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Learning and Engagement

IM / Spring 2016 EDITION



Discovery Lab News from the Vera W. Russell Curriculum & Technology Center

For many decades, classrooms, especially elementary classrooms, involved a high level of hands on activity. Teachers were skilled in setting up learning centers where students could explore deeply at their own pace. Sadly, more recent decades have seen a decline in the opportunity for such independent exploration. The emphasis on the need for data, particularly from standardized testing performance, has greatly diminished, if not completely extinguished, the amount of time that can be spared for creative play and exploration. The current makerspace movement is a direct result of a desire to restore play and creativity in the classroom.

A makerspace can take many forms and contain a range of resources, from robotics to craft supplies. In some schools, makerspaces are found in classrooms, while in other schools, they are part of a media center or a learning commons.

In the SCSU School of Education, the Discovery Lab (formerly the Instructional Technology Discovery Lab (ITDL)), is evolving into a makerspace featuring robots, circuitry, games, window crayons, Legos, and paper and coloring supplies. At a recent Discovery Lab Open House held at the CTC (curriculum Technology Center) located in the Education Building, students and faculty were able to get some hands on experience with various technologies that fall under the S.T.E.M (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education.

Discovery Lab resources include Dot & Dash, Makeymakey Go!, Ozobots,

“ The current makerspace movement is a direct result of a desire to restore play and creativity in the classroom. ”

Brain Teasers, and Osmo kits for interactive iPad gaming.. By exploring the resources independently and creatively, innovative ways of incorporating them into learning environments can be developed. The Discovery Lab provides these resources and opportunities for exploration not only for students, but also for faculty and staff professional development. Hopefully, makerspace exploration will return the classrooms of the future to spaces where play and creativity are valued. Next time you are in the School of Education, stop by the Discovery Lab to see what you can create.

>> CONT. PAGE TWO

Discovery Lab

>> Continuation of Makerspace article

As an added benefit, in addition to charging up your maker self, creative play can serve as a great stress reliever!

For more detailed information about the makerspace movement, see *Invent to Learn: Making, Tinkering and Engineering in the Classroom* by Martinez and Stager (2013) as well as trade and professional journals such as *Make* or *School Library Journal*.

Note: Marcia Thompson and Tiffany Miley will be leading a one day workshop on makerspaces during the School of Education Teacher Renew U Week in June. Come to the Discovery Lab and play with us. [Click here for more information.](#)

MAKERSPACE



Caitlin Hites Alumni Profile



This issue's Alumni Corner piece features Caitlin Hites, a recent graduate of the Instructional Design & Training master's program, with a great story to tell. Caitlin spent a lot of time at SCSU. She completed her undergraduate degree here as well as her –not one, but two– graduate degrees. Despite her mother's (Jeanne Anderson) involvement with the Information Media department, Caitlin admits that she wasn't sold on web-based education originally. "I heard things. I heard people say that it was really easy or really hard. I was looking for some technology skills, so I decided to sign up for an online IM class. I was surprised by how well

it worked. My classes were online and my professor wasn't even in the same state, but I felt like she was right there with us." After that experience, Caitlin was hooked. While studying for those two master's degrees, Caitlin was a member of the Academic Technologies Team. As a member of the team, she used her IM experience and education to help professors with online quality standards, create edifying modules, and design game-based learning. Some of her online, self-paced, English courses are still available at the School of Graduate studies.

Many people know someone who had to be an intern. Internships can open doors or they can delay dreams. Some might have heard of interns who spent much of their retrieving coffee. It is safe to say that Caitlin didn't spend her time delivery coffee. Caitlin's experience and education got her a ticket into the magic kingdom, a.k.a. Disney World in Orlando, Florida. While at Disney, Caitlin worked as an intern with the instructional design staff. She's got a lot of memories about the experience, but her favorite is a game she created. "I still get thank-you notes from people in that class" she says. "They loved that crossword puzzle," demonstrating that sometimes the simplest design is still the best.

Caitlin is now a training coordinator and instructional designer at the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire. She's currently focusing most of her energy on training coordination and logistics. "I basically operate the training center" she states. On any given day, one can find Caitlin creating work schedules, troubleshooting issues, managing student trainers, adjusting payroll, designing websites, and training new hires. "I really like my job" she says. "I could see myself being director some day." Keeping shooting for those stars, Caitlin. You're definitely one of them from this department.

