

# The Voice - CPDD Newsletter

## May 2014

### From the Editor

#### **Whack-a-Rutz**

Well in the short time since my last column on MOOCs Georgia Tech has made me look like a dull-witted school boy who has no imagination. Just wish it hadn't been so easy for them to do. In announcing a \$7,000 MS degree using the MOOC platform GT has created the first MOOCiversity (I think I just made that up).

While I wait for GT to call me and demand an apology, I do have a few questions that haven't yet been answered, or in the daily changing MOOCaverse, I haven't read about yet.

#### **Question 1**

From the GT web page regarding the degree, this question and response is posted in the FAQ section: "*Does this dilute the Georgia Tech experience—or value—for on-campus students?* Not at all. These technologies will enhance GT educational offerings in terms of overall quality, access and affordability. Further, Georgia Tech's existing MS CS program will remain a special experience that is qualitatively different—in terms of student community, faculty interaction, and project and thesis offerings—from the online offering, particularly for those students who wish to pursue a Ph.D. in computer science."

Is that special experience the difference between a traditional experience and the online experience, between the online content and the traditional content or something else? And is it just a qualitative difference if (only) traditional students will be admitted to PhD programs?

#### **Question 2**

Is there enough open source material of sufficient quality to avoid textbooks and copyright violations? Or perhaps the model will change and faculty will be willing to generate intellectual property that is part of a MOOC for which a small fee is charged to several thousand people (essentially eliminating the publishers).

#### **Question 3**

Is the pell-mell rush to offer MOOCs about access and democratization of education or about posturing and fear? Some of you know I have a degree in nuclear engineering and back in the early days of nuclear power some were spouting phrases like "electricity will be too cheap to meter". Didn't exactly turn out that way and my sense is quality education won't be "too cheap to meter" either.

But maybe I'm wrong. Maybe open access content and well-designed student to content interaction will provide the inexpensive degree options the state governors have been clamoring for.

Here's your chance to join GT in making me look silly. I call the game "Whack-a-Rutz" (like the game your kids played with a bat and rodents that popped out of the floor) and it uses the web 2.0 tool voicethread. You can see an intro to voicethreads [here](#) and contribute to the discussion by clicking on [whack-a-rutz](#).

Just don't get too much joy out of making me look silly!

*Eugene Rutz, Editor*  
(email comments / rebuttals / kudos to [eugene.rutz@uc.edu](mailto:eugene.rutz@uc.edu))

## Chair's Corner

Dear CPDD Members

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as your Chair for the next two years. I have been a proud "CPD'er" now since 2003 and in that time have richly benefitted from the exchange of information, ideas, and best practices openly shared between our members. However, the greatest satisfaction by far has been the meaningful and lasting relationships that I've built by working with the best and brightest stars in our business. It's a wonderful irony that as providers of continuing engineering professional development, we too have the opportunity to grow as professionals in this organization.

I hope you will be joining us at ASEE Annual Conference in a few short weeks and again for 2015 CIEC, February 4-6, Palm Springs. In between, please visit the CPDD Website and get involved with a Special Interest Group (SIG) through our online forum, CPDD Commons. More information on how to get involved follows.

Thank you!



*Paul Jewell*  
CPDD Chair (2014-2016)  
Engineering-LAS Online Learning (ELO)  
Iowa State University, College of Engineering



## SIGS

SIG group activity/communication continues to expand. Special thanks to Paul Jewell and Iowa State for helping develop and host a new CPD Commons site. Also thanks to Kim Scalzo for educating us all on how to effectively use this medium. More on that in another area of the Newsletter. We developed some great ideas for presentations for our CIEC 2015 conference in Palm Springs. This is a very important part of our CIEC meeting each year.

We have been encouraging all CPD members to get involved with SIGs and I am pleased to report we have had the best year of information exchange since I have been involved with SIG leadership. Following are examples of the topics: a) Bringing to members' attention significant emerging issues such as 508 Compliance and the vote by the California Senate to allow credit for MOOCs. b) Survey of members on a variety of topics including

- Faculty incentive models with data presented at next CIEC
- Is anyone doing MOOCs with lab content
- Is anyone offering on-line or distance based doctoral programs
- What faculty evaluation methods do you use

- What distance delivery recording techniques do faculty use
- Is anyone going to a particular conference

I want to especially thank Marty Ronan for initiating webinars to showcase excellent interaction between members and universities. You can read about upcoming webinars under “SIG News on the next page.

