



Annual Report July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

Institute for Research on Learning Technologies

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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, other universities, 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 2006-07-08
Form Special Interest Groups (SIG) in Focus Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One SIG entitled <i>Digital Culture and the Arts</i> was formed, renamed <i>Digital Dimensions: The Arts and Virtual Culture</i>
Increase Our External Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased efforts made to identify faculty as IRLT members when publishing/ speaking ▪ IRLT website was completely redesigned
Initiate a Visiting Scholars Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ One scholar agreed to visit during 2006-07 but cancelled out
Influence the Hiring Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Submissions made to AVP (Research) and to Graduate Programme in Psychology for a position in the Learning Sciences
Establish an External Advisory Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Established in spring 2006
Restructure Executive Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinators of SIGs are members of the Executive.
Raise Funding for Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Digital Futures Fund for faculty/staff donations is operating. ▪ A submission was made to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. We received funding for a specific project (see Owston grants below)
Obtain Secure Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding agreement worked out with AVP (Research) for 1/3 clerical support person to be shared for 2008-2009 with the Faculty Support Centre.

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 a Research Assistant and voluntarily manages the IRLT website. Joseph Ratnasigham from CNS is employed as a clerical assistant on a 1/3rd time basis. Typically, the Institute hires four to five students annually as Graduate Research Assistants on various research projects.

In 2007-2008 the IRLT Digital Dimensions: the Arts and Virtual Culture Special Interest Group co-chaired by Mary Leigh Morbey and Caitlin Fisher was awarded a York Seminar for Advanced Research grant to support the group's research and presentations engaging 14 Ontario University researchers, including four Canada Research Chairs.

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 2007-08, 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 Dimensions: the Arts and Virtual Culture 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 2007-2008 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 2007-08 were Marty Keast (Pearson Canada), Lynne Zucker (Sun Microsystems Canada) and Robert Martellacci (Mindshare Learning).

In Fall 2007 IRLT underwent a successful five year review adjudicated by two external examiners, Dr. Walter Archer of the University of Alberta and Dr. Rena Upitis of Queen's University, and one internal examiner, Dr. Wenona Giles. IRLT was applauded for its truly transdisciplinarity across York University and beyond, its strong engagement of faculty and students, the employment of wide ranging information technologies, its development of the Digital Dimensions Special Interest Group and its accessible and attractive website, and the ability to support research, teaching, and development activities with meager funding. The adjudication team challenged IRLT to broaden and deepen the faculty complement, expand research foci and reach, broaden partnerships and outreach initiatives, expand advisory and executive committees, explore funding opportunities, work towards a stronger support staff, and renovate its physical space. The committee recommended IRLT be granted full renewal.

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 website. 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 2007-08 was as follows:

Name	Affiliation
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 2007-2008.

*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* (pp. 142-150). Sunnyvale, CA: Brandon Hall Research.
- Adams, J.** (2008). Rapid talent development. *Training & Development*, 62(3), 68-73.
- Corcos, E., & Monty, V.** (2008). Interactivity in library presentations using a personal response system. *Educause Quarterly*, 31(2), 53-60.
- Corcos, E., & Paolucci, P.** (in press). ScreenPLAY: An interactive video learning resource for at-risk teens. In N. Lambropoulos, & M. Romero (Eds.), *Educational social software for context-aware learning: Collaborative methods and human interaction*. Hershey, PA: IGI Global.
- de Castell, S., & **Jenson, J.** (Eds.). (2007). *Worlds in play: International perspectives on digital games research*. New York: Peter Lang.

