



Annual Report July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

## Institute for Research on Learning Technologies

Director:	Ron Owston
Admin Contact:	Elma Thomas
Address:	1029 TEL Building
Tel:	416-736-5019
Fax:	416-736-5913
E-Mail:	rowston@edu.yorku.ca
Website:	<a href="http://irlt.yorku.ca">http://irlt.yorku.ca</a>

INSTITUTE FOR  
RESEARCH ON  
LEARNING  
TECHNOLOGIES

4700 Keele St.,  
TEL1029  
Toronto ON  
Canada M3J 1P3  
Tel 416 736 5019  
Fax 416 736 5913

<http://irlt.yorku.ca>

### 1. Background and Mandate

The Institute for Research on Learning Technologies (IRLT) has a broad mandate to engage in systematic inquiry, discussion, and information sharing related to the uses of technology in teaching and learning. Originally established in 1987 within the Faculty of Education as the Centre for the Study of Computers in Education (CSCE), the Institute became a university-based research unit in June 2001 and was re-named. IRLT encourages the formation of links with faculty members across the university and with schools, government, and industry to provide collaborative, multidisciplinary approaches to research problems and issues. More specifically, the goals of the Institute are as follows:

- To engage in research, study, and public discussion of issues related to the pedagogical uses of technology and to the moral, ethical, and educational implications of its use;
- To develop projects that make innovative uses of new technologies in teaching and learning;
- To maintain an active program to disseminate findings of its projects, its activities, and developments in the field to educators and other interested parties;
- To foster collaboration between academics, educators, and industry and government personnel on research and development problems and issues of mutual concern and interest.

During the 2005-06 academic year, IRLT members developed and approved a six year plan. We began with an ambitious vision: *to strive to become, within six years, one of the premier university-based research institutes in North America focusing on the study of teaching and learning with technology*. Eight strategic goals were adopted to help achieve this vision. These are listed below together with brief comments on achievements in each area.

STRATEGY	ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING 2006-07
Form Special Interest Groups (SIG) in Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One SIG entitled <i>Digital Culture and the Arts</i> was formed</li> </ul>
Increase Our External Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increased efforts made to identify faculty as IRLT members when publishing/ speaking</li> <li>▪ IRLT website was completely redesigned</li> </ul>
Initiate a Visiting Scholars Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One scholar agreed to visit during 2006-07 but cancelled out</li> </ul>
Influence the Hiring Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Submissions made to AVP (Research) and to Graduate Programme in Psychology for a position in the Learning Sciences</li> </ul>
Establish an External Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Established in spring 2006</li> </ul>
Restructure Executive Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Coordinators of SIGs are members of the Executive.</li> </ul>
Raise Funding for Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Digital Futures Fund for faculty/staff donations is operating.</li> <li>▪ A submission was made to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. We received funding for a specific project (see Owston grants below)</li> </ul>
Obtain Secure Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Funding agreement worked out with AVP (Research) for 1/3 clerical support person to be shared for 2007-2008 with the Faculty Support Centre.</li> </ul>

## 2. Organizational Structure and Staffing

### *Personnel*

Because IRLT is a university-based research unit, the Vice-President (Research and Innovation), appoints a director who manages IRLT. The current and founding director is Professor Ron Owston (Education). York University provides release time and an administrative stipend according to the YUFA collective agreement. Professor Mary Leigh Morbey (Education) has been Associate Director since 2001 (except during her sabbatical in 2004-2005 when Professor Renate Wickens, Fine Arts, assumed her responsibilities).

IRLT employs Herb Wideman full time on annual contract as Senior Researcher, while Kathryn Cook (a faculty member at Georgian College) occasionally works part time as Research Assistant and is voluntary Web master. Typically, the Institute hires four to five students annually as Graduate Research Assistants on various research projects.

