



## ***Institute for Reading and Writing Instruction Feedback Form***

April 16, 2010

Sheridan, Wyoming

**No names or identifiers please!**

**1. “State of Reading in Wyoming” by April Heaney in providing useful contexts and specific information that can help you understand your students better as well as help you imagine new ways to think about your classroom teaching?**

Average Rating: 8.9

Ratings: 8, 8, 8, 8, 7, 8, 9, 8, 10, 9, 9, 8, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 9, 8, 7, 10, 10, 10, 10, 5, 10, 10 (t= 239, n=27)

- Really helpful in integrating national and social trends; useful information in identifying gender issues in reading.
- Appreciated the statistics presented. Was very helpful in understanding the gap that exists with literacy achievement from k-postsecondary.
- Interesting, but overshadowed by other sessions.
- Good start to discussion.
- It's important at a workshop like this to start with the context we're operating within. The comparison of high school and university experience is important to all of us.
- Great information.
- Very interesting, would like my school to have this knowledge.
- Handout would have helped; a lot of information to digest.
- Our students have a difficult time knowing when to use appropriate writing and when it's ok to not use proper English.
- Lists of potential resources in later presentations to address gaps.
- I'm always SO impressed by April's knowledge, organization and articulate presentation.
- Just seeing the statistics was eye opening; very informational.
- I wish those in charge would realize that all children are not ready to read by Kindergarten and that making such stringent requirements are putting students at risk. If I feel student in K, 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, I'm probably never going to be good at school. ☹
- It's always good to reflect on statistics; reinforces the importance of connecting with your students.
- The statistics – to help show the connection
- It helped me find ideas.
- It would be nice to see an actual social media project (not just bits and pieces). I don't know how feasible this is but...
- Great to hear from experts. Good to raise awareness of problem.
- Interesting statistics
- I will need some of the books and use projects. More student productions need to be shown.
- I got many new ideas and great inspiration to do new things in my classroom.
- There is such a big push for reading right now. I think we all need to adapt to the changing time to keep students engaged.

**2. How effective was the presentation “Rise of Social Media” by Kaijsa Calkins in providing useful contexts and specific information that can help you understand your students better as well as help you imagine new ways to think about your classroom teaching?**

Average Rating: 8.3

Ratings: 8, 9, 8, 8, 5, 8, 8, 9, 7, 7, 8, 10, 8, 10, 10, 10, 9, 5, 4, 8, 10, 10, 8, 10, 10 (t=207, n=25)

- Nice overview; the presentation itself was an engaging look at RSS.
- Some great info on the subject. A very fluid situation.
- Historical but didn't really help “teach” me anything about social media.
- Good, but I'm unfamiliar with many of the programs.
- This was interesting, but not helpful for class work. The future info was good.
- Wow! Kaijsa is a wonderful resource. I appreciate her comments about accepting that you can never be totally current with social media; there's always something new.
- Great new ideas!
- Great resources.
- There was the presentation of several sites that I was not aware of. Not enough time to touch upon each.
- Interesting, though difficult to follow.
- Useful for background/history.
- The timeline of social media was VERY interesting.
- It was a lot of info, but gave a start.
- Connection to libraries.
- Good history; put ideas in context.
- Great presentation about social media and its history!
- I was in school during the changing times and had to adapt with changing technology.

**3. How effective was the presentation “How Can Schools Use Social Media to Help Reluctant Readers?” by Carol Stewart in providing useful contexts and specific information that can help you understand your students better as well as help you imagine new ways to think about your classroom teaching?**

Average Rating: 8.4

Ratings: 9, 9, 8, 8, 7, 8, 5, 9, 10, 8, 8, 9, 10, 10, 10, 10, 5, 8, 8, 8, 10, 9, 3, 10, 10 (t=209, n=25)

- I was excited about a reading teacher presenting, but I was disappointed by the limits of the information and the ideas presented.
- Still didn't show any proof of how this is effective.
- Great resources.
- Informative, great resources.
- I'm a math teacher, so my rating might not be a true reflection.
- Love the handouts! Speaker was knowledgeable in the area and still showed her ability to be a learner at the same time.
- Focus on pedagogy is important. Great job.
- Thank you for the resources.

- More energy! Good information just a little dry.
- This was great and wonderful place to get resources.
- Confirmed the importance of connecting to the students' world – social media provides an opportunity to engage our students in their world.
- A little random; didn't follow the handout. I was lost and had trouble catching her point.
- Very nice; love having the handout with resources.
- Good information. More practical uses need to be shown.
- I'm not sure how I can pull much away from this particular section.
- Must keep up in technology with your students.

**4. How effective was the presentation “Samples of Social Media Projects Helping Reluctant Readers” by Ryan Shasteen, Stoney Gaddy, Rick Fisher in providing useful contexts and specific information that can help you in your classroom teaching?**

Average Rating: 9.2

Ratings: 10, 10, 8, 9, 8, 10, 8, 9, 10, 9, 8, 8, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 9, 8, 10, 8, 7, 9, 10, 9 (t=257, n=28)

- Great, came up with great ideas to use information to use on Monday in my classroom. Really practical ideas which will enhance my teaching. Ryan Shasteen's presentation was fabulous!!! 10+
- The info from Stoney Gaddy was not as useful; Ryan and Rick's presentations were very pertinent and I'll use both of their suggestions.
- Great stuff, especially the different websites that are available.
- A bit repetitive of earlier; I was sorry it wasn't more demo-oriented.
- Liked the Shasteen and Fisher parts.
- My favorite part!!
- The more specific presentations by Rick and Leslie were more helpful, but all had good ideas.
- I love the ideas and tools! Most of these would not have been discovered by me without attending this conference.
- Made me aware of some great websites. I am excited to try some of them.
- Excellent, wish we had more time.
- Great resources.
- I'm sorry this was cut short. It would have been okay to continue after lunch. We still would have time to collaborate.
- Very awesome. Great ideas that we can use tomorrow! ☺
- Thanks for the resources! I can't wait to set up Edmodo for my students! ☺
- Ryan and Rick – very helpful with sources to use.
- Practical info.
- Great ideas, well presented. Loved the links shared.
- What great ideas. I'm already looking forward to using some of these ideas in my classroom.
- I like Stoney's outline, with sites to refer to. Good practical site info.
- I think time constraints really rushed this portion.