- Hornstein, S.** (2008). No Man's Land: Jewish Women at War. In L. Jansma (Ed.), *Nina Levitt: Concealing nature, Exhibition Catalogue*. The Robert McLaughlin Gallery (Technology and Spies).
- Hornstein, S.** (2008). Splash and flash! The man who swam into virtual space, In J. Brauch, A. Lipphardt, & A. Nocke (Eds.), *Jewish Topographies: Visions of Space – Traditions of Place*.
- Jenson, J.**, Brushwood Rose, C., & Lewis, B. (2007). *Technology policy unplugged: Technology policies and practices in K-12 education in Canada*. McGill-Queen's University Press.
- Jenson, J.**, & de Castell, S. (2008). Out of control: Introduction. *Loading: A Journal of the Canadian Game Studies Association*, 1, 2, np. Available online at: <http://journals.sfu.ca/loading/index.html>.
- Jenson, J.**, & de Castell, S. (2008). Theorizing gender in digital gameplay: Oversights, accidents and surprises. *Eludamos: Journal for Computer Game Culture*, 2(1), 15-25.
- Jenson, J.** (2008). Educational Technology. In G. McCullough, & D. Crook (Eds.). *Routledge international encyclopedia of education*. London and New York: Routledge.
- 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)*.
- Levy, R., **Wideman, H.**, **Owston, R.**, & Orich, A. (2007). Knight Elimar's Last Joust: A virtual environment game for promoting literacy across the curriculum. In C. Montgomerie, & J. Seale (Eds.), *Proceedings of World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia and Telecommunications 2007*, 3632-3637.
- Lotherington, H.** (2007). Rewriting traditional tales as multilingual narratives at elementary school: Problems and progress. *Canadian Journal of Applied Linguistics*, 10 (2), 241-256.
- Lotherington, H.** (2008). Digital epistemologies and classroom multiliteracies. In T. Hansson (Ed.), *Handbook of digital information technologies: Innovations and ethical issues* (pp. 263-282). Hershey, PA: IGI Global.
- Lotherington, H.**, & Chow, S. (2008). Rewriting *Goldilocks* in the urban, multicultural elementary school. In F. Shultz (Ed.) *Multicultural education* (14th ed.) (pp. 143-151). New York: McGraw-Hill. Reprinted from *The Reading Teacher*, 60(3), 244-252.
- Matesic M., & **Adams J.** (2008). Provocation to learn – A study in the use of Personal Response Systems in Information Literacy Instruction. *Partnership: the Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research*, 3(2). [Online].
- Morbey, M. L.**, & **Steele, C***. (2008). Metamodal mastery: Virtual mediations of transdisciplinarity in higher education. In G. Tchibozo (Ed.), *Proceedings of the Paris International Conference on Education, Economy and Society*, 2, 627-638.
- Morbey, M. L.** (in press). National museum websites: Colonizing and de-colonizing.

