



nmc highlights 2006

Major Events

- NMC Online Conference on The Impact of Digital Media, held October 24-25, 2006.
- NMC Symposium on Digital Media on the NMC's virtual campus in Second Life, held Oct 10-21 2006.
- NMC Summer Conference, hosted by the Case Western Reserve University, the Cleveland Institute of Art, the Cleveland Museum of Art and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, held June 7-10, 2006.
- NMC Online Conference on Personal Broadcasting, held April 26-27, 2006.
- NMC Directors Meeting, held February 23-24, 2006, in Austin, Texas.

Major Projects and Activities

- With the release of Pachyderm to members this year, that project has begun to move into a new phase, one more focused on community building than software development. As of this month, Pachyderm has over 1,200 users from 325 different organizations in 11 countries. The NMC continues to be involved in the effort on all levels, and provides *Pachyderm* hosting, training, and community support as part of the benefits it provides to NMC members.
- The NMC launched a full-featured virtual campus in Second Life, part of the NMC's focus on the potential of educational gaming, and made it available to NMC members as a benefit of membership. It provides members a place to explore virtual space, to conduct research, or to hold classes. Nearly 500 people have registered in the online directory associated with the project, and the NMC Campus community now numbers almost 1,000 people.
- The Horizon Project continued with the release of the *2006 Horizon Report* in January 2006 in collaboration with the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI). Research has begun for the *2007 Horizon Report*, scheduled for release in January 2007. More than 25,000 copies of the 2006 report have been downloaded.
- The NMC's ongoing projects and activities in the Emerging Technologies, Dynamic Knowledge, New Collaborations, and New Media Literacy & Learning Initiatives continue to involve dozens of NMC member institutions.

Grants & Funded Projects

- A 2-year, \$921,000 grant from the Edward and Betty Marcus Foundation was received in November 2005. The grant will provide continuing support for the New Media Literacy & Learning Initiative and the Pachyderm Project.
- A one-and-a-half-year, \$575,000 grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation was received in December 2005. This grant will explore the intersection of digital media and learning from the perspectives of experts, visionaries, and thought leaders chosen from across the globe. At the end of the grant, six volumes will be published, each with a unifying theme that addresses a critical aspect of this emerging field of study.
- A three-year, \$499,500 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) National Leadership Grants program was successfully completed on September 30, 2006.
- A special grant from the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative helped to support the *2006 Horizon Report*, as well as the upcoming *2007 Horizon Report*.
- A variety of smaller grants funded surveys, focus groups, and other activities.

Collaborations and Partnerships

- The NMC and the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI) are continuing their joint effort around the NMC's Horizon Project, with a series of related activities taking place within both organizations. The

partnership jointly released the *2006 Horizon Report* at the ELI conference in January 2006, and work has begun on the *2007 Horizon Report* to be released in January 2007.

Monographs and Reports

- The *2006 Horizon Report*, sponsored by ELI, was published in January 2006. The report has been downloaded more than 21,000 times, and 1,600 professionally bound and printed hard copies have been distributed to members.
- A white paper, *Maximizing Campus Impact: Lessons from the Trenches*, was released at the March 2006 NMC Directors Meeting.

Website Expansions and Enhancements

- Major enhancement and expansions to NMC website continue. The NMC website now includes video and audio segments from the 2006 Summer Conference and the NMC Campus in Second Life using state-of-the-art content delivery via Limelight Networks. The website is also expanding its content in podcast format; more than three dozen NMC podcasts were produced this year.
- The NMC has added a state-of-the-art content delivery network to its technical infrastructure, allowing far more efficient transmission of streaming video and audio content.
- The Pachyderm Project website was moved to www.pachyderm.org and features a comprehensive collection of materials related to the project and the Pachyderm authoring environment.
- A new blog, the *NMC Campus Observer*, publishes continuously updated information and news about the NMC's virtual campus in Second Life.
- Several wikis have been developed, including the Horizon Report workspace, used to develop the annual report; the NMC Campus Guide, filled with information on the NMC Campus; and a space for NMC Directors to brainstorm their ideas about NMC membership and services. New custom code developed for the MediaWiki software allows the display of dynamic content from RSS feeds.
- In late 2006, a new NMC website will be released, featuring enhanced tools for members as well as a wide range of online community tools. Among the new features will be a comprehensive, searchable library of presentations, videos, publications, and reports, exclusively for members. Newly developed tools will allow NMC members to directly add new content to share their own work and to contribute to collaboratively authored resource sites.

Upcoming Events

- 2006 NMC Fall Regional Conference, hosted by Trinity University to be held November 8-10, 2006.
- The first annual Pachyderm User's Conference, to be held December 12-14, 2006.
- 2007 NMC Summer Conference, hosted by Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, scheduled for June 6 – 9, 2007, in Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 2007 NMC Fall Regional Conference, hosted by Tulane University in New Orleans, scheduled for November 7 – 9, 2007.
- 2008 NMC Summer Conference, hosted by Princeton University, scheduled for June 11 – 14, 2008, in Princeton, New Jersey.