

**PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES – TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
MORNING / AFTERNOON**
(Alphabetical Order)



DAVID DIPASQUALE

Presentation: What a Wonderful iLife

Date: August 26, 2009

Time: 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 0013

David is a Computer Resource Teacher with the York Region District School Board. With more than 25 years of teaching experience, he services close to 40 schools in the region's north, helping teachers integrate technology into their classroom practice. He enjoys working with students and staff on media projects focusing on the effective use of podcasting, photo editing, music creation, movie making, and video editing using both Windows and Macintosh platforms.



ANITA DROSSIS

Presentation: Moodle – Enhance Your Moodle (afternoon), Moodle – Learn to Moodle (morning)

Date: August 25 & 26, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm & 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 2027

Anita Drossis is a Science/Math Teacher with the YRDSB and is involved with the ABEL Program as a Professional Learning Lead. Anita was awarded the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence Certificate of Achievement in 2008. Anita is actively involved in ABEL's Professional Learning programs that leverage Moodle and model its effective use for teaching and learning.



CLARKE EDWARD

Presentation: Strips, Clips and Audio Tips!

Date: August 26, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm

Room: TEL 2118

Clarke has been a Computer Resource Teacher at the Secondary level with the YRDSB for the past two years. Prior to this role, he was a teacher of Math, Business and Computer Science as well as an ABEL lead teacher. He has also been teaching for the YRDSB Virtual Schooling program for the past three years.

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SHOLOM EISENSTAT

Presentation: Going Digital and What You Can Do With Hyperstudio (Tuesday), Dreaming Paperless! Learn What You Can Do With Adobe Acrobat Professional (Wednesday)

Date: August 25 & 26, 2009

Time: 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 0011 & TEL 2116

Sholom is a Computer Resource Teacher in Secondary Schools of YRDSB. He earned his BA and MA degrees in the Humanities at McGill University. He has been teaching with digital technologies in secondary level classrooms since 1990. He shared a Prime Minister's Award for his role in the innovative CyberARTS program in the Toronto District School Board.



ROB FINLAYSON

Presentation: Let's Socialize

Date: August 25, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm

Room: TEL 0013

This is Rob's 17th year helping teachers make the most of online learning technologies; he still finds each day as interesting and challenging as those in the beginning. Rob now leads York's Learning Technologies group and, along with a strong team of committed and innovative individuals, is responsible for providing a wide variety of web-based solutions for teaching and learning, as well as multimedia production resources, to the York community.



DIKLAH FRISHMAN

Presentation: Lights, Camera, Action: Video Made Easy for Learning

Date: August 25, 2009

Time: 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 0009

Diklah is currently working as a Multimedia Producer/Videographer/Editor with the ABEL Program. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from York University as well as a College Diploma from Seneca College in Television Broadcasting. Her past work experience includes networks such as CTV and Alliance Atlantis.

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OBADIAH GEORGE

Presentation: Learning Possibilities on ABEL Island

Date: August 26, 2009

Time: 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 2118

Having worked in the technology field for the last twenty-one years, Obadiah has developed a passion for bringing technology solutions to bear on a range of everyday opportunities of work and school. Obadiah has worked with technologies ranging from video streaming and production, hand-held computers and wireless technologies, multiple video conferencing hardware and software based systems, portals and many others. Currently Obadiah is the Innovations Manager of ABEL Program through the office of the Vice President Research and Innovation at York University.



MICHAEL GRIEVE

Presentation: Using Video Games to Promote Student Engagement:
Building a Gaming Environment for Learning

Date: August 25, 2009

Time: 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 2118

Michael is the head Computer Studies at Pierre Elliot Trudeau High School in Markham, Ontario. He is an executive member of the Association of Computer Studies Educators, and is currently participating on a provincial literacy supports steering committee, advising in areas of digital literacy and emerging educational technologies.



