



nmc highlights 2003

Major Events

- The Learning Object Summit, a policy-level event held in San Francisco, with support from Macromedia
- Six Regional Directors Meetings held over the winter & spring in San Francisco, Boston, Austin, Chicago, New York, and Washington DC
- Midwest Regional Conference, with a special focus on languages, and held in conjunction with the DigitalStream Conference at CSU Monterrey Bay
- NMC Summer Conference hosted by Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia
- NMC Directors Dinner & Dialog with the NMC Board of Directors
- NMC Online Conference on Learning Objects, cosponsored by NLII, MERLOT, CATS and the ADL Colab
- Nine webcasts and streaming events, with speakers like Kristina Woolsey and Lev Gonick; special events like the 2003 Center of Excellence Awards and Five Minutes of Fame; topical reports on Learning Objects; and the 2003 Report to Members

Major Projects and Activities

- The Pachyderm 2.0 Project was launched. This \$1 million, 3-year effort, supported by the IMLS, is a collaboration of 10 NMC universities and museums, led by the NMC, to develop an open-source authoring environment for rich learning experiences
- The Learning Object Initiative gained speed with the San Francisco Summit, the Online Conference, dozens of related member projects, several white papers, and collaborations with NLII, MERLOT, and the Academic Advanced Distributed Learning Colaboratory
- The Dynamic Knowledge Communities Initiative (DKC) was launched, and major additions added to the website related to components such as communities of practice, knowledge objects, knowledge sharing and tools (such as blogs and RSS). A number of prototype knowledge objects were launched, as well as related efforts at several NMC universities. The NMC Online Conference was the first major event related to this initiative

Collaborations and Partnerships

- Collaborative partnerships were formed with MERLOT, CATS, and the Academic ADL Colab, and major collaborative projects or events were launched with each of these organizations, as well as with the NLII and DigitalStream
- Collaborative membership agreements were reached with NITLE (National Institute for Technology in Learning and Education) and NISOD (National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development)

Grants & Funded Projects

- A \$499,500 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Grants program to support the creation of a new, open source authoring environment for creators of learning objects and other forms of multimedia and online learning experiences
- A \$30,000 grant from Macromedia to support the Learning Object Summit
- A variety of smaller grants totaling \$25,000 to fund white papers, focus groups, and other activities

Website Expansions and Enhancements

- Major expansions and additions to the NMC website, which now contains over 100 MB of online content supporting NMC initiatives, dozens of examples of member projects, and comprehensive information about NMC activities
- The Dynamic Online Gallery of Member Projects was launched, with an initial collection of over 75 member projects and programs highlighted, and plans to grow that list significantly. A new subset of these projects is presented each time a visitor comes to the page
- A variety of weblogs were launched: *NMC News* (items of interest related to NMC projects, events, and activities); *NMC Ideas* (a discussion forum); as well as others in support of a variety of major projects, such as the *Pachyblog*