- In. F. Columbus (Ed.), *Multinational companies: Management, globalization and local impact*. Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science.
- Morbey, M. L., & Steele, C***. (in press). Metamodal mastery: Virtual mediations of transdisciplinarity in higher education. In C. Whithaus, & T. Bowen (Eds.), *Multimodal literacies and emerging genres of student compositions*.
- Murphy, J., & Lebens, R.** (submitted). Leveraging technology for job-embedded learning and student achievement: The ABEL model. *Journal of Staff Development*.
- Murphy, J.** (2007). Using technology mediated job-embedded professional learning to transform teacher practice, expand curriculum opportunities and engage students in leading edge learning: Lessons from the ABEL program. *Quest Journal, York Region District School Board*.
- Murphy, J., & Lebens, R.** (in press). Unexpected outcomes Web 2.0 in the Secondary School Classroom. *International Journal of Technology in Teaching and Learning*.
- Owston, R. D.** (2008). Professional learning and technology to support school reform. In G. F. Ollington (Ed.), *Teachers and teaching strategies, problems, and innovations*. Hauppauge, NY: Nova Science.
- Owston, R. D.** (2008). Models and methods for technology evaluation. In J. M. Spector, M. D. Merrill, J. van Marrienoer, & M. P. Driscoll (Eds.), *Handbook of research on educational communications and technology* (3rd ed.). New York: Routledge.
- Owston, R. D., Wideman, H., Murphy, J., & Lupshenyuk, D***. (in press). Blended teacher professional development: A synthesis of three program evaluations. *Internet & Higher Education*.
- Owston, R. D., Sinclair, M., & Wideman, H.** (2008). Blended learning for professional development: An evaluation of a program for middle school mathematics and science teachers. *Teachers College Record, 110*(5), 1033-1064.
- Owston, R. D.** (2007). The World Wide Web re-visited. *Mid-Western Educational Research Journal, 20*(1), 4-9.
- Owston, R. D., Wideman, H. H., Sinitskaya, N.*, & Brown, C***. (2007). Computer game development as a literacy activity. *Institute for Research on Learning Technologies Technical Report No. 2007-3*. Toronto, ON: York University.
- Sinclair, M.** (in press). Teaching with technology: Complexity theory as a lens for reflecting on practice. In C. Hoyles, J. B. Lagrange, L. H. Son, & N. Sinclair (Eds.), *Proceedings of the Seventeenth ICMI Study Conference: Technology Revisited*. Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Sinclair, M., Owston, R., Wideman, H., Kallish, L. & Fiorini, M.** (2008). TI-Navigator study, interim report. *Report on research funded by Texas Instruments*.
- Wideman, H. H., Owston, R. D., Brown, C*., Kushniruk, A., Ho, F., & Pitts, K***. (2007). Unpacking the potential of educational gaming: A new tool for gaming research. *Simulation & Gaming: An Interdisciplinary Journal, 38*(1), 10-30.

Wideman, H. H., (2008). *Learning Connections 2007-08 Research Report*. Toronto, ON: York University.

Wideman, H., & Owston, R. (2008). Preparing Teachers to Implement Computer Game Development as a Literacy Activity in the Classroom: Lessons Learned From a Research Study. In K. McFerrin et al. (Eds.), *Proceedings of Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education International Conference 2008*, 1841-1846.

Selected Conference Papers/Talks/Invited Addresses

Adams, J. (2008, July). *Best Practice: Blending Strategies for Maximizing Soft-Skills Development to Improve Management Practice*. ED MEDIA, Vienna, Austria.

Adams, J. (2008, July). *Best Practice: Using New Mindsets e-Learning to Support Self-directed Soft-skills Development in Undergraduate Business*. ED MEDIA, Vienna, Austria.

Adams, J. (2008, February). *e-Powering Tomorrow's Leaders*. HP Technology for Teaching Conference. San Diego, California.

Brown, C*. (April, 2008). *Putting a Face to a Name - The Effects of Meeting others Involved in a Discussion Board Setting*. The Canadian Network for Innovation in Education International Conference, Banff, Alberta.

Brown, C*. (March, 2008). *Online Interaction: Using the Community of Inquiry Model to Analyse Social and Cognitive Presence*. Praxis in Communities, Communities in Praxis, York University Graduate Conference in Education, Toronto, Ontario.

Brown, C*. (November, 2007). *Introducing Face to Face Meetings in Distance Classes: Students' Perspectives*. 13th Annual Sloan-C International Conference on Online Learning, Orlando, Florida.

Corcos, E. (March, 2008). *The Use of the Personal Response System in Three Different Pedagogical Contexts*. Workshop presented to the Centre for Support of Teaching, York University, Toronto, Ontario.

Corcos, E., & Monty, V (May, 2007). *Interactivity in Library Presentations*. 36th Annual Conference of Workshop on Instruction in Library Use (WILU), at York University, Toronto, Ontario.

Hornstein, S. (2007). Architectural Space in the Work of Melissa Shiff. *Engaging Contemporary Art in Jewish Studies: A Scholars' Roundtable with Three Contemporary Toronto Artist*. Association of Jewish Studies, Annual Conference, Toronto, Ontario.

