## About UNOH

The University of Northwestern Ohio was founded in 1920. It is a private, not-for-profit institution. The University of Northwestern Ohio is a co-educational institution authorized by the Ohio Board of Regents to grant master's degrees, baccalaureate degrees, and associate degrees. We are located in Lima, Ohio and serve a student body of approximately 4000. We have two separate colleges on campus, the College of Business and the College of Technologies. The College of Technologies offers degrees in auto, diesel, agriculture and heating and cooling.

## UNOH Faculty

Because of the variety of disciplines represented at UNOH, the faculty come from very different backgrounds so creating a tool that is useful to these diverse curriculums is a goal. We have approximately 100 full time faculty with about 75% of them representing the College of Technologies.

## Why a Wiki Page?

Our goal was to define a place for faculty to brainstorm collectively, share knowledge and expertise, practice multimedia strategies, and communicate with other faculty. We wanted a way to educate faculty regarding the technology available to enhance teaching and learning in their classrooms. We found that the best way to introduce a new technology to faculty is to involve them in using it outside of the classroom first. We created a Faculty Wiki to help faculty become more comfortable with using Wikis as a forum for sharing and collecting knowledge.

## The Outcome

- Faculty have joined us in discussions regarding student-related issues.
- They have also tried out some of the technologies and also uploaded their own examples that they hope to use in the classroom.
- Faculty are becoming more involved and interested in implementing these technologies into their own classrooms.
- Instances of resistance by some faculty members have decreased and evolved into curiosity.
- An increasing number of faculty are interested in attending training sessions on the use of various technology applications.
- With the help of the faculty, we have created an extensive resource with many perspectives and ideas for using technology in teaching and learning.

## The CHECK OUT MY WIKI Campaign

 In an effort to advertise the Wiki and increase the user traffic, we created the Check out My Wiki Campaign.  We had t-shirts designed with our UNOH Logo and the Faculty Discovery name on the front with the words, "CHECK OUT MY WIKI" on the back.  These shirts were given to all members of the MIC Committee to wear at one of our annual all -faculty workshop days. The shirts caused quite a buzz (and much good laughter). We presented a quick overview of the Faculty Wiki, how faculty could contribute and benefit from the wiki, and we promised a wiki t-shirt to all faculty who contributed to the wiki. Over the next two weeks, the wiki traffic exploded with over 25 faculty contributing to the wiki. To date, we have had almost 40 faculty members contribute to the wiki.

To continue to promote the wiki, we recognize faculty contributions at faculty meetings. We also recently had a CHCEK OUT MY WIKI T-SHIRT DAY. All the faculty who had a wiki t-shirt were invited to wear the t-shirt to campus that day. We had many participants.

## CHALLENGES

 One of the challenges we had was helping faculty get over the hurdle of being afraid to "mess something up" on the wiki. Many of our faculty were not used to Web 2.0 and commented that they had things to contribute, but didn't want to do it "wrong." To combat this challenge, we presented at a faculty meeting to show all the ways one could contribute. We showed how to add and edit text, and we also showed how to simply add a comment to a page. We also promised them that it is impossible to "break the wiki." We have been encouraged by faculty getting on the wiki to add comments after that presentation.

Another challenge is trying not to overwhelm faculty with too much information. We have, time and time again, encouraged faculty to browse the wiki to get one idea for one class and to start small. Many of our faculty who have been successful in making adjustments to their teaching style have been faculty who decided to try just one thing. Once they see the success in student learning - as well as how easy it truly is to use technology - they have continued on trying more and more things. Faculty testimonials from the "usually not so techno-savvy" holds much weight with the rest of the faculty who may not be as eager to try new things.