- I liked seeing the different examples, especially the ready-to-use ones.

**5. How effective were the afternoon's small-group work in providing useful contexts and specific information that can help you in your classroom teaching?**

Average Rating: 8.1

Ratings: 8, 8, 9, 6, 6, 8, 8, 8, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 3, 2, 5, 10, 10, 10, 5, 10, 10 (t=194, n=24)

- Useful having the time to talk about projects and work – too long though.
- This was awesome. Time to try out the ideas is essential.
- Love having time to use the ideas presented this morning.
- Need to bring a laptop.
- Keep in mind, I need to have a bit more time. Perhaps I would bump the rating up in a year. ☺
- Awesome ideas; it was so nice to hear from a variety of people at different levels.
- Didn't need two hours.
- I definitely learn by playing around and I was given adequate time to learn. Thank you!
- Afternoon session was not productive for me. It would have been very helpful to bring a computer. That information was not communicated to me.
- I wish I would have known to bring my laptop (I saw the registration said "if you bring your laptop", but I didn't know it was highly recommended). I am hands-on.
- Next time I will bring my laptop.
- Hard to narrow it down.
- Great.
- I learned a lot!!
- It was great to "play" and have time to go to the sites we'd hear about.
- Brainstorming with other educators for ideas is always worthwhile.
- Wonderful sharing.
- Valuable day for me.
- Good time to try out sites and brainstorm ideas.
- Just a little long, but Mary did a great job of monitoring to get things moving. Maybe a few more people to help us find the websites and figure out any glitches we might have.
- I wish I would have brought my computer. For me, this would have extended my learning two-fold. I like the sharing and work time.
- It would be nice to have computers available to all.

**6. Please rate the facilities, food, anything else:**

Average Rating: 9.1

Ratings: 10, 10, 10, 6, 10, 10, 8, 9, 10, 9, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 0, 10, 9, 10, 10, 5, 10, 9 (t=254, n=28)

- Delicious food, gracious staff, comfortable space.
- Room was a little cold at times.

- Yes! Real breakfast! Protein rules!
- Wonderful lunch!
- Comfy chairs. Lose the quiche.
- Food, facilities, accommodations were amazing! Appreciate that they took into consideration my specific food needs (gluten-free).
- Once again, food seriously poor.
- The food was very good.
- Great! Wonderful room for multi-media presentations.
- Ran out of diet coke. ☹ Everything else was great!
- The coming back together was helpful.
- I loved the double screens in the room! Snacks and lunch were nice.
- Great food! The room was on the smallish side but still really good.
- Great food! Very nice facilities. They were comfortable.
- Excellent; good choice. Served with care. Thanks!
- Food was great, especially lunch.
- GREAT!
- Uncomfortably small room.

## 7. What is your overall rating of the institute?

Average Rating: 9.2

Ratings: 10, 10, 10, 8, 7, 9, 9, 9, 10, 10, 9, 9, 9, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 9, 8, 8, 8, 10, 9, 10, 8, 10, 9 (t=258, n=28)

- The best, most useful training I've attended.
- I like all the ideas and information. I would like it to be a little more fine-tuned to reading. Overall, great.
- Very professional.
- Really worth my time! I'm impressed with how many UW folks attended and very happy with what I learned today.
- I got some great ideas!
- Really enjoyed it.
- This was well worth my time.
- I'd go again.
- Very informative, loved the afternoon for time to explore.
- Great design for the workshop.
- Thanks for all your hard work!

## 8. Would you participate in another institute like this again?

Yes: 27      No: 0      Maybe: 1

- Because I feel it is important to continue learning the new technology available to us.
- Loved it, very excited for next one!
- Technology is always changing.
- Great tools, ideas, and resources that I can implement immediately.
- I learned a lot and I have tools to take back to use in my classroom immediately.
- I appreciated the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues and peers. I like the format of pedagogy and implementation.
- I like the way the presentations were set up.
- Well presented, useful info.
- Like-minded people working together.
- Very useful/informative.
- Sharing of ideas, learning what is new, problem solving.
- I learned a lot!
- Because technology changes so often that it is important to stay up to date and avoid stagnating.
- Gained valuable knowledge.
- Really good information that is very applicable.
- Lots of resources and places to learn.
- I would like to really learn more about the use of technology in reading and writing. I don't feel this was well addressed at this conference. The end session was very helpful!

## 9. How would you improve the institute?

- The pragmatic/pedagogical approach is helpful. It would be great (and was great) to continue to see practical applications in the classroom.
- The time to spend on each segment seems to sparse. Want to hear more about each item to see if it is applicable.
- Be more specific about instructions, requirements, etc.
- Bring a laptop and have a little time after each presentation to play with it so I could know how I wanted to spend the afternoon.
- A unified resource packet in electronic form.
- Rad!
- Well done.
- Could easily be a two day conference...
- Bring in plain food.
- At times the speakers seemed rushed. I think they had even more ideas to share. Maybe it needed to be 2 days? ☺
- The afternoon was actually good.

- Providing computers for all to play with these new sites.
- Make sure to let guests know they need computers for play time; unclear. More student productions need to be shown.
- It would be interesting to do a follow-up of people using these resources extensively.