Andrew Dahlberg Student Worker, CTC



I am from St. Cloud, Minnesota, but I was born in Colorado Springs, Colorado. I have one brother and over twelve half siblings. As a CTC worker, I check materials in and out, shelf supplies, and help folks find what they are looking for and show them how to make use of the resources in the CTC. My education at SCSU has prepared me to work in this position by teaching me

generally accepted accounting practices and how to apply them in business

management. I enjoy managing finances for businesses and analyzing financial reports to help me make decisions about managing a business.

I like football, enjoying the great outdoors, and am a pretty good chess player. I've been to a handful of states and the only other country I've been to is Canada. The people who have influenced me the most are my mother, my uncles, David Weinstein, Andrew Carnegie, Sam Walton, Evan Spiegel, and Will Allen. My favorite topics are Biographies, documentaries, business, politics, football. Thank you.

Yewon Sung Graduate Assistant, IM



Hello! I am Yewon Sung and the newest graduate assistant in Information Media. I am from Seoul, South Korea, which is about 6,200 miles away from Saint Cloud. I moved from Korea to United States to enter SCSU fall semester in 2015. There were big challenges starting this new academic path including being separated from my family. My family consists

of my father, mother, older brother, sister-in-law, a niece, my husband and me. My father and mother influenced me a lot by encouraging and supporting my life goals in education. Thus, I respect my parents a lot. I have been married since last summer. My husband is a first Lieutenant in the Korean military. Even though we live far from each other now, we hope to live together after completing his mandatory period of service.

I started to work as a Graduate Assistant in the department of Information Media, spring semester in 2016. I administer the Computer Competency

Test, assist with the School of Education Newsletter, and also help out in the Curriculum and Technology Center. I do appreciate this opportunity which enables me to know more about a working atmosphere in United States. My majors are special education and curriculum and instruction, which have helped me to communicate with students and faculty in School of Education. My previous working experience was as an elementary school teacher, which helped me to understand the information media area. When I taught students in my classroom, I usually used multimedia to help with student comprehension.

One of my hobbies is to learn about new cultures. The first step to learning is visiting and meeting the people. When I was a university student, I studied abroad as an exchange student in Japan. I have been to various countries including India, Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Japan, China, in addition to the United States. My husband and I visited the Grand Canyon between fall and spring semesters. I really love Minnesota and I want to learn more about the United States.

Lisa Gearman

As noted in the fall 2015 issue of this newsletter, Lisa Gearman, who earned licensure and her MS in Information Media from St. Cloud State University, has been honored as the Media Specialist of the Year by the Information and Technology Educators of Minnesota (ITEM). Lisa is an educator who has worked in the Eastern Carver County School District for 23 years: 18 years as an English teacher, and then the past five years as a media specialist.

Teaching and learning are a passion for Lisa. A lifelong learner, Lisa readily admits that she loves to take classes. This love of learning is reflected in her current job title: Information Innovation Learning Specialist (IILS). In this role, Lisa curates 21st century digital information in a way that helps bridge the gap between the students and staff and the overwhelming amount of information that is available to them. To be innovative allows Lisa to rethink, reinvent, and reimagine ways school libraries could look in the future, especially their role in transforming learning to facilitate each student's individual learning style.



One of Lisa's initiatives is finding ways to assist students in developing a positive digital presence that goes beyond the four walls of a classroom. To do this, she specifically uses social media, Skype and other digital tools. In addition to digital experiences, the students gain skills in problem solving and learning independently. To further encourage exploration and utilization of the digital world, Lisa is organizing the Chaska High School Media Center for its very own "sandbox," where students will experiment with personalized and flexible learning spaces.

The opportunities for creative learning are as boundless as Lisa's enthusiasm and energy for implementing them. Kudos to you, Lisa, for all that you do, and for being such a stellar representative of the Information Media department and the evolving role of the media specialist.

