The sheer speed and scope of technology innovation in higher education today is enough to make any sensible faculty member push away from the computer and slouch toward some dusty grad-school tome that’s been mouldering on a shelf, if only to recapture a moment of bibliophilic dream-time BCE (Before the Computer Era). Where IS that *Diary of Samuel Pepys* when you need it?

Even faculty who are generationally acclimated to the Web can be hard-pressed to find time to research the latest technology applications that enhance research and teaching.

Be of good cheer: somewhere between retreating to the comfort of your inner Luddite and stumbling headlong toward the next shiny techno-bauble being touted for the classroom there’s a golden Aristotelean mean with your name on it. *The 2009 Horizon Report* just might help you find it.

**Six higher-ed trends**

The report outlines six "emerging technologies likely to have a large impact on teaching, learning, research, or creative expression within learning-focused organizations." In the early adoption horizon (one year or less), the report names mobiles and cloud computing (clusters of networked servers) as already being "well established on many campuses." *Geo-location technology* ("geo-everything") and the *personal web* (think Facebook, YouTube, Twitter) come in for the mid-term adoption horizon. In the longer term, the report notes that *semantic-aware applications*, which contextualize information, and *smart objects* (physical objects having unique identifiers that can track information about the objects) "are not yet com-

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**Excerpts from The 2009 Horizon Report***

- **Geo-Everything.** Geocoded data has many applications, but until very recently, it was time-consuming and difficult for non-specialists to determine the physical coordinates of a place or object, and options for using that data were limited. Now, many common devices can automatically determine and record their own precise location and can save that data along with captured media (like photographs) or can transmit it to web-based applications for a host of uses. The full implications of geo-tagging are still unfolding, but the impact in research has already been profound.

- **The Personal Web.** Springing from the desire to reorganize online content rather than simply viewing it, the personal web is part of a trend that has been fueled by tools to aggregate the flow of content in customizable ways and expanded by an increasing collection of widgets that manage online content. The term personal web was coined to represent a collection of technologies that are used to configure and manage the ways in which one views and uses the Internet. Using a growing set of free and simple tools and applications, it is easy to create a customized, personal web-based environment—a personal web—that explicitly supports one’s social, professional, learning, and other activities. *Report online at* [http://wp.nmc.org/horizon2009/](http://wp.nmc.org/horizon2009/)
Technology trends (cont.)

monly found in an educational context."

Written for a wide readership, The Horizon Report defines each technology trend and discusses "why it is relevant to teaching, learning, research, and creative expression." The Report is produced by The New Media Consortium and the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative.

Read the full report online at: http://wp.nmc.org/horizon2009/

"I used to think that cyberspace was fifty years away. What I thought was fifty years away, was only ten years away. And what I thought was ten years away... it was already here. I just wasn’t aware of it yet."
—Bruce Sterling

Who’s exploring technology horizons on our campus?

- **LIS**—in addition to strategic planning, the Library & Information Services division integrates tech services and support into the daily life of the campus. LIS uses technology to deliver information directly to your personal computer. We outfit classrooms with current technology and enhance classes through a course management system.
- **TLTAG**—the Teaching, Learning, and Technology Advisory Group explores, evaluates and recommends new educational technologies for adoption on the campus. It also offers strategic planning input.
- **ITAC**—the Information Technology Advisory Council (ITAC) works to develop a campus-wide vision of technology. ITAC advises the campus community on tech applications and systems that support instruction, research, and administration.

Help make the library a familiar destination for your students. Library services are a vital resource for students preparing for the careers and graduate programs that demand top-notch research skills, critical thinking, and a keen eye for finding information. Library services also support students in their current academic course work, internships, volunteer work, and part-time jobs. Students who regularly use the library benefit from expanded individual assistance provided by librarians, from new technology innovations, and from increasingly customized and automated online services. Encouraging your students to use the library—in person or online—will help to ensure their success in college and beyond.

Lunch & Learn series demos latest research tools for faculty

Wondering about the best ways to use Google Scholar, wikis and blogs, RSS feeds, and other increasingly popular research tools? Feinberg Library's Lunch & Learn series of noontime sessions will provide you with the latest information available. Each librarian-led session focuses on helping faculty enhance their research capabilities. Each includes an open Q&A discussion. Bring your lunch and, if you wish, your laptop. Sessions will be held in Feinberg's conference room, FL249. View the workshop schedule at... plattsburgh.edu/technology/it/lunchandlearn.php

View the full schedule of Instructional Technology workshops at... faculty.plattsburgh.edu/it/workshops.asp

Have a suggestion for library collections?

Don't be shy—Feinberg Library wants to hear from you! Submit your suggestions for books, DVDs, or journal subscriptions online at... plattsburgh.edu/library/cdm/suggestpurchase.php

Faculty use My Plattsburgh to reach students

Since its launch in September of 2008, the My Plattsburgh campus portal has taken off with new developments based on feedback from faculty and students. Faculty are using this secure and customized web vehicle to converse with their students about class announcements, notices of room changes, assignment due dates, text book information, class meetings, and more.

Online at my.plattsburgh.edu.