

## Newsletter

### Special Interest Articles

- Teacher Spotlight
- PRISM Visits

### Individual Highlights

- Resources for Teachers
- Summer Camp @ Rose-Hulman
- Professional Development Opportunities



### Teacher Spotlight

Karen Crispin currently teaches French, English, and theater at West Vigo High School. She directs both the school play and musical, and since 2011 has directed Vigo County School Corporation's Summer Performing Arts Workshop. During her 40 years of teaching, she has seen many changes. She feels that discovering the PRISM Moodle LMS is one of the most revolutionary.

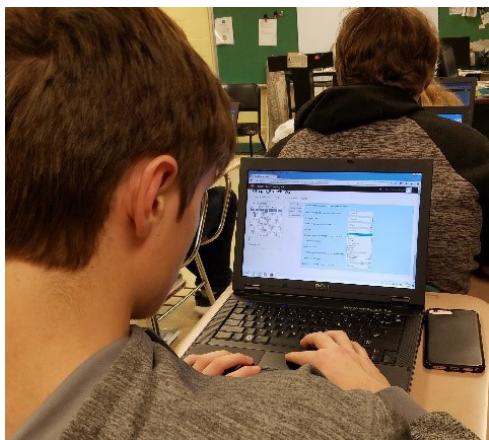
"This LMS has changed my life," Crispin said. "I no longer have stacks of papers waiting to be graded. I no longer spend hours outside of the school day trying to stay caught up on grading papers." Crispin also feels that the switch has been a positive for students. "My students no longer have to wait for feedback on tests and quizzes. The program grades everything except the essay questions and grading those is so much faster because I am looking at all of the answers to one question at a time." That extra time is very important to Crispin as she is also the Director of Student Productions at St. Mary of the Woods College and is very involved at Community Theatre of Terre Haute and the Vigo County Historical Society Museum.



*continued on Page 2...*

## Teacher Spotlight

She also feels that using the Moodle LMS helps students learn to be more responsible. "I post homework assignments and test announcements in the news feed so there is no reason for anyone to not know what they have to make up or prepare for even if they are absent," she said. She feels that there are so many perks to using the PRISM Moodle LMS that it would be difficult to do without it at this point. "I can post practice lessons, links to websites, worksheets, game links, and quizzes all in one place. Another great feature is the Chat Room. If I am absent, all I have to do is log in to answer students' questions as they work on a test or assignment. Another great feature is the Choice poll. We sing a lot of songs in French class, so I can put up a poll for students to vote on the next song."



Crispin feels that the platform is user-friendly. "You don't have to know anything about programming; it's already done for you. And take the online classes," she added. "I learned so much from the three learning modules offered that was a real time saver." She likes the ability to upload questions from ExamView, a test generator that comes with many textbooks. "I like the variety of the types of questions that can be created for a test. Once I have uploaded a set, I can quickly edit them or add more questions. I also like the option of Adaptive Mode where students have another chance at a question for partial points." She is also a fan of the Wiki and Workshop activities available in Moodle. "It is so easy to create an assignment and have students work together during or outside of class," she said. Crispin admits that there are so many features that she has not had the time

to try all of them, but she keeps trying. "Sometimes I just play with options I haven't tried yet to see what I might want to add to my repertoire!" she said.

### PRISM Visits to K-12 Classrooms

Rose-Hulman PRISM's K-12 schools education liaison, Bob Jackson, is hitting the road over the next few months to get in touch with PRISM's Moodle teachers in their classrooms. Bob wants to see "Moodle in Action" in the classroom from both the perspectives of the teachers and the students. We want to see how we can help our teacher users and, more than that, we want to see the good things that teachers are doing in their classes daily. We hope by using the Moodle LMS that your classroom experiences are enhanced and students feel comfortable utilizing the resources. We know many of you have developed some good online pedagogy. We do not want to intrude, begin to tell you how to do things or anything of that sort. We strongly believe that there are many good things taking place in your classes.

In November, Bob is going to see Julie Moore at Washington Township Middle High School near Valparaiso and in December to see Nora Walsh at Evansville Reitz High School and Brian Hartman at Evansville North High School. If you are willing to open your classroom door to allow Bob to come and observe a class period or two, please [email him](#) and setup a date and time.

## Resources for Teachers



Seesaw is an online platform for student engagement. Through using Seesaw, teachers empower students to create, reflect, share and collaborate. Students actively "show what they know" by using photos, videos, drawings, text, pdf's and links to online resources. Seesaw is a simple platform to use by teachers, students and parents. Student work is loaded to one secure place and can be shared with family members. Teachers can very effectively not only engage the students but can get students' families engaged with what is going on in the classroom on a daily basis. More than anything it is a

student-centered program that serves as a digital portfolio of the learning experiences of the students.

To learn more go to: [Seesaw](#)



Designed for a digital classroom environment, teachers can create lessons on Educreations Whiteboard and students can join right in the lesson within the app on their own devices. Lessons sync automatically between the teachers work station and student's individual iPads. Makes it easy for student to access the work provided by their teacher and for their teacher to monitor their work. Educreations is a unique interactive

whiteboard and screencasting tool that's simple, powerful, and fun to use. Teachers can share a variety of resources with students including short, instructional videos, online activities and lessons. Lessons can be stored, along with student work. If iPads are not available, all work is available online at the Educreations website.

