New Smart Room Utilizes Technology Tools to Enhance Teaching and Learning Process

Faculty Members Fill Bloomberg Posts

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Bloomberg said, “Dr. Chu will bring a broad community-wide perspective to the task of managing our public health care system.”

The Corporation oversees the operations of the city’s municipal agencies and organizations, through the City’s Department of Economic De-
velopments, providing general, chronic, ambulatory and skilled nursing care, to promote the health of the city’s elderly and frail. Chu was among the faculty to sign up when

BY LAUREN MARSHALL

Because of the wide TV-like screen, the classroom overkalming Lewison lawn might feel a bit like a living room, if it weren’t for the b6 students and two professors in front of it. Here in 308 Lewison, tech-

ology plus traditional lecture equates a new kind of learning experi-

ence for students, and a creative but surprisingly natural teaching experience for the professors.

308 Lewison is one of the newest smart classrooms on the Columbia campus. It is currently used by the Columbia Center for New Media Teaching and Learning (CCNMTL). In it, a 50-inch flat

screen is a standard on which students work outside the market and

institutions to join as affiliates. It is almost like my class now enjoys from wireless access, to the ease-to-

input on a number of issues

impacting New York City—


demonstrated that transfer of technolo-

gy from research to application can

revolutionize semiconductor manu-

facturing. Third Space, the name of the Office of Science and

Technology Transfer program demon-

strates that we know how to put

innovations of international institu-

tions utilizes this inventive capacity on an international scale and not just on a local level.”

are invited to contribute to the Columbia’s well established technolo-

gies that share a common problem.

But the University’s experiences with

technology transfer, an adviser to the World Health Organization, and has authored Mayors and Politicians: An Analysis of Federal Homelessness Policy and Medicaid. Chu has also been awarded grants to analyze public health at the University of Chicago. (1997). She has

received grants to analyze pub-

lic policy and political partici-

pation, including the implementa-

tion of the National Voter Reg-

istration Act, evaluation of the federal homeless policy and political participation in New York City and New York State, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development evaluation of the federal home-

lessness policy.

Frieden has been working for the World Health Organization in India as a medical officer on tuberculosis control. He has also been assistant commission-

er at the Health Department, an adviser to the World Bank and the World Health Organization for the Disease Control and Prevention.

Toni Fournier is one of the nation’s most respected experts in public health in general and epidemiology in particular. She is the ideal appointment for Health Commissioner as we seek to

reassure and protect all New Yorkers.”

Awn and Meyer enhanced the natural rhythm of the class using the technology. While Awn spoke about the influence of St. Augustine on the Judaeo Christian tradition, Meyer might be tracing invisible lines on the smartboard screen to scroll through the online multi-media study environment On Christian Doctrine that he helped CCNMTL to build. There he could quickly access texts that applied to the day’s discussion topic. Meyer might find a video clip from a BBC production that related to the discussion on St. Augustine, click on it and ask the students to comment on how it related to the course and the smartboard might be entirely forgotten, as the natural discourse between several students carried the discussion in a completely new direction.

But at any given point, Meyer could scroll through an online resource, find a passage from an ancient text that applies to the dis-

cussion and ground it again in text by inviting the students to read and

comment on the text together.

“The purposeful use of technology should be seamless as a process as possible,” said Meyer. “It is as if you have a chef in the kitchen who does-

n’t think about the technology assist-

ing him or her, but just uses it intru-

sively. It takes a time commitment and practice to get there, but the ben-

efits to the student are tangible because you can see in the middle of a dinnion how it can enhance understanding of the subject.”

In Awn and Meyer’s classroom, the technology is not just a variety of

ways. The group could also post or access different resources on the CCNMTL wiki, and the smart screen and easily compare them in class. Or video, audio, image and text could be pulled up as a point of departure for conversation, which helped to engage student interest through the sight and sound.

In addition to content-rich CCNMTL-developed resources, such as On Christian Doctrine, Awn and Meyer also used the smart board to employ CCNMTL-developed tools to enhance learning. Third Space, an online spin-off of the smartboard, includes video clips that can be annotated and shared over the Internet, enabled students to contribute their own video clips to the class’s popularly acclaimed series The Power of Myth, and post on the class bulletin board. Students can bookmark their favorite clip and even their favorite clip demonstrate-

ning a theme discussed in class. Both professors and students used the CU Analyzer, a tool that enables the user to easily compile a multi-

media presentation or product by

pulling items off the Internet and organizing them for presentation. Professors have also used Awn to prepare and share discussions with multi-

media resources and students used it to prepare their final class project. Might need to delete this whole pas-

sage because of space.

...“It is almost like my class now has a desktop,” said one faculty member in an evaluation of the space. Several good ideas to test and I bring my briefcase...