachers Group and be able to enter the group room to access resources, log in to Tapped In, click on SEARCH/Groups, enter Preservice Teachers and click on the Find It button. Once you have joined the group a link to the group room will be placed in the Favorite Places drop down menu. - Ed.]

DellaS: We have joined the community and are eager to learn, thanks for sharing with us.

KristiN: Yes, please show!!

KristiN: I have enjoyed Tapped In very much so far. I'm glad that we have begun using it in our technology class.

ElizabethB: Thanks again!

VanettaN: It has been an interesting visit

VickiAB: very informative

KristiN: Yes, thanks a bunch!