



NOVEMBER 2006

Pre-Service Student Teachers & Supporting Mentor Teachers

The UGA ETTC would like to congratulate the 58 wonderful preservice student teachers on a great fall semester and for making the impact you did on each student you worked with in the local school systems.

Additionally, we extend our many thanks to all of the supporting Mentor Teachers who make this educational experience possible. Each of you opens your classroom and your hearts to these individuals who aspire to change lives the way only you can. You are what makes education successful. Keep up the hard work.

The spring of 2007 is bringing another large group of preservice student teachers. The UGA ETTC will be working with almost 130 teachers in the Elementary classrooms and Agriculture Education classes across the state.

With this new semester, preservice student teachers will be implementing technology infused lesson plans and teaching/ assisting their Mentor Teachers

with technology connected activities featuring devices such as a compact ELMO Visual Presenter, Classroom Performance (Voting) System, and interactive whiteboard software using Wireless Slates.

Spotlight on Georgia

Congratulations to our November Spotlight Winner!



Jerry Paxton and students at Five Forks Middle School in Gwinnett County http://www.fiveforksmiddleschool.org/staff/exploratories/tech_ed/index.htm

Nominated by Monya Phillips, the Local School Technology Coordinator (LSTC) of Five Forks Middle School in Gwinnett County, Jerry Paxton has been selected as the winner of UGA ETTC's November 2006 Spotlight on Georgia Award. Mr. Paxton has been with Five Forks Middle School since 1993, teaching Probe

Social Studies & Science, along with an Advanced Technology Connections course which he developed. In this time, Mr. Paxton has served as the LSTC of Five Forks Middle School and is currently the Technical Education teacher.

Mr. Paxton was selected for this award because of all the ways he is implementing effective technology integration strategies in the classroom, school, and beyond. Some of his accomplishments are listed below:

- Uses a student response system that allows him to gather immediate feedback from every student in his classroom. He has worked with the staff on teaching them how to use it with their classes
- Developed and maintains a website that is very interactive and useful for both parents and students. This website includes video, 3-D tours of the class, podcasts and more. http://www.fiveforksmiddleschool.org/staff/exploratories/tech_ed/index.htm
- Uses a variety of teaching methods, software and hardware

Spotlight cont. (Jerry Paxton)

- Working with academic teachers on incorporating technology with their curriculum - using the Internet to create review activities. Students will be able to access this information from any computer - anywhere.
- Collaborates with other technology teachers in Gwinnett and other counties sharing ideas/strategies
- Created a Yahoo account to enable teachers to post and share their lessons, discuss problems, and brainstorm solutions.
- Makes use of a variety of web resources for teaching and evaluating students
- Is constantly “learning” and incorporating new ideas into the classroom

Mr. Paxton is currently involved with the First Lego League (FLL) Robotics Challenge Competition, a global competition. Mr. Paxton’s students are building and programming Lego Mindstorm RCX robots to perform tasks related to nanotechnology, the challenge theme for the competition. (nanotechnology is a new frontier that will impact every facet of society, from medicine to computers, to the environment.) The 2006 FLL teams will explore new technologies that start in the nano world and lead to the things we do and use every day.



UGA ETTTC

<http://ttc.coe.uga.edu>

For more information visit: http://www.fiveforksmiddleschool.org/staff/exploratories/tech_ed/robofab/robofab.htm



New Classes

We are continually updating our line-up of Productivity Classes that we are teaching at the ETTTC location in Gwinnett. Classes include the classic Office applications (Access, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Word), interactive whiteboards (both SMART and ACTIV), Dreamweaver, MovieMaker, Classroom Performance System (a commonly used voting system), Podcasting, Introduction to Wireless, and more. For more information and to see what is coming, visit us online at <http://ttc.coe.uga.edu/classes.html>.



Technology Tribute

Is your classroom in that tight space where students struggle to fight through rows of desks just to get to the board? How about handing the board to them? With a wireless slate, you are placing

responsibility in the hands of the students. Let them lead from their seats using a hardware component known as a Wireless Slate. This device allows for teachers and students to interact wirelessly with your interactive whiteboard or your computer from anywhere in the classroom.

Wireless slates work great with software for your interactive whiteboard, but you don’t need an interactive whiteboard to make it work. You can run any application on your computer from the wireless slate.

The slate supports all styles of teaching, so you and your students will all benefit from the flexibility of interacting lessons and websites. Have fun exploring a whole new way of engaging your students!