Scholarships 2016

We proudly announce the scholarship recipients for the 2016-17 academic year. Through the generosity of alumni, friends and faculty of the department we were able to award \$9950 in scholarships to deserving students. The scholarships and recipients are:

Scholarship	Recipient (s)
Luther Brown	Davidson Blanchard and Dustee Phenow
Dennis and Anne Fields	Davidson Blanchard
Bonnie Hedin	Tamara Rubin
Dr. Doreen Keable	LaDonna Larson
Carl and Marilyn Savage	Kirsten Uran and Robert Kapfhammer
Mert and Marcia Thompson	Alex Voigt

The donors and recipients of these scholarships will be celebrated at the fall 2016 Dessert Fest.

Instructional Coaching with SoE Faculty Members Kristen Carlson



Over the course of the semester, I was able to devote the equivalent of three credit hours to helping other School of Education faculty members in the transition from face-to-face to online courses. This instructional coaching was available to faculty members who had an interest in transitioning one of their current courses. During one-to-one sessions, we discussed online engagement through collaborative activities, worked on learning the ins-and-outs of Adobe Connect, and practiced advanced skills in D2L Brightspace. The first coached course will be offered online during the summer session with two more courses set to be offered in the fall. Hopefully, from this opportunity, additional faculty members will step forward for instructional coaching!

Teacher Toolbox Sessions in the Discovery Lab

Throughout Spring semester, the Curriculum & Technology Center Discovery Lab was the site for quick "on the go" professional development opportunities for faculty and students. Weekly 30 minute sessions were designed to give brief overviews of devices, apps, and trends. Time was built in to each session for creative exploration and discussion. Topics included math apps, digital story telling apps, use of the Swivl, and Osmo in the classroom. Attendance was light, but by the end of the semester, there was a small but loyal group of SoE faculty and students attending each week. Sessions will again be offered in Fall, 2016.



Chair's Corner



The theme for this issue of the IM Newsletter is “Learning and Engagement.” Few would argue that much learning can be accomplished without the engagement of the students. But what is engagement and how do we bring it about? Some random thoughts.

Student engagement is defined as investment or commitment by Marks (2000) or effortful involvement in the learning by Reschly and Christenson (2012). But it is a vague concept at best. How is engagement measured? The most commonly used tools appear to be self reporting and observation, both of which have major limitations. If students are self reporting, in addition to pressure from the teacher or others to indicate that they were fully engaged, there is also the issue of the limited ability to accurately judge our own engagement. Right now I believe I am engaged in writing this short piece, but when I pause to consider the next sentence and glance out the window I notice a piece of something shiny blowing in the grass. Because the mind can process information faster than others can speak, we have a tendency to wander mentally. Who has not had the experience of thinking

they were completely engaged in a conversation or event only to discover that they missed something such as when being asked a direct question. The other tool, the use of trained observers to watch for engagement, also has limitations. Unless the engagement being observed results in some type of overt behavior, such as manipulating objects, observers are often not able to determine if the brain activity is focused on the task at hand or something else.

When my daughters were young, I was impressed by how much they learned in their first year of life. At birth they things they could do or control were very limited: they could cry, sleep, take in nourishment and eliminate waste. One year later I could not begin to list all of the things they could do and control. The amount of learning that takes place in that first year is never duplicated again in a lifetime. Are they engaged in their learning? I would argue that if they are awake, they are engaged; constantly observing, mimicking, experimenting. Why is it that in formal education and training environments we often struggle to keep people engaged when it is so natural early in our lives?

Our formal educational system and business training departments have moved away from the idea of play. We have become focused on tangible results, often measured through standardized tests. We have even eliminated recess from some school schedules to allow more time for direct instruction and testing. Yet play and the engagement that results from it are exactly how much learning in our early years of life is accomplished.

What can you do to help the people you work with become more engaged in their learning?

Marks, H. M. (2000). Student engagement in instructional activity: Patterns in the elementary, middle, and high school years. *American Educational Research Journal*, 37 (1), 53–184. doi: 10.3102/00028312037001153

Reschly, A. L. & Christenson, S. L. (2012). Jingle, jangle, and conceptual haziness: Evolution and future directions of the engagement construct. In S.L. Christenson, A.L. Reschly, C. Wylie (Eds.), *Handbook of Research on Student Engagement* (pp. 3–20). doi: 10.1007/978-1-4614-2018-7_1



2016 Teacher Renew U

Workshops for professional and classroom development

June 13-16 • Education Building • St. Cloud State University

- Day-long workshops.
- Renew, rejuvenate and grow your professional expertise.
- Sessions may be used for CEUs.

