THIS IS WHAT I LIKE ACTION SPOTLIGHT



ATLAS has started an online Newsletter!!

Be sure to visit all 3 pages

Join the Party!

ATLAS is co-sponsering the May 5th Technology Conference that will be held in our 2100 building. This conference is a joint venture with the Imperial County Office of Education to help inspire and share ideas on how to best use technology to improve instruction and better prepare students and our schools for successful futures in a rapidly changing global economy.



Visit the offical website for all the details http://url.icoeapps.org/tdm

We are seeking Presenters

Got an idea, tech talent, or innovation you want to share? Please Share IT!!!

Spice Up the Conference with your

Session! Please visit the proposal website and sign up.

Call for Proposal Deadline: April 17, 2012

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?

formkey = dENFMk9Sa2UwVTAyWnI2T3ZXaDJUSFE6MA

A word from Mr. ATLAS



Tech de Mayo will take the place of our regular ATLAS Showcase event that we were planning to hold on April 27Th. The conference will include a <u>Student Showcase</u>, which will give teachers and their students a chance to share their technology innovations with the conference attendees. If you and your students want to take part in this showcase, then please contact Angie or Sidne. If it helps sell the idea, you can tell your students that all participants receive free admission to the conference as well as a free lunch courtesy of IVC's own Business Club.

And Congrats Michael for being IVC's March Employee of the Month!!

Who's Who Of ATLAS

Off to a slow start-- but the idea is to create a photo list of all our participants.

We want to create a photo enhanced directory of all the trainers, mentors and mentees.

So please send your picture Today!!! sidne.horton@imperial.edu



The ATLAS Wonder Dog to become an offical Guide Dog



Leah checks into her formal training class at Guide Dogs of the Desert in 3 weeks.

It will be hard to give up such a sweet devoted dog.

Her formal training witt last 3 to 6 months. She will be taugt how to guide a blind person through all the physical perils of life (like cross walks, doorways and stairs)

The next time I will be able to see her is at Graduation when I will symbolically give her to the blind person she will be paired with. This will be hard-- so I am getting all the love I can from her NOW.

Coming Soon-- August ATLAS event-- Innovations 2012

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▶ WELCOME **▶** <u>THIS IS WHAT I LIKE</u> **▶** ACTION SPOTLIGHT



Throughout the year we will be sharing some of our ATLAS participants favorite things. These can be websites, classroom innovations, movies-anything goes really. It will be great to get to know you all.

This month----- **James Patterson** (thanks for going first!!)
Three of my favorite things:



My favorite color is Yellow.

My favorite vacation destination is Payson, Arizona --where my parents have retired. and-- I like ice cream on Tuesday afternoons.

<u>I want to share what has CHANGED MY APPROACH TO</u>
TEACHING --

A couple of weeks ago, I was very frustrated with my writing students' essays. I had them write comparison-contrast essays detailing the best teacher they've ever had with the worst teacher they've ever had. So I was looking at their poor grades after reading their statements of the best teachers they've ever had. Obviously I was not the best teacher.

"When what you're doing is not working, it's time to try something different."

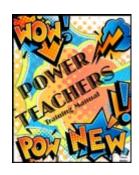
Instead of banging my head against the wall or blaming the students -- I went to YouTube and typed in "how to teach".

I found a video called "Whole Brain Teaching: the Basics." The 7.5 minute video is of a professor in a college classroom using Power Teaching techniques to teach the six basic steps of what he calls "Power Teaching."

Take a look: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eBeWEgvGm2Y

Eight minutes later, I was exhausted. The techniques he used, and taught, were intense in a way that scared me.

I also found another Whole Brain Teaching video: Advanced Techniques, where he used the same techniques to teach content (Aristotle's Four Causes). http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6rOlOW2Jf0



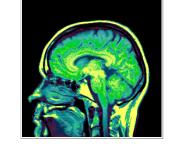
In my following classes, I mentioned the videos to my students. Then I showed them the "Basics" video, and we started playing with some of the techniques in class. Some students participated easily; some students resisted. To the resisters, I commented: "When what you're doing is not working, it's time to try something different." Now all of my writing students are at least playing along with their crazy instructor.

The Power Teaching techniques have required me to simplify my lessons and shorten my presentations to allow time for the students to teach each other (repetition and review).

Because the students are starting to participate more in short exchanges, students are also becoming more comfortable asking questions. Over the last two weeks, I've seen the level of participation increase in my writing classes.

Look for Frank Rapp sharing his favorite things next edition!!!

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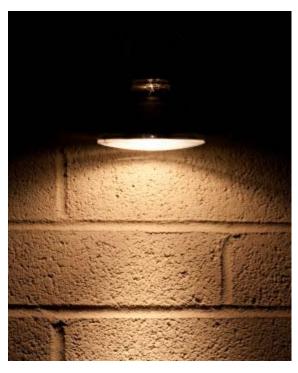


🕨 HOME 🌘 THIS IS WHAT I LIKE 🐞 <u>ACTION SPOTLIGHT</u>

The ATLAS SPOTLIGHT

You've Have Been Caught Doing Something Good!!!!!

The Big ATLAS Spotlight has scanned the campus and has found a partnership that is really working!!!



Toni and Audrey are meeting once each month to discuss plans for pairing an English and Health Ed class in the fall.

They have been discussing curriculum and lesson plans to see where they might best incorporate some paired activities.

Toni is collecting information from her current HE102 students to determine what English/ESL course her students are currently taking or are qualified to take next.

And a small ATLAS "Flashlight" moment-- Angie and I were very fortunate to attend the CUE Conference last month (Computer Using Educators). What a treat! Hundreds of sessions on using technology in classrooms.

The big crowd pleasing conference topics seem to be:

- * Thousands of ways to use the I-Pad
- * Flipping the classroom
- * Digital Story telling
- * And Google Docs.

Well I went to a Google Docs website creating session-- and it was great (I have a lot to learn) Then I went to a Weebly website creating session-- and it was extremely easy.

And so this ATLAS newsletter website is an example of the FREE Weebly website builder. Want to make your own?? It really is fun and easy.

Create a free website with Weebly

And who is next????

Please share what you have been up to-and your innovations will be in the next Spotlight.



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