Hornstein, S. (2007). Cybermaps and Diaspora, *Defining Space*, University College Dublin School of Architecture, Landscape and Civil Engineering, Dublin, Ireland.

Hornstein, S. (2007). Panellist for *Looking Jewish: Photography, Memory and the Sacred*. Bronfman Centre, New York University, New York.

Hornstein, S. (2008). *Spaces of Museums*. Toronto Community Group, Waldorf School. Toronto, Ontario.

Hornstein, S. (2008). *A Star is Born: Starchitecture Dazzles Toronto*. La città nell'era della globalizzazione: pellegrinaggi negli spazi della memoria e del

consumo (The City in the Era of Globalization: Pilgrimages in the spaces of memory and consumerism), University of Bologna, Italy.

- Jenson, J., de Castell, S., Taylor, N*., & Droumeva, M*.** (2008). *Baroque Revolution: Creating a Music "Learning Game"*. Canadian Game Studies Association Annual Conference, Vancouver, BC.
- Kehoe, D.** (2007-08). *Course Management System: My Multifunctional Course Websites*. McGraw Hill Conference on Technology and Education and the Mediasite's Unleash Conference.
- Lotherington, H.** (2008, May). *Multiliteracies Caught in Web 2.0: Epistemological Inquiries, Pedagogical Possibilities, and New Story-telling Directions in a Dynamically Interactive Communications Environment*. Pre-CSSE LLRC Conference (Language and literacy researchers of Canada), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.
- Lotherington, H.** (2008, May) *Revising Multicultural Face, Place and Space: Radically Reinterpreted Narratives in Elementary School*. Narrative Matters 2008, Toronto, Ontario.
- Lotherington, H.** (2008, April) Learning narratives through a multiliteracies approach: Radically rewritten traditional tales at Joyce Public School, *A Place for Children's Literature*. Toronto Reading Council, OISE, Toronto, Ontario.
- Lotherington, H. & Sinitskaya, N*.** (2008, February). *Gaming Geography as Literacy: A Qualitative Case Study of two GTA Schools*. Faculty of Education Seminar Series, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, Whitby, Ontario.
- Lupshenyuk, D*.** (2007, October). *Investigating Concerns of Teacher Education Students about the Integration of Online Learning Communities in Traditional Instruction*. World Conference on E-Learning in Corporate, Government, Healthcare, and Higher Education, Quebec.
- Lupshenyuk, D.** (2008, March). *Teacher Student's concerns about Online Learning Communities*. Praxis in Communities, Communities in Praxis, York University Graduate Conference, Toronto, Ontario.
- Morbey, M. L. & Steele, C*.** (2008, June). *Metamodal Mastery: Virtual Mediations Of Transdisciplinarity in Higher Education*. 2008 Paris International Conference on Education, Economy and Society, Paris, France.
- Murphy, J.** (2007, October). *Lessons Learned from Offering a Technologically Mediated Job-Embedded Professional Learning Program to Teachers*. e-Learn Conference, Quebec.
- Murphy, J.** (2008, June), Keynote Speaker at the Ontario Public School Board Association (OPSBA) Annual General Meeting.
- Owston, R., Lotherington, H., Sinitskaya, N*., & Wideman, H.** (2007, October). *Why Educational Games in Schools?* The Learning Partnership roundtable series on 21st century learning: Engaging students through ICT, York University, Toronto, Ontario.
- Owston, R. D., Wideman, H., & Murphy, J.** (2008, March). *Blended Learning for Professional Development in Diverse Urban Settings: Findings from Three Project Evaluations*. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New York, NY.

Sinclair, M., Wideman, H., Kallish, L., & Fiorini, M. (2008, July). *Linked Hand-held Technology in Early Secondary Mathematics*. Paper presented at the 11th conference of the International Congress for Mathematical Education, Monterrey, Mexico.

Sinitskaya Ronda, N*. & **Lotherington, H.** (2008, June). *Educational Game Development and Play for Enhancing Student Literacy: A Qualitative Case Study*. The 36th Annual CSSE Conference (Canadian Society for the Study of Education), University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.