### *Governance*

The Executive Committee is responsible for setting strategic priorities and policies for IRLT. Its membership consists of the following: the Director, Associate Director,

two Members-at-Large, SIG coordinator(s), and a Graduate Student. In 2006-07, Professor Suzanne Macdonald (Health), Richard Jarrell (Science & Engineering), and Christine Brown (Education graduate student) filled the latter three positions. Professor Morbey filled the Associate Director and the Digital Culture and the Arts SIG coordinator positions. The Members-at-Large and the graduate student members are approved annually by the membership; the others are ex-officio voting positions.

Our Advisory Board met two times during the 2006-2007 academic year. The terms of reference for the Board are as follows:

- To provide an external view of IRLT activities and outputs
- Advise on strategic directions and opportunities
- Raise the profile of IRLT with external communities.

The Board consists of three external members as well as the Executive Committee. The external members in 2006-07 were Marty Keast (Pearson Canada), Lynne Zucker (Sun Microsystems Canada) and Robert Martellacci (Mindshare Learning).

### *Publications*

IRLT publishes a series of technical reports based on members' research. These reports are made available to the research community at the Institute's Web site. A listing of this past year's reports is below in the *Activities* section.

### **3. Active Membership List**

IRLT has members from all Faculties at York as well as Glendon College. Some IRLT members focus on learning technologies as their primary research interest with all of their publications and grant writing centering on this topic; others have it as a secondary or joint research interest and publish less regularly in this area; while still others are mainly interested in improving their teaching through the use of technology, receive teaching/project development grants, and/or write conference papers about their teaching with technology and more generally support IRLT's goals. Membership is voluntary and members are not formally reviewed. York faculty membership for 2006-07 was as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Alison Griffith	Faculty of Education
Ananya Mukherjee-Reed	Department of Political Science, Faculty of Arts
Avi Cohen	Department of Economics, Faculty of Arts
Bill Found	Faculty of Arts/Environmental Studies
Caitlin Fisher	Department of Film, Faculty of Fine Arts
Carolyn Steele	Career Centre
Dalton Kehoe	Division of Social Science, Faculty of Arts
Evelyne Corcos	Department of Psychology, Glendon College
Francoise Mougeon	Department of French Studies, Glendon College
Gareth Morgan	Schulich School of Business
Graham Orpwood	Faculty of Education; York/Seneca Institute for Science, Mathematics, Technology, and Education

Heather Lotherington	Faculty of Education
Ilo Katryn Maimets	Steacie Science Library
Jean Adams	Schulich School of Business
Janet Murphy	ABEL Program
Jennifer Jenson	Faculty of Education
Karen Anderson	Dept of Sociology, Faculty of Arts
Laurie Wilcox	Dept of Psychology, Faculty of Health
Margaret Sinclair	Faculty of Education
Mary Leigh Morbey	Faculty of Education; Associate Director, IRLT
Mary Louise Craven	Communication Studies, Faculty of Arts
Monique Adriaen	Dept of French Studies, Faculty of Arts
Niamh Hennessey	School of Social Sciences, Atkinson
Peggy Warren	Reference, Scott Library
Peter Roosen-Runge	Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science & Engineering
Poonam Puri	Osgood Hall Law School
Radu Campeanu	School of Analytic Studies & Information Technology, Atkinson
Razika Sanaoui	Faculty of Education
Renate Wickens	Fine Arts Cultural Studies, Faculty of Fine Arts
Richard Jarrell	Division of Natural Science, Faculty of Science & Engineering
Richard Saunders	Department of Political Science, Faculty of Arts
Roberta Sinyor	Department of Languages, Literatures & Linguistics, Faculty of Arts
Ron Owston	Faculty of Education and Director, IRLT
Ron Sheese	Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts
Ros Woodhouse	Centre for the Support of Teaching (CST)
Sam Lanfranco	School of Analytic Studies & Information Technology, Atkinson
Shelley Hornstein	Art/Architectural History, Department of Visual Arts, Faculty of Fine Arts
Stan Shapson	Vice-President (Research & Innovation); Faculty of Education
Stephen Chen	School of Analytic Studies & Information Technology, Atkinson
Suzanne McDonald	Dept of Psychology, Faculty of Health
Tom Johnson	Osgoode Hall Law School
Zbigniew Stachniak	Dept of Computer Science & Engineering, Faculty of Science & Engineering

There are 42 York members in total excluding staff and graduate students; in addition, several Seneca College faculty are also affiliated with IRLT.