Workshops offered:

- Make it Happen at St. Cloud State's Discovery Lab
- Communication and Intervention Methods
- Game-based Learning
- Helping Students Gain Inner Wealth
- Mindfulness and Stress Management for Teachers
- Quirky or Serious: Signs of Early-Onset Mental Illness
- Flipping Your Classroom
- Inference and Paraphrasing: Strategies for Teaching

Details and registration:

STCLOUDSTATE.EDU/SOE/TEACHER-RENEW-U

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WORKSHOPS



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ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

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IM Graduate Course Offering Plan*

2015 - 2018

Course	SS 15	F 15	S 16	SS 16	F 16	S 17	SS 17	F17	S18	SS 18	Required in Program
502		X			X			X			I, II, III, LMS
504		X		X	X			X		X	I, II, III, IT, EL, LMS, UIT
514	X			X			X			X	I, TI
554			X			X			X		I, II, III, IT
555	X		X		X		X	X			I, II, III, IT, TI, LMS, UIT
556			X			X			X		I, III, EL, TI
562			X		X			X			I
608			X			X			X		I, II, III
612	X			X			X			X	I, II, III, TI, LMS
620		X			X			X			II, LMS
621	X			X			X			X	II, LMS
625			X			X			X		II, LMS
626			X			X			X		II, LMS
628		X			X			X			II, LMS
632					X						III
634		X			?			X			III
638						X					III
646			X			X			X		I, III, EL
656		X			X			X			III, EL
680			X			X			X		III
681			X			X			X		I
682		X	X		X	X		X	X		II, LMS

*This plan is subject to change upon student demand and available resources

Information Media Summer Session

Summer Session I

May 16- June 23

IM Class	Sec	Course ID	Course Title	Instructor	Credits	Dates	Days	Time	Room	Enrollment Cap
260	1	000126	Exploring Digital Media	Carlson	3	5/16-6/16	MTW R	12:30 -2:30	EB A124	15
260	54	000127	Exploring Digital Media Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Carlson	3	5/16-6/16	MTW R	12:30 -2:30	EB A124	15
422	1	000128	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education.	Carlson	2	5/16-6/16	MTW R	10:00 -12:00	EB A124	22
522	54	000131	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education. Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Carlson	2	5/16-6/16	MTW R	10:00 -12:00	EB A124	3

Summer Session II June 27- August 4

IM Class	Sec	Course ID	Course Title	Instructor	Credits	Dates	Days	Time	Room	Enrollment Cap
404	1	000141	Instructional Design I	Anderson	3	6/27-7/28	MTWR	12:30-2:30 pm	MC B18	6
414	1	000136	Technology Integration		3	6/27-7/28	MTWR	10:00-12:00 noon	MC B18	6
422	3	000137	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education		2	6/27-7/28	MTWR	10:00-12:00 noon	EB A124	22
504	54	000138	Instructional Design I Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Anderson	3	6/27-7/28	MTWR	12:30-2:30 pm	MC B18	19
504	55		Instructional Design I Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Thompson, Me	3	7/12-8/4 7/12 F2F in North Branch, remaining classes synchronously online	TR	1:00-5:50 pm		25
514	54	000133	Technology Integration Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.		3	6/27-7/28	MTWR	10:00-12:00 noon	MC B18	19
522	3	000132	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education		2	6/27-7/28	MTWR	10:00-12:00 noon	EB A124	3
612	54	000143	Technology in the Workplace Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Thompson, Mert	3	6/27-7/28	MTWR	7:30-9:30 a.m.	MC B18	25
621	54	000145	Reading, Listening, & Viewing Guidance and Selection of Resources for Children Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Thompson, Marcia	3	6/27-7/28	MTWR	10:00-12:00 noon	MC B17	25