Whiteley, W. J., **Sinclair, M.**, Craven, S., Moshe, L., Dutfield, A., & Seco, M. (2008, July). *Helping Elementary Teachers Develop Visual and Spatial Skills for Teaching Geometry*. 11th Conference of the International Congress for Mathematical Education, Monterrey, Mexico.

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

Adams, J. (2007-08). Case study written by Faculty Support Centre titled *Provocation & Response: How Clickers Make Thinking Possible* about the pedagogical innovation in my undergraduate business course where interactive technology (i.e. “clickers”) is being used to engage students and promote critical thinking.

Adams, J. (2008-2010). Received a grant of \$150,000 from HP Technology for Teaching Leadership research grant awarded to further pedagogical innovation aimed at deepening, broadening and accelerating individual and collective learning in management education: e-Powering Tomorrow’s Leaders.

Adams, J. (2007-2008). Received a grant of \$70,000 from the Canadian Council on Learning (CCL) Adult Learning Research Grant for a project involving 400 Scotiabank employees in a program designed to explore: *Blended Learning for Soft Skills Development: Testing a four-level model integrating work & learning to maximize personal practice & job performance* (Collaborators include IRLT member Denys Lupshenyuk and Kathryn Cook).

Chen, S. taught two courses on introductory programming at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana and introduced several learning objects with mixed success in both courses.

Chen, S. is working with a colleague at UCC on analyzing the African Virtual University - in particular how students rejected from UCC went on to greater success as AVU students.

Cook, K. (2007, September) Developed and launched a new online general education course at Georgian College called Understanding the Web.

Corcos, E. (2007). Received a grant of \$50,000 from the Social Sciences and Research Council – Image, Text, Sound and Technology Grant for my project – A Web-based Social Skill Intervention Program, and subsequently received an additional \$40, 800 from the same agency, for the project Templates and content for web-based social skills intervention.

Hornstein, S. (2008). Invited Visiting Professor, University of Bologna, Guest Seminar on *When You Wish upon a Star: Starchitecture in Toronto*.

- Hornstein, S. (2008). Co-Convenor: *Metro Millennium: Toronto, Bologna, Denver & Berlin* to be held May 1-2, 2008 at the City Institute, York University, Toronto, Ontario.
- Hornstein, S. (2007-08). Committee Member of York Seminar for Advanced Research: “Digital Dimensions: The Arts and Virtual Culture”.
- Hornstein, S. (2008). *L’Héritage de l’Art Nouveau dans la vallée du Rhin Supérieur*. France 3 Television Documentary by Méliissa Décaire Hertzog, produced by Jean-Pierre Stucki.
- Hornstein, S. (2008). Received a grant of \$10,000 from the International Research Linkage program (IRL), International Association of Canadian Studies: *Metro Millennium: Toronto, Bologna, Denver & Berlin* to be held May 1-2, 2008 at the City Institute, York University, Toronto, Ontario.
- Hornstein, S. (2007-08). Received the Walter L. Gordon Fellowship, York University
- Jenson, J. (2008). Conference Co-Chair. Canadian Game Studies Annual Conference, May 31, 2008, University of British Columbia.
- Jenson, J. (2007-2008). President, Canadian Game Studies Association.
- Jenson, J. (2008). Tafelmusik: Creating a Baroque Music Game. Tafelmusik and Heritage Canada [co-applicant Suzanne de Castell]. \$17,500.
- Jenson, J. (2008). Smarter than she Looks: Next-gen Research on Gender and Digital Gameplay. Social Science and Humanities Research Council [co-application Suzanne de Castell]. \$129,500.
- Jenson, J. (2008). *Epidemic: Self-care for Crisis*. Inukshuk Learning Fund. \$64,950.
- Kehoe, D. (2007-08). *Chronicle of Higher Education* article about Kehoe’s use of streaming technology and user friendly websites for blended learning, and the effects of using the technology on his lecturing, at <http://chronicle.com/free/v54/i41/41a00901.htm>
- Lotherington, H. (2008-2011). Received grant of \$125, 788 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada: *Researching new literacies in the multicultural classroom: Developing a lucid approach to linguistic challenges in elementary education*. York University. (Co-applicant Jennifer Jenson).
- Lotherington, H. (2007). Received grant of \$2,500 Seed grant, VP, Research and Innovation, York University *Senior Scholars Seminar on Digital Literacies*.
- Morbey, M. L., & Fisher, C. (2007-2008). Co-Chaired and awarded \$7500 to fund the Digital Dimensions: the Arts and Virtual Culture York Seminar for Advanced Research.
- Morbey, M. L. (2007-2008). Invited Guest Researcher for Website 2.0 Conceptualization, Uganda Museum, Kampala, Uganda. York PhD students, Kortenaar, P*. and Senoga, M*., are involved in the research project.
- Murphy, J. (2008). Received a \$25,000 grant from Inukshuk Grant: *GOT Game with TEACH Magazine and WeroCreative*.
- Murphy, J. (2008). Facilitator, Prime Minister Award for Teaching Excellence.
- Murphy, J. (2008). Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, (\$6,000) June 2008 Consulting Services for Webcast *Teaching Today’s Learner for Tomorrow’s World*.