## 4. Member Activities

Listed below are *selected* (a full list would be too extensive) articles, chapters, and books of members, as well as conference papers, reports, awards, and technology development activities of members during 2006-2007.

*Selected Articles, Chapters, Published Conference Proceedings, and Books (IRLT members indicated in bold, graduate students with \*)*

- Adams, J.** (2007). Blending “Second Generation” e-Learning to Support Self-Directed Action-Learning Projects for Soft Skills Development in Graduate and Undergraduate Business Education. In J. Clarey (Eds.) *The real story: Blended learning*. Brandon Hall Research: Sunnyvale, CA, pp. 142-150.
- Adams, J., & Morgan, G.** ‘Second generation’ e-learning: characteristics and design principles for supporting management soft-skills development.” *International Journal on E-Learning*, 6(2), 157-185.
- de Castell, S. & **Jenson, J.** (Eds.) (2007). *Ordering the Field: Essays on Digital Games Research*. New York: Peter Lang.
- Jenson, J.**, Brushwood Rose, C., Lewis, B. & Smith, R. (Fall 2007). *Technology Policy Unplugged: Technology Policies and Practices in K-12 Education in Canada*. McGill-Queen’s University Press.
- de Castell, S. & **Jenson, J.** (2006). Education, gaming and serious play: New attentional economies for learning. In *International Handbook for New Learning Environments*. Kluwer.
- Jenson, J.** & Brushwood-Rose, C. (2006). Finding space for technology: pedagogical observations on the organization of computers in school environments. *Canadian Journal of Learning and Technology*, 13, 1, p. 35-50.
- Kushniruk, A., **Owston, R.**, Ho, F., Pitts, K., **Wideman, H.**, Brown\*, C., Chu\*, S. (2007, February). *Design of the VULab: A quantitative and qualitative tool for analyzing use of on-line health information resources*. Proceedings of ITCH 2007 (Information Technology and Communication in Health), Victoria, BC.
- Lotherington, H.** (2006). Multiliteracies at Main Street School: Digital texts, multilingual development and inclusive narratives. *Contact: Special Research Symposium issue*, 32 (2), 72-85.
- Lotherington, H.** (2007). From literacy to multiliteracies in ELT. In C. Davison & J. Cummins (Eds.), *Handbook of English language teaching* (pp. 809-823). Berlin: Springer.
- Lotherington, H.** (in press). Digital epistemologies: Developing a pedagogy of multiliteracies in the urban elementary school. In T. Hansson (Ed.) *Handbook of digital information technologies: Innovations and ethical issues*. Hershey, PA: Idea Group Inc.
- Morbey, M. L.** (2006). Killing a culture softly: Corporate partnership with a Russian museum. *Museum Management and Curatorship*, 21(4), 267-282.
- Morbey, M. L., & Steele, C.** (Submitted). Metamodal mastery: Virtual mediations of transdisciplinarity in higher education. In C. Whithaus & T. Bowen (Eds.), *Multimodal literacies and emerging genres in student compositions*.