SHARMAN HOWES

Presentation: Let's Socialize

Date: August 25, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm

Room: TEL 2116

Sharman has been a teacher with the Peel District School Board for over 25 years. She is currently a Mathematical Literacy Resource Teacher. She has supported teachers integrating technology into their curriculum and is the Numeracy Facilitator for Learning Connections.

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DURIS JACKSON

Presentation: Lights, Camera, Action: Video Made Easy for Learning
Date: August 25, 2009
Time: 1:10pm – 4:30pm
Room: TEL 0009

Duris is currently working as a Multimedia Producer/Videographer/Editor with the ABEL Program. He received a degree in Communications & English for York University as well as a diploma in Television Broadcasting from Seneca College. Duris' past work experience includes networks such as TVO and MTV Canada, as well as a range of independent short films.



DEB KITCHENER

Presentation: Catch a Clip to Inspire Learning!
Date: August 25 & 26, 2009
Time: Tuesday, 1:10pm – 4:30pm & Wednesday, 8:45am – 12:00pm
Room: TEL 2114

Deb has worked as a technology leader in the Elementary panel as Teacher Librarian/Technology Lead Teacher and in the Secondary panel as Head of Library and ABEL Lead Teacher. As Curriculum Consultant for Libraries, eLearning & Literacy with the York Region District School Board, she supports Teacher Librarians in effective and authentic uses of educational technologies to support student success and professional learning. In September 2009 Deb will begin a new challenge as Project Manager for Learning Connections.



RENU KUMAR

Presentation: Mahara & ePearl for ePortfolios
Date: August 25 & 26, 2009
Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm & 1:10pm – 4:30pm
Room: TEL 2114

Renu is a Learning Technology Support Specialist for York University. She has a specialized honors degree in Computer Science and is doing a Masters in Education. Her research interests are in emerging Learning technologies, pedagogy and technology, educational gaming, and multimedia. Her Masters Research Project is looking at how electronic portfolios compare to traditional paper-based portfolios and evaluates the use of Mahara as an open source e-portfolio system.

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JONATHAN LEE

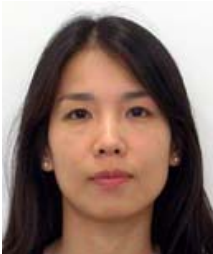
Presentation: Good for All, Necessary for Some

Date: August 25, 2009

Time: 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 0015

Jonathan is a Technology Resource Teacher with YRDSB specializing in supporting teachers and students with the use of Assistive Technology. He has been teaching for 5 years with a background in Developmental Disability Community Classes. Jonathan has a B.A.Sc. in Child Studies from the University of Guelph and Master of Arts from the Institute of Child Study, OISE – University of Toronto. He has also had the opportunity of interning at the Bloorview MacMillian School.



YUEH-CHIN MA

Presentation: Mobile Learning with Podcasts

Date: August 25, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm

Room: TEL 0015

Yueh-Chin is an information architect, certified project manager, and the Assistant Manager of Learning Technology Services, University Information Technology at York University. Her team is responsible for providing learning technology solutions that support the ABEL community.



MARK MATCHEN

Presentation: Teacher 2.0: Using Social Research and Other Web 2.0 Tools in the Classroom (morning), Learning Possibilities on ABEL Island (afternoon)

Date: August 26, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm & 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 0011 & TEL 2118

Mark believes ICT will transform learning once it has transformed teaching. To that end, he is an evangelist for technologies such as hypertext, virtual spaces and Web 2.0 apps, and for a re-invention of teaching models that encompass these. Mark teaches high school English, following a career in IT that included serving as E-banking Strategist for TD Canada Trust and Knowledge Management Consultant with Ernst & Young. He was educated at the University of Toronto and D'youville College.