Information Media Fall Schedule 2016

Undergraduate/Graduate Classes

IM Class	Sec	Course ID	Course Title	Instructor	Credits	Days	Time	Room	Enrollment Cap
260	1	000692	Exploring Digital Media	Anderson	3	TR	9:30 – 10:45	MC 206	32
260	2	000693	Exploring Digital Media	Anderson	3	TR	11:00 – 12:15	MC 206	32
260	54	001623	Exploring Digital Media Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Carlson	3	TR	12:30 – 1:45	MC 206	32
260	4	000698	Exploring Digital Media	Park	3	TR	2:00 – 3:15	MC 206	32
404	1	000701	Instructional Design I	Park	3	R	5:00 – 7:30	MC B17	10
504	54	001627	Instructional Design I Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Park	3	R	5:00 – 7:30	MC B17	15
421 521	1 1	000702 000703	Information, Technology, and Learning for Elementary Education	Thompson, Ma	2	MW	8:00 – 9:50	EB A124	24 1
421 521	2 2	000704 000706	Information, Technology, and Learning for Elementary Education	Thompson, Ma	2	MW	10:00 – 11:50	EB A124	24 1

Information Media Fall Schedule 2016

Undergraduate/Graduate Classes

422 522	1 1	000708 000707	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education	Thompson, Me	2	TR	11:00 – 12:15	EB A124	24 1
422 522	2 2	000710 000709	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education	Thompson, Me	2	TR	12:30 – 1:45	EB A124	24 1
422 522	3 3	000712 000711	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education. STEM majors only	Carlson	2	TR	2:00 – 3:50	EB A124	24 1
423 523	1 1	000714 000713	Information, Technology and Learning for Early Childhood Education	Carlson	3	TR	9:30 – 10:45	EB A124	24 1
455	1	000715	Design and Preparation of Multimedia Presentations I	Anderson	3	W	5:00 – 7:30	EB A124	10
555	54	001642	Design and Preparation of Multimedia Presentations I Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Anderson	3	W	5:00 – 7:30	EB A124	15
555	55	001648	Design and Preparation of Multimedia Presentations I Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Overload/a djunct	3	W	10/19-12/14, no class 11/23 5:00 – 9:45	North Branch	25

Graduate Only Classes

IM Class	Sec	Course ID	Course Title	Instructor	Credits	Days	Time	Room	Enrollment Cap
502	54	001652	Information Media: Theory, Research, and Practice Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Carlson	3	M	5:00 – 7:40	MC B18	25
620	54	001654	School Library Media Program Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Thompson, Ma	3	T	5:00 – 7:30	MC B17	25
628	54	001656	Administration of Media Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Thompson, Me	3	M	5:00 – 7:40	MC B17	25
632	54	001657	Training/Human Resource Development Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Park	3	T	5:00 – 7:30	MC B18	25
656	54	001660	Computer-based Authoring Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Anderson	3	T	5:00 – 7:30	EB A124	25

Practicum/Internship

IM Class	Sec	Course ID	Course Title	Instructor	Credits	Enrollment Cap
682	1	000716	School Library Media Specialist Practicum Permission Required: Please contact the dept. for more information	Thompson, Ma	1-6	Arr.

Information Media

Spring Schedule 2017

IM Class	Sec	Course ID	Course Title	Instructor	Credits	Days	Time	Room	Enrollment Cap
260	1	000373	Exploring Digital Media	Anderson	3	TR	9:30 – 10:45	MC 206	32
260	2	000374	Exploring Digital Media	Park	3	TR	11:00 – 12:15	MC 206	32
260	4	000376	Exploring Digital Media	Park	3	TR	12:30 – 1:45	MC 206	32
260	54	001860	Exploring Digital Media Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Carlson	3	TR	2:00 – 3:15	MC 206	32
421 521	1	000382 000381	Information, Technology, and Learning for Elementary Education	Thompson, Ma	2	MW	8:00 – 9:50	EB A124	24 1
421 521	2	000385 000384	Information, Technology, and Learning for Elementary Education	Carlson	2	MW	10:00 – 11:50	EB A124	24 1
422 522	1	000388 000387	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education	Carlson	2	TR	9:30 – 10:45	EB A124	24 1
422 522	2	000390 000389	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education	Carlson	2	TR	11:00 – 12:15	EB A124	24 1
422 522	3	000392 000391	Information, Technology, and Learning for K-12 and 5-12 Education	Thompson, Me	2	TR	2:00 – 3:15	EB A124	22 3
456	1	000393	Design and Preparation of Multimedia Presentations II	Carlson	3	W	5:00 – 7:30	EB A124	12

Spring Schedule 2017

Continued..