- Morgan, G., & Adams, J.** (2006). *Instructor Manual to Accompany Images of Organization*, (Resource book published in CD format). Thousand Oaks CA: Sage.
- Owston, R. D.** (2007). The World Wide Web re-visited. *Mid-Western Educational Research Journal*, 20(1), 4-9.
- Owston, R. D.** (2007). Contextual factors that sustain innovative pedagogical practice using technology: An international study. *Journal of Educational Change*, 8(1), 61-77.
- Owston, R. D.** (in press). Models and methods for technology evaluation. In M. D. Merrill and P. Spector (Eds.), *Handbook of research on educational communications and technology* (3rd ed.). Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum.
- Owston, R. D., Garrison, D. R., & Cook, K.** (2006). Blended learning at Canadian universities: issues and practices. In C. J. Bonk & C. Graham (Eds.). *Handbook of blended learning environments: Global perspectives, local designs*. Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.
- Owston, R. D., Sinclair, M., & Wideman, H.** (in press). Blended learning for professional development: An evaluation of a program for middle school mathematics and science teachers. *Teachers College Record*.
- Sinclair, M., & Owston, R. D.** (2006). Teacher professional development in mathematics and science: A blended learning approach. *Canadian Journal of University Continuing Education*, 32(2), 43-66.
- Wickens, R.** (2007). SoTEL: Towards a scholarship of technology enhanced learning. *Canadian Journal of University Continuing Education*, 32(2), 21-41.
- Wideman, H. H., Owston, R. D., Brown\*, C., Kushniruk, A., Ho, F., & Pitts, K. C.** (2007). Unpacking the potential of educational gaming: A new tool for gaming research. *Simulation & Gaming: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, 38(1), 10-30.
- Wideman, H., Owston, R., Sinitskaya\*, N., Murphy, J., & McLean, B.** (2007). Blended professional development for literacy and numeracy teachers: An initial evaluation of the Learning Connections project. In C. Crawford et al. (Eds.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education International Conference 2007* (pp. 2143-2147). Chesapeake, VA: AACE.
- Wideman, H., Owston, R. & Sinitskaya\*, N.** (2007). Transforming teacher practice through blended professional development: Lessons learned from three initiatives. In C. Crawford et al. (Eds.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education International Conference 2007* (pp. 2148-2154). Chesapeake, VA: AACE.
- Wilcox L.M., Allison R., Elfassy S., & Grelik C.** (2006) Personal space in virtual reality. *ACM Trans. Applied Perception*, 3, (4), 412-428.

#### *Selected Conference Papers/Talks/Invited Addresses*

- Adams, J.** (2007, January). *Blended learning for soft-skills development: A four-level model for maximizing impact* presented at HRPAAO conference, Metro Convention Centre, Toronto.

- Adams, J.** (2007, May). *The Use of Personal Response Systems in Promoting Interactive Learning and Library Research* paper presented at WILU 2007 conference with Maura Matesic, York University, Toronto.
- Adams, J.** (2007, June). Invited to co-facilitate an interactive “Learning Lab” at ASTD’s 2007 International Conference and Exhibition, Atlanta.
- Adams, J.** "Using "Second Generation" E-Learning for Supporting Action-Based Management Education" – 90-minute Professional Development Workshop (PDW) at Academy of Management Conference, Atlanta - Aug 13, 2006.
- Corcos, E. & Monty, V** (2007, May). Interactivity in Library Presentations. Paper presented at the 36th Annual Conference of Workshop on Instruction in Library Use (WILU), York University, Toronto.
- Jenson, J. & de Castell, S.** (2006). “You’re going to die”: Gender, performance and digital gameplay. In *Proceedings of the Ninth IASTED International Conference on Computers and Advanced Technology in Education*.
- de Castell, S. & **Jenson, J.** (2006). Ludic epistemology? Knowledge-based representation in game-based learning. In *Proceedings of the Ninth IASTED International Conference on Computers and Advanced Technology in Education*.
- Hornstein, S.** (2006). *Flash and splash: The man who swam into history*. Invited Speaker for session entitled: Jewish Bytes: Virtual Space and the Digital Medium, Association for Jewish Studies, San Diego, 2006.
- Jenson, J. & Taylor, N.** (2006). (D)evaluating Pedagogic Interactivity: The Case of ELSE. In P. Kommers & G. Richards (Eds.), *Proceedings of World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia and Telecommunications* (pp. 2835-2840). Chesapeake, VA: AACE.
- Lotherington, H.** (2007, April). *Creating opportunities for multilingual literacies in elementary school: Teacher education through collaborative action research*. Invited paper in colloquium: Recognizing language diversity at school-teacher-researcher partnerships in multilingual contexts, organized by Diane Dagenais presented at the American Association of Applied Linguistics, Costa Mesa, California.
- Lotherington, H.** (2007, May). *Literacy, language, and technology: New narratives and new educational possibilities*. Invited keynote address presented at the Leading Learning Conference, Huntsville, Ontario.
- Lotherington, H.** (2007, May). *Ong’s concept of secondary orality and digital possibilities in multiliteracies research: A case study of new story-telling directions*. Roundtable paper presented at the Canadian Society for the Study of Education Annual Conference, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences 2007, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon.
- Murphy, J.** (2007, April). Presentation at Meraka Institute INNOVATE Conference, Pretoria, South Africa.
- Murphy, J.** (2007, June). Paper presented at ISTE NECC 2007 Conference, Atlanta GA.
- Owston, R. D.** (2006, October). *The World Wide Web revisited*. Keynote address to the Mid Western Educational Research Association, Columbus, OH.