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KAREN MCGREGOR

Presentation: Microsoft in the Classroom: Live Services and Beyond

Date: August 25, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm

Room: TEL 2118

Karen is a Solution Specialist with the Microsoft Canada Education Team, where she works with K-12 school boards on their most strategic projects. Karen has been with Microsoft for 6 years, during which she has worked with Microsoft's largest Enterprise customers on innovative technology adoption initiatives, focusing on enterprise application development with .NET. Prior to joining Microsoft, Karen worked with Sun Microsystems and IBM, consulting on the design and implementation of large-scale Java/J2EE applications.



SCOTT MONAHAN

Presentation: Google for Collaboration

Date: August 25, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm

Room: TEL 2032

Scott is a Special Education teacher at Schomberg Public School. He started his teaching career in Nunavut and has been with YRDSB for the last four years. Scott considers himself a digital pioneer who enjoys investigating new technologies and assisting teachers in implementing relevant technology in their classrooms. Scott has been using Google Apps to facilitate shared writing, collaboration, and engagement in his school for the past two years.



ABBAS RIZVI

Presentation: Rapid eLearning and Collaboration with Adobe Acrobat Connect Professional

Date: August 26, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm

Room: TEL 2116

As a Senior Product Specialist at Adobe, Abbas is an expert in Adobe's eLearning and Web development solutions such as Acrobat Connect Professional, Captivate and the Adobe Creative Suite. He is a frequent presenter at Adobe customer events and leading industry conferences in North America, offering demonstrations and tutorials to educators, professional trainers, Web developers, IT managers and knowledge workers. Abbas holds a B.Sc. (Hons.) from the University of Waterloo.

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NATHALIE RUDNER

Presentation: Moodle – Enhance Your Moodle (afternoon), Moodle – Learn to Moodle (morning)

Date: August 25 & 26, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm & 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 2027

Nathalie is a Science Teacher and is involved with the ABEL program as a Site Lead. In 2007, Nathalie was nominated for the YRDSB Teacher of the Year Award in recognition of her contributions to supporting teachers within her school and district.



STEVE SMALLWOOD

Presentation: Connect, Interact, Engage: Videoconferencing for Learning, Learning Possibilities on ABEL Island

Date: August 25 & 26, 2009

Time: 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 0013 & TEL 2118

Steve is a secondary school science teacher currently working at Dr. John M Denison SS in Newmarket. After his period one class, Steve transforms into his role as Learning Lead for the ABEL program. He has worked with TVO, the Ontario Science Centre, iEARN, The Canadian Museum of Nature, MAGPI, COSI, The Royal Botanical Gardens and others. As an ABEL Learning Lead, a lot of his time is spent supporting video conferencing locally, provincially and, increasing, internationally.



TANIA STERLING

Presentation: Motion Pictures Made Easy! (morning), Video Editing 101 (afternoon)

Date: August 26, 2009

Time: 8:45am – 12:00pm & 1:10pm – 4:30pm

Room: TEL 0015 & TEL 2032

Tania has a passion for online learning and media literacy. She co-developed the online TVOntario eWorkshop Media Literacy, 4-6 module and was the Lead on the Ministry of Education's Guide to Effective Literacy Instruction, Media Literacy 4-6. She was also a member of the Expert Panel for Literacy for Learning, 4-6. Tania is a half-time Teacher Librarian at Mackenzie Glen PS in Maple, Ontario and is pursuing an online educational doctoral program with Walden University with a focus on Teacher Leadership.

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LISA STANSFIELD

Presentation: Get on Board, the Smart Board that Is!

Date: August 25 & 26, 2009

Time: Tuesday, 1:10pm – 4:30pm & Wednesday, 8:45am – 12:00pm

Room: TEL 2032

Lisa received her B.Ed. from OISE and has been teaching for the York Region district school board for the past 5 years. She has taught science, phys. Ed., math, careers and learning strategies, and has used the Smart Board in most of these subjects. The Smart Board is still new and interesting for the students and she has found it quite helpful with the more “active” boys in her classes. Lisa is excited to be at ASI this year to share some of the ideas that have worked in her classes, as well as the challenges she has experienced.