These examples show the value of the issues we all are facing and how we can share best practices. Although much of this information was shared real time, the next step is to get it compiled in our best practices site on the new website.

I am always open to suggestions to improve our SIGS and welcome any assistance anyone want to offer.

All the best!  
Mark Schuver

### **What are CPPD SIG’s (Special Interest Groups)?**

The Continuing Professional Development Division of ASEE is blessed with many diverse members from business, industry, government and academic institutions around the world. Groups have been formed in five areas based on member interest: Administration, Delivery, Faculty, Industry and International.

Descriptions of these areas and the current group leaders follow. We have two open leadership positions on our SIG team. My sincere thanks to Dr. Pasquale Cinnella at Mississippi State for his leadership on our SIG Adm.

### **SIG-Chair – (Mark Schuver – Purdue University)**

Serves as the main point of communication among the SIGs and between the CPDD Executive Board and the SIG Team Leaders; provides information to the membership about SIGs, chiefly through the Newsletter.

### **SIG-ADM – (Open)**

Members who are involved with the administrative aspects of development and delivery of credit and non-credit courses in science, technology, engineering and math fields.

### **SIG-DEL – (Marty Ronning – University of Maryland)**

Members from education and industry interested in the technical issues associated with the development and delivery of distributed/distance learning programs.

### **SIG-FAC – (Doug Ernie – University of Minnesota)**

Members interested in the issues relative to the education and training of engineering and technology professionals through continuing engineering education programs with emphasis on andragogical learning strategies, course development and other issues related to the education of adult learners.

**SIG-IND – (Lynda Coulson, Interim – Rolls-Royce Corp.)**

Members of business and industry, who are responsible for the analysis, design, development, implementation and evaluation of training and development programs for science, technology, engineering and math related occupations.

**SIG-INT - (Zach Gredlics – University of Kansas)**

Members for education and industry who are interested in the unique aspects of delivering training and education in science, technology, engineering and math related occupations in the international arena.

**How can CPDD membership and participating in a SIG benefit me and my organization?**

SIGs create opportunities to network with individuals from academics, government and business/industry to share best practices. With a simple email to the list-serve you can conduct a survey to find out what others are doing in your area of interest. The CPDD website contains information regarding current topics.

**How can I join a SIG?**

Contact the SIG Chair (currently Mark Schuver at [mschuver@purdue.edu](mailto:mschuver@purdue.edu) (765) 496-2094 or any Board Member.

**SIG News**

*Peer-ing in from the outside*

Last summer we started a new series of interactive facility tours. We were able to offer these in a videoconference and online format to all of our peer institutions. We had our first one in June from the University of Maryland and then a second in December by Iowa State University. We've received numerous positive comments on these events, especially since we record them and make them available on-demand. This summer, Dr. Doug Ernie, from The University of Minnesota has graciously offered to be our third tour guide and I'm excited to learn what they've done in renovating some rooms into more collaborative learning spaces.

These events have each been characterized as conversations among friends and we hope to continue with this informal yet informative format. I will announce a firm date and time for the summer tour as soon as it becomes available and will soon be recruiting a tour guide for December 2014. As usual, I will be happy to entertain volunteers for this mission as this is a great chance for each of us to share something new that is happening in our operation.

Marty Ronning, SIG-Del

**Valuable Tool to help assess your Program is now Free**

We are all being held increasingly accountable for the effectiveness of our programs. A new tool which the IACEE (International Association for Continuing Engineering Education) has just placed

online aims to help any organization concerned with continuing education in this task of assessing how it is doing. It does this by providing three things: 1) a carefully thought-out description of standards against which you can self-rate, 2) a database of information from other similar organizations against which you can benchmark, and 3) a repository of best practices from other organizations.