- Owston, R. D.** (2006, October). *The World Wide Web revisited: From Mosaic to podcasting*. Keynote address at the Casting a Wide Net: Video Coursecasting...Idylls by a Stream conference, on a pod. University of Buffalo.
- Owston, R. D.** (2006, October). *Teachers, technology, and students: Thinking outside of the triangle*. Keynote address Buffalo, NY educators' conference.
- Owston, R. D.** (2007, March). *The teaching triangle: Students, teachers, and technology*. Keynote address at the third anniversary education conference of the Supreme Education Council, Doha, Qatar.

*Other Selected Member Activities: Projects /Course Development/Grants/Awards/Media Appearances*

- Adams, J. (2007). Received SSRHC Small Grant (York University) awarded for "Blended Learning" – analysis of data gathered in a soft skills development project integrating classroom and e-learning modalities in an undergraduate business course.
- Adams, J., Morgan, G., & Mclean, R. (2007-2009). Received \$80,000 HP Technology for Teaching Higher Education Research Grant designed to encourage pedagogical innovation in the classroom for improving student learning and success. (see: <http://www.yorku.ca/yfile/archive/index.asp?Article=8827> )
- Cohen, A. (2006). *Study Guide*, 6th edition (with H. King) to accompany Parkin and Bade Economics, 6th edition (Toronto, Pearson Education Canada) [2003, 2000, 1997, 1994, 1991].
- Cook, K. (2006-2007). Developed course Web site for a new general education course at Georgian called *Understanding the Web* (<http://webdesign2.georgianc.on.ca/~kcook/web>). She re-made the IRLT Web site so that it is now standards compliant XHTML and accessible to persons with disabilities; the new design was based on log file analysis of users most requested pages and file downloads over the previous year. Additionally, she wrote three articles for EBSCO Publication Services: 1) *Out of School Time Programs*; 2) *Computers in the Classroom*; and 3) *Anchored Instruction*.
- Corcos, E. (2007). Received Social Sciences and Research Council – Image, Text, Sound and Technology Grant (\$50,000) – A web-based Social Skill Intervention program.
- Fisher, C. (2006-07). Received (with colleagues) a CFI/OIT grant of slightly less than \$1.0 million for the establishment of the Future Cinema lab. She also received a SSHRC standard grant for a research project into Augmented Reality Storyworlds and I was also a successful co-applicant to the standard grant program to look at methods and possibilities for digital archiving and recreation of early immersive film experiments of Expo '67.
- Found, W. (2006). *Return of the Andrew Doria*, documentary film published by the St. Eustatius (West Indies) Center for Archaeological Research.
- Found, W. (2006). *Anguilla at a Crossroads: Heritage, Development and the Anguilla National Trust*, documentary film published by the Anguilla National Trust.



