

# Developing a Network Community for Teachers to Share Technology Integration Ideas

Joi L. Moore

School of Information Science and Learning Technologies  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
USA  
moorejoi@coe.missouri.edu

Jane Howland

School of Information Science and Learning Technologies  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
USA  
jane@coe.missouri.edu

John Wedman

School of Information Science and Learning Technologies  
University of Missouri-Columbia  
USA  
wedmanjf@showme.missouri.edu

Isolation serves as a barrier to the growth of the teaching profession as a whole by restricting the information exchange needed to advance practice. Teachers are isolated from each other by design (i.e. one teacher for every classroom) rather than by choice. The isolation and associated restriction of information exchange also slows the change process and increases the likelihood of new ideas being continually reinvented rather than disseminated.

Our solution is to provide a friendly, fun, and effective web environment for teachers to disseminate ideas relating to technology integration and technology products produced by students. This web environment provides the following:

- central location for sharing and exchanging teacher ideas
- an easy and attractive interface for submitting and retrieving information
- quick access from school and home
- different representations of information that support the needs of the user
- on-line tutorials and workshops
- on-line chats with featured speakers