556	54	001861	Design and Preparation of Multimedia Presentations II Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Carlson	3	W	5:00 – 7:30	EB A124	13
556	55	001862	Design and Preparation of Multimedia Presentations II Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Overload/ad junct	3	W	5:00-9:45	North Branch	25

IM & CTC Social Media

IM Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_326983293392&ap=1

IM Twitter

https://twitter.com/IM_SCSU

CTC Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Vera-W-Russell-Curriculum-and-Technology-Center/108583342511651>

Information Media

Spring Schedule 2017






Graduate Only Classes

IM Class	Sec	Course ID	Course Title	Instructor	Credits	Days	Time	Room	Enrollment Cap
554	54	001863	Developing Skills for Online Teaching and Learning Course meets through distance technology. Some synchronous meetings required.	Park	3	R	5:00 – 7:30	MC B18	25
608	54	001864	Research Methods in Media Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Anderson	3	M	5:00 – 7:50	MC B18	25
612	54	001865	Technology in the Workplace Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Thompson, Me	3	M	5:00 – 7:50	MC B18	25
625	54	001866	Reading, Listening, Viewing Guidance and Selection of Resources for Young Adults Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Thompson, Ma	3	T	5:00 – 7:30	MC B17	25
638	54	001867	Organizational Training and Media Management Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Park	3	T	5:00 – 7:30	MC B18	25
646	54	001868	Facilitating and Administering E-Learning Course meets through distance technology. Synchronous meetings required.	Anderson	3	R	5:00 – 7:30	EB A124	25






Practicum/Internship

IM Class	Sec	Course ID	Course Title	Instructor	Credits
680	1	000394	Internship in Media Permission Required: Please contact the dept. for more information	Thompson, Me	2-6
681	1	000396	Internship in Technology Integration Permission Required: Please contact the dept. for more information	Thompson, Me	1-3
682	1	000397	Library Media Specialist Practicum Permission Required: Please contact the dept. for more information	Thompson, Ma	1-6

Faculty Contact Information

Name	Office	Phone	Email
Information Media Office	EB B118	(320) 308-2062	im@stcloudstate.edu
Faculty			
Chair: Mert Thompson		EB A142	(320) 308-4775 methompson@stcloudstate.edu
Jeanne Anderson		EB A143	(320) 308-4823 jeanne@stcloudstate.edu
Kristen Carlson		EB A141	(320) 308-5375 kmcarlson@stcloudstate.edu
Yun Jeong Park		EB A150	(320) 308 - 3549 ypark@stcloudstate.edu
Marcia Thompson		EB A144	(320) 308-2120 mthompson@stcloudstate.edu

Staff/GA Information

Name	Office	Phone	Email
Staff			
Kimberly Rose 	EB B118	(320) 308-2062	karose@stcloudstate.edu
Graduate Assistants			
Tiffany Miley 	EB A127	(320) 308-3832	ctc@stcloudstate.edu
Robert Kapfhammer 	EB A120D	(320) 308-4193	imga5@stcloudstate.edu
Melanie Howe 	EB A120D	(320) 308-4193	imga1@stcloudstate.edu
Yewon Sung 	EB A120D	(320) 308-4193	imga3@stcloudstate.edu

The Information Media Department faculty and staff welcome news of events, issues, and current and former students. To forward news items or change of address information, please contact:

Information Media Department
 Education Building, Room B118
 St. Cloud State University
 720 4th Avenue South
 St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498
 Telephone: 1-320-308-2062
 e-mail: imga4@stcloudstate.edu
<http://www.stcloudstate.edu/im/>

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Co-editors:
 Yewon Sung, imga3@stcloudstate.edu,
 Melanie Howe, imga1@stcloudstate.edu, and
 Robert Kapfhammer, imga5@stcloudstate.edu;
 Dr. Merton Thompson, Faculty Advisor, e-mail:
methompson@stcloudstate.edu