- Hornstein, S. (2007). *The Man Who Swam into History*, interactive web project ([http://www.yorku.ca/mosaica/man\\_who/intro/](http://www.yorku.ca/mosaica/man_who/intro/)) with Robert Rosenstone, California University of Technology and Kristina Rostorotskaia.
- Hornstein, S. Received the Walter L. Gordon Fellowship for 2007-08.
- Jenson, J. (2006). Co-founded the Canadian Educational Games Association and is co-editor of its journal called *Loading...*
- Lotherington, H. Appeared on Rogers OMNI television: *Agenda* (2006, April 19@8am, 9am; 20@10am, 11am; 22@8am, 9am). Interview: *Digital literacies*, with host Paul Cook (6.5 minutes). Rogers, channel 10; 63. Meetu Khosla, Chase producer.
- Lotherington, H. Appeared on TV Ontario: *Big Ideas* (2006, March 18@1pm; 19@1pm; 20@2am). Featured lecture: Lotherington, H. *The evolution of digital literacies*, hosted by Andrew Moodie (one hour of two hour program). TVO, channel 2. Matt Faulknor, Producer.  
<http://www.tvo.org/TVOsites/WebObjects/TvoMicrosite.woa?bigideas>
- Murphy, J. (June 2007) Award winner at ORION Summit, Learning Award of Merit for Learning Connections Project.
- Murphy, J. (May 2007). Organizer and Presenter for Leading Learning Conference 2007, Deerhurst Resort, Huntsville.
- Murphy, J. Global Classroom CIDA funded project (\$177,000) – Orange Revolution.
- Murphy, J. Canadian Centres for Learning project (\$49,237) - ADHD teacher training with Hospital for Sick Children CHEO project (\$150,000) – ADHD project with Bluewater DSB and Hospital for Sick Children.
- Murphy, J. (2007). Co-applicant applicant in a SSHRC funded project Canadian Business Ethics Research Network (CBERN), \$2.1 million over 7 years.
- Morbey, M. L. Invited Guest Researcher, Ugandan National Museum (Kampala), to collaborate on the conceptualization and development of its new museum website, 2006-present.
- Morbey, M. L. (2007). Received York Seminar on Advanced Research (YSAR) grant for \$7500 to establish a seminar series called *Digital Dimensions: The Arts and Virtual Culture*.
- Sinclair, M. (2006–2009). Received grant of \$188,650 from Texas Instruments for The IT Navigator Project: Evaluation of Handheld Technologies in Secondary Mathematics. (Collaborators include IRLT members Graham Orpwood, Ron Owston, and Herb Wideman.)
- Owston, R. D. (2007). Was awarded the title of University Professor at York University's June Convocation for his "extraordinary contribution to the University as a colleague, teacher, and scholar."
- Owston, R. D. (2007). Was co-applicant in a \$3.1 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for the Flexible Users Interface Design (Fluid) Project in partnership with University of Toronto, University of British Columbia, Cambridge University, and University of California at Berkeley.
- Owston, R. D. (2007, April). Panelist on TV Ontario: The Future of Education, *The Agenda with Steve Paikin*.
- Wideman, H. H. (2007, May). Advanced Broadband Enabled Learning – ABEL Teacher Experience Evaluation grant \$7,000.

Wickens, R. (2006). *Mumbai Podcast*. A research project featuring student podcasting and faculty blogging from Mumbai, India. Podcasts were distributed publicly from 26 June 2006 to 14 July 2006. The project was done in conjunction with Professor Denise Nuttall (Ithaca College, NY). See <http://www.yorku.ca/rwickens/podcastindia/>.

