



Eyes on **iISME**

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IISME Fellow Speaks at International Conference

Don Rizzi, 2006 and 2007 Fellow at Stanford University, was invited by the Wallenberg Global Learning Network to speak at their Harnessing Technology for Learning—University and School Partnership Symposium at Lund University in Sweden.

Don's talk entitled "Improving Teaching and Learning; Solutions in a U.S. Classroom" focused on web and software applications that can engage modern students, provide collaboration opportunities worldwide, and increase motivation through a more personalized learning experience.

Think.com - This free website represents a great and very safe place to start with limited housekeeping required. The site connects teachers and students globally, offering easy project integration ideas, and personal web page design capabilities in a password-protected, teacher-monitored environment free from advertising, spam, and viruses. The site also hosts the ThinkQuest International Website Competition that brings students together to focus on collaborative, cross-cultural learning and the creation of educational content published in the ThinkQuest Library for others to utilize. Topic options are vast and include virtually all academic areas.

Social Networking using Ning.com - This free site offers users the opportunity to create, customize, and share their own Social Network.

Teachers can assign homework, provide handouts, and embed educational resources including podcasts, helpful links, etc.

Flash Animations - Producing with Adobe's highly interactive program

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develops oral, written, and graphic presentation skills while providing the opportunity for instant feedback. Teachers and students can develop enhanced, unique, presentations utilizing streaming video, graphics, and animations.

Digital Portfolios - This modern take on the traditional portfolio showcase student writing and the writing process in action while providing a venue for vast creativity, easy management, fast revision/editing, and a perpetual audience to inspire quality work. Teachers can view student progress and growth while the students actively collect, select, and reflect on their work. This format allows for easy storage, variety including options for alternative assessment, and the benefit of being able to incorporate technology standards.

Sketchcast.com - This is an innovative and free way to communicate online. A person can record an audio message and drawing simultaneously; this whiteboard style allows for the presentation of complex ideas

difficult to convey through audio, an essay, or drawing alone. Once the sketch is done, it can be embedded in a blog or linked using a URL.

Don's IISME Mentor, Cammy Huang, and Fellowship experience in Stanford's Center for Innovations were paramount in introducing him to the Wallenberg Foundation and the many opportunities associated. "I felt deeply honored to be there and it wouldn't have happened if I hadn't pursued an IISME Fellowship."

Don's presentation slides are rich with ideas and additional resources. To view the entire pdf version, go to: http://www.wallenberg.com/docs/Don_Rizzi.pdf

Source: Don's presentation slides, www.Think.com, www.Ning.com, and www.sketchcast.com.