- Murphy, J. (2007). Organizer for Leading Learning Conference 2007, Toronto, Ontario.
- Owston, R. is leading a team of computer programmers who are working on the development of the Virtual Usability Lab (<http://vulab.ca>), a project sponsored by the Andrew H. Mellon Foundation.
- Owston, R. received a grant of \$60,000 from Microsoft to evaluate the Literacy@School Program in York Region School District. This program is part of Microsoft's Network of Innovative Schools. He is working with Herb Wideman and Professor Jackie Lynch on the project.
- 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.)
- Sinclair, M. (2008). *College Mathematics Project*, working with Laurel Schollen (Principal Investigator) and Graham Orpwood on the continuation of a project to analyze the factors associated with success and failure in college mathematics. Funded by the Ontario Ministry of Education and the Ontario Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities.
- Sinclair, M. (2005-2007). Received a grant of \$76, 465 from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada: *Towards a model for visual learning for mathematics teachers*. Standard Research Grant – Principal Investigator; co-applicant with W. Whiteley.

IRLT Technical Reports (available at website)

- Owston, R. D., & Wideman, H. H.** (2007). Learning Connections Phase Three Report. (Institute for Research on Learning Technologies Technical Report No. 2007-1). Toronto, ON: York University.
- Wideman, H. H.**, (2007). ABEL Participant Experience Evaluation. (Institute for Research on Learning Technologies Technical Report No. 2007-1). Toronto, ON: York University.
- Wideman, H. H., Ronda, N. S., & Brown, C*.** (2007). Knight Elimar's Last Joust Game Field Trial Report. (Institute for Research on Learning Technologies Technical Report No. 2007-2). Toronto, ON: York University.

Graduate Student Training and Accomplishments

- Lotherington, H. (2007, June) *Doctoral dissertations*, External examiner. Terpstra, Angela (June 2007) *The art of improvisation: English education, technology and pedagogy*. External examiner for OISE/University of Toronto.
- Lotherington, H. (2008, April) *Magisterial theses*, Outside reader. Miller, Tammy. M.A. *Digital activism: free the children and Youth online*. Graduate Program in Communication and Culture, Faculty of Arts, York University.
- Lotherington, H. (2007) *MRP supervision*. Cautillo, Claudine, MEd, 2007, York University. *The use of digital technology in the teaching of French as a second language to kindergarten students: Developing a digital language experience approach*.