To learn more about this app go to: [Educreations](#)

## 2020 Sustainable Alternative Energies Summer Boot Camp

### An Intensive "Boot Camp" Teacher Training Combining Academic Professional Development with Vocational Site Visits to Alternative Energy Providers

*Thanks to funding provided by: Frank and Becky Levinson*

Where: Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology Campus

When: June 14 - June 19, 2020

From June 14 - June 19, Rose-Hulman PRISM will be facilitating the Sustainable Alternative Energies Summer Boot Camp. The boot camp takes place on the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology campus. Secondary and Middle School (6-12) STEM teachers teaching units in their curriculum on sustainable energies are invited to submit an application. The purpose of this institute is to provide the teachers a true "boot camp experience" in sustainable alternative energies combining academic professional development with vocational site visits to some alternative energy providers in Indiana.

During the institute, teachers are to be developing standards-based, practical and comprehensive lessons for units on sustainable alternative energies. Time will be given each day to help guide the development of lesson plans. Teachers will also be given time to share their ideas and collaborate each day.

Upon completion, and after fully participating in the institute, each teacher will receive a kit of supplies containing materials for all the lab activities done during the institute. Teachers can also receive, upon completion of the institute, 45 Professional Growth Points (PGP's) to apply on their Indiana Teacher's License renewal.

All participants will be housed in a residence hall on the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology campus during the institute. Meals will be provided through the Food & Dining Services (Café Bon Appetit) in the student union.

#### **Eligibility Requirements:**

Teachers must be active Indiana Secondary or Middle School STEM teachers teaching units on sustainable energies.

Priority will be given to teachers that have 0-10 years of teaching experience.

#### **Main Topics**

U.S. Power Grid

Energy Conservation

Solar Energy

Wind Energy

Coal-fired Power Plants

Natural Gas Combined-Cycle Power Plants

#### **Site visits could include:**

Benton County Wind Energy Farms

Hoosier Energy Merom Power Plant, Merom, IN

MISO Headquarters, Carmel, IN

NIPSCO Power Plant, West Terre Haute, IN

Natural Gas Power Plants

Apply online at the [PRISM website](#). You must create an account on our website. After creating an account, you will need to click on Event Registration on the front page (left-hand side under Main Menu). Then, click on the drop-down menu and select: **Sustainable Energy Experience 2020**.

## Professional Development Opportunities

### 49th Annual HASTI Conference

#### ALL IN: Sharing the Vision for Indiana Science Education

February 9 - 11, 2020  
Wyndham Indianapolis West  
2544 Executive Drive  
Indianapolis, IN 46241

HASTI's 2019 Conference will convene in Indianapolis from February 17-19. The HASTI conference is the premier professional development and networking opportunity for science teachers in Indiana. Concurrent sessions are led by teachers, college faculty, staff at informal education institutions, and STEM education industry representatives.

Category	Pre-Registration Full	Pre-Registration One Day	Onsite Full Conference	Onsite Single Day
Member	\$99	\$69	\$119	\$79
Nonmember	\$149	\$109	\$169	\$119
Retired/Student	\$59	\$39	\$79	\$49
Guest	\$59	\$39	\$79	\$49

Field Trips, Workshops, and Award Banquet tickets are additional fees.

If 4 people from one school attend HASTI, your Superintendent or Principal will receive a complimentary registration!

#### HASTI Exhibit Hall Registration

[Register Here](#)

Contact: [Exhibitsmanager@hasti.org](mailto:Exhibitsmanager@hasti.org) for questions.

## Indiana STEM Education Conference 2020

The fifth-annual Indiana STEM Education Conference will be held at Purdue University on Wednesday, January 15, 2020. The Center for Advancing the Teaching and Learning of STEM (CATALYST), the Purdue University College of Education, and the Indiana Department of Education are proud sponsors of the conference.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. and the conference will be from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with lunch included in the registration fee.

The goal of the Indiana STEM Education Conference is to support K-12 STEM learning opportunities by sharing effective practices on teaching and learning. The conference will have new features to address the needs of K-12 teachers and schools like:

- An annual theme, this year the theme is Meeting the Objectives of the Indiana STEM Strategic Plan.
- An afternoon workshop to help teachers earn career and economic PGP hours.
- Lunchtime speaker from the Indiana Department of Education.

There will be three session strands that align the conference with the STEM Strategic Plan:

1. STEM Instructional Strategies
2. STEM Curriculum
3. STEM Career Exposure
4. A fourth strand, STEM Education Research, will provide an opportunity for research poster sessions.

For more information or to register, go to: [Indiana STEM Education Conference 2020](#)

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## What PRISM Can Do For You!

- Easily find the perfect teaching and learning resources from our library of over 5,000.
- Save a list of your favorite resources for quick retrieval.
- Create and share lesson plans that teach your subjects utilizing your favorite resources.
- Develop online classrooms with interactive assignments, lessons, quizzes and more!
- Store your classroom materials online so that they are available to you from any computer.
- Reach your students more effectively by using web media for the digital age.
- Earn PGP points by completing PRISM led online Moodle course – either Beginning Moodle or Intermediate Moodle courses are available to you at no cost several times throughout the year.
- Select from free learning resources that emphasize visualization, rich context, staged-problem solving, and electronically enabled collaboration / communication.
- Augment your own dynamic presence in the classroom with teaching tools that mirror the skills needed for success in higher education and the 21st Century workplace.

*Through our strong support from the [Lilly Endowment](#) and others, we are constantly growing and improving. Check our site regularly to see what new resources you can use in your classroom.*

[www.rose-prism.org](http://www.rose-prism.org)