

NLLN Continuing Education Scholarship Reports for 2010

Theresa Borchert
Library Technology Conference 2010
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This past week I had the pleasure of attending and presenting at the 3rd annual Library Technology Conference. This was an energizing experience and I am very grateful to Northern Lights Library Network for their financial support. I am also grateful to NLLN for sponsoring "23 Things on a Stick" which gave Erika Rux and I the idea for using Zoho Creator to build the Electronic Resource Management Tool for our library which was the basis for our presentation "Using cloud computing to manage your electronic resources: OR You have HOW MANY spreadsheets?"
<http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/libtech_conf/2010/concurrent_a/58>
Thanks also for the use of the laptop computer during our session.

While I was only able to attend one day of the Library Technology Conference at Macalester it was great! The keynote address and luncheon presentation by Michael Porter, also known as Library Man, <<http://www.libraryman.com/blog/>> made you think about future tech gadgets and social online identity. What you say or do with your online identity for yourself and your library can be Good or Ugly. One thing that really caught my attention, was if you create a presence for your library, be prepared to take time for it and respond quickly to your followers.

I also attended the following sessions

1. "Digital Textbooks: Reading the Landscape"

<http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/libtech_conf/2010/concurrent_a/50>

Frederic W. Murray, Southwestern Oklahoma State University

A key idea I gained from this session was that if we go with digital textbooks they should be affordable, printable and accessible. Murray recommended a number of Open Textbook rather than ETextbooks as a best choice at this point in time.

2. "PALS and Open Source"

<http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/libtech_conf/2010/concurrent_a/42>

Mary Ann Greenwald, Linda Richter, and Jennifer Turner, PALS

PALS is exploring Open Source library tools including MnPALS Plus, PALS Connect Linker (projected production May 1, 2010), PALS ConnectERM and Evergreen. Open Source is a 'free' software option, that requires service and development. These options seem like possible solutions for many libraries in our economic crisis.

3. "Using technology to be creative, when managing labbies and computer support becomes part of the mix." <http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/libtech_conf/2010/concurrent_a/53>

Terry Huttenlock and Mary Carrington, Wheaton College (IL) presented some great ideas for motivating student workers, including cool video clips their students made.

Thank you for making this possible!

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