Lotherington, H. (2007) *MRP supervision*. Darragh, Claudine, MEd, 2007, York University. *An exploration of the literacies assessed in the grade 3 EQAO test from a multiliteracies perspective*. Faculty of Education Major Research Prize 2007.

Morbey, M. L. (2008, May). *Doctoral dissertation supervision: Nasirzadeh, Reza. The Americanization of management education at the Iranian Industrial Management Institute.*

Morbey, M. L. (2008, May). *Magisterial theses supervision. Dahya, Negin, Videogames for education and social change: Examining representation and learning in serious and persuasive digital-games.*

Morbey, M. L. (2008, May.) *MRP supervision. Guisitini, Sean. Otto: Space to create.*

Sinclair, M. (2007-2008). *MRP supervision: (2008, June) Born, D. Investigating withdrawal in teaching primary mathematics: A case study.*

Craven, S. (2008, June). *Using students' own photographs to learn concepts in geometry: A learning trajectory.*

Kallish, L. (2008, February) *Mathematics use in a science context: a study of grade eight students.*

Seco, M. (2008, February). *Gender Identification; An analysis of gender representation in mathematics picture books for young children.*

Bentivoglio, C. (2007, October). M.Ed. *Introduction of graphics calculators and the TI-Navigator in a senior elementary classroom: effects on student attitudes and teaching practice.*

Brownlow, K. (2007, October). *On improving our primary students' geometry thinking: A case study.*

Dutfield, A. (2007, October). *Multicultural mathematics: Meaningful applications in the junior classroom.*

Owston, R.

Ron Owston had four graduate students supporting his team on various project during the past year: Sarah Chu, Natalia Sinitskaya, Christine Brown, and Denys Lepshenyuk.

IRLT Speaker Series

To fulfill its mandate of public dialogue and dissemination of research, IRLT sponsors a speaker series each year. In 2007-2008, the events below were held.

Date	Speaker	Topic
May 2008	Roger Austin, University of Ulster	<i>Dissolving Boundaries</i>
April 2008	Stefano Moretti, Italy	<i>Altair4 Multimedia Project on Ancient Virtual Rome</i>

January 2008	Laurie Wilcox, York University	<i>Personal Space in Virtual Reality</i>
November 2007	Mike Elledge, Michigan State University	1) <i>An Introduction to Accessibility</i> 2) <i>Assessing Accessibility</i>
November 2007	Michael Longford and Barbara Crow, York University	<i>Mobile Technology Research</i>

The Digital Dimensions: the Arts and Virtual Culture York Seminar for Advanced Research in conjunction with IRTL hosted two internationally renowned speakers: In January 2008, Adriene Jenik of the University of California, San Diego, speaking about *Playing, Performing and Imagining the Digital Public Sphere*, and in February 2008, Oliver Grau of the Danube University Krems, Germany presenting *MediaArt needs Histories and Archives: Image-Immersion-Emotion*.

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 IRTL draws its members. Also, all three graduate students formally employed by IRTL 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 – Attached.

7. Budget for Current Year – Attached.

8. Student Activities/Accomplishments

In Section 4 above students who co-authored papers with IRTL 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., McCubrey, 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 Lothington, Margaret Sinclair, and Razika Sanaoui on the evaluation of the Learning Connections project; and did field research on Ron Owston’s Canadian Council on Learning grant on educational games.
- **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 2007-08.

10. Contractual Obligations – None made during 2007-08.

Internationalization of IRLT – Ron Owston’s work with his Mellon Foundation grant involves collaboration with universities in the US as well as Cambridge University. Mary Leigh Morbey is working with the National Museum of Uganda, Kampala, conceptualizing its Web 2.0 presence. Renate Wickens is developing a US/Canada/India Technology Enhanced Learning Project with Professor Denise Nuttall from Ithaca College focusing on the Hindustani music of Shubha Mudgal with Sri Aneesh Pradhan.

Appendix: 2007-08 Budget and 2006-07 Financial Statement