*IRLT Technical Reports (available at website)*

Owston, R. D., Wideman, H. H., Lotherington, H., Sinclair, M., Sanaoui, R., and Sinitskay\*, N. (2006). *Learning Connections phase two report*. (Institute for Research on Learning Technologies Technical Report No. 2006-2). Toronto, ON: York University.

Wideman, H. H., & Owston, R. D. (2006). *Tablet PC use at Northern Lights Public School: A follow-up evaluation*. (Institute for Research on Learning Technologies Technical Report No. 2006-1). Toronto, ON: York University.

*IRLT Speaker Series*

To fulfill its mandate of public dialogue and dissemination of research, IRLT sponsors a speaker series each year. In 2006-07, the events below were held.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>
October 2006	Stephen Chen, York University	<i>Gesture Friendly Interfaces and Tools to Help Teachers Teach with Gesture</i>
December 2006	Lynn Johnson, University of Michigan	<i>Podcasting in University Courses</i>
January 2007	Karen Andrews and Ros Woodhouse, York University	<i>Using Technology to Enhance the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning: A Case Study of an Introductory Sociology Course</i>
April 2007	Sam Lanfranco, York University	<i>Here Comes the Curricular Wikis: Riding or Surviving the Wiki Tsunami</i>

**5. Measures taken to Promote Equity**

IRTL has a very diverse membership in terms of gender and field of specialization: 60% of its members are female which far exceeds the University’s female representation on faculty; and the membership list above illustrates the variety of fields of specialization from which IRLT draws its members. Also, all three graduate students formally employed by IRLT were female. There are no barriers to membership because the only requirement for membership is an interest in teaching and learning with technology.

**6. Statement of Operations** – see appendix

**7. Budget for Current Year** – see appendix

## **8. Student Activities/Accomplishments**

In Section 4 above students who co-authored papers with IRLT members are indicated with an asterisk. Below additional activities/accomplishments of students during 2006-2007 are listed:

- Christine Brown (PhD programme in Education):
  - Worked with Ron Owston on his Canadian Council on Learning grant on educational games
  - Reviewed textbook for McGraw-Hill Ryerson: Haag, S., Cummings, M., McCubbrey, D., Pinsonneault A., & Donovan, R., (2006). *Management Information Systems for the Information Age*, Third Canadian Edition. McGraw-Hill Ryerson, New York NY
  - Brown, C. (2007, March). Review of The handbook of blended learning: Global perspectives, local designs. *Educational Review*. Available at <http://edrev.asu.edu/brief/mar07.html>
  - Presented at York University Graduate Conference – Researching Theory and Practice for Education. March 3, 2007. Blended Learning in Higher Education
  - SAGE student conference – organizer for 4 online national conferences
  - Developed a hybrid course for Ryerson University, Destination Management Systems, Fall 2006.
- **Sarah Chu** (MEd programme): worked for Ron Owston on the development of the Virtual Usability Lab software (<http://wvulab.ca>) sponsored by the SSHRC grant on the Simulation and Advanced Gaming Environments (SAGE) for Learning project
- **Natalia Sinitskaya** (PhD in Education programme): worked with Ron Owston, Heather Lotherington, Margaret Sinclair, and Razika Sanaoui on the evaluation of the Learning Connections project; and did field research on a Canadian Council on Learning grant on educational games with Ron Owston.
- **Nick Taylor** (PhD programme in Education): worked for Jennifer Jenson on the Simulation and Advanced Gaming Environments (SAGE) for Learning project.

In addition, the **ABEL Program** employed:

- Dorota Pirzanska – 2nd year student as communication and marketing assistant.
- Jananeh Asari – computer science student as lead programmer.
- Two graduate students – Nicole Da Costa –videographer and Miriam Di Pasquale – communications and marketing assistant.

## **9. Changes in Physical Space**

No changes in space occurred during 2006-07.

## **10. Contractual Obligations**

No contractual obligations were made during 2006-07.