To encourage use and build up a large database quickly, IACEE is initially making its “Continuing Professional Development Benchmarking and Quality Improvement Program” or CPD-BQIP, available free to any continuing education organization. In particular, all CPDD member organizations are strongly encouraged to submit their demographic data, self-ratings, and best practices. In return, you will get excellent guidance on evaluating all aspects of your program (which can help guide your strategic planning), as well as access to ideas from other organizations about what works well for them. Go to [www.cpd-bqip.org](http://www.cpd-bqip.org) to learn more about the online tool and to log in to use it.

CPD-BQIP is a web-based version of the end result of the DAETE project ( ), a multi-national project which many of you have heard about at past CIEC and ASEE meetings, and which has evolved through several versions. If you have submitted any demographic data or self-ratings in the past to DAETE, they are being entered into the CPP-BQIP database. Please help make this tool as useful as possible by submitting your updated data and ratings.

### Highlights for upcoming ASEE Annual Conference, Indianapolis, June 15-18, 2014

- **ASEE Division Mixer, Sunday, June 15, 4:15-5:45 PM**, Indiana Convention Center (ICC), Please participate in this 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Division Mixer. Help us promote CPDD by bringing colleagues by your table and let them see the benefits of CPDD membership.
- **CPDD Business Meeting and Faculty Breakfast, Monday, June 16, 7:00 AM to 8:30 AM, ICC-Room 235** This is a free ticketed breakfast event (you must register) and a great opportunity to invite faculty members to share and learn more about teaching in distance learning environments.
- **CPDD Technical Session #1, Tuesday, June 17, 8:45 AM to 10:15 AM, ICC - Room 106** This session shares best practices as the underlying premise of professional education. Topics include faculty learning communities and educating educators.
- **CPDD Technical Session #2, Tuesday, June 17, 2:15 PM to 3:45 PM, ICC - Room 106** This session uses compare and contrast as a mechanism to better understand and evolve the practice of professional education. Topics focus on enhancing the student experience through integrated tools, benchmarking of professional delivery organizations and practices, and adult learning characteristics.

- **CPDD Technical Session #3, Tuesday, June 17, 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM, ICC – Room 106** This session focuses on the business of professional education. Topics discuss the building of industry-academia partnerships, creating business plans for MOOCs, and creating efficiencies and cost savings through collaboration with other colleges.

### Membership Report

#### CPDD would like to increase membership numbers and we need your help!

INVITE a colleague to join.

Do you know someone (colleagues from associations, businesses, and universities) who would benefit from being a member of ASEE and CPDD? Just email their name and contact information to [nancy-krus@utulsa.edu](mailto:nancy-krus@utulsa.edu) and / or [patricia-hall@utulsa.edu](mailto:patricia-hall@utulsa.edu) (Membership Coordinators) and Nancy or Pat will follow up with them.

#### CPDD Commons

<http://cpd.asee.org>

Your division has been working hard to improve online presence. In addition to a web site rich with information and resources for our members, we now have an integrated online forum for members to engage in topics of common interest. Suitably named the “CPDD Commons” this is YOUR online forum.

<https://cpd.asee.org/commons/>

CPD Commons was launched at CIEC 2014 in Savannah, GA. You can visit this site now (link on cpd.asee.org) and read the group notes from the popular MOOC Workshop, but why be a “Lurker” when you can join the conversation in a Special Interest Group (SIG) and take advantage of the collective wisdom of this great division.

As members of CPDD you will soon be receiving an e-mail invitation to join this forum. Your invitation to join CPD Commons will appear like the message below. Please take advantage and join the Commons:

#### **[CPD-Commons] Your username and password**

CPD-Commons <wordpress@cpd.asee.org>  
[DATE]

To: newuser@email.com

Username: [USERNAME]

Password: [PASSWORD]

<https://cpd.asee.org/commons/wp-login.php>

Please use this site for ongoing discussions and information sharing.



The Conference for Industry and Education Collaboration (CIEC) is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year in Palm Springs, CA, February 4-6, 2015. The conference theme will focus on Engineering Education: Past, Present and Future and will highlight the accomplishments of the four sponsoring divisions: Cooperative and Experiential Education Division (CEED), College-Industry Partnerships Division (CIPD), Continuing Professional Development Division (CPDD) and the Engineering Technology Division (ETD). For more information about the CIEC 2015 conference, contact Linda Krute at [ldkrute@ncsu.edu](mailto:ldkrute@ncsu.edu).