Using Technology in Ministerial Education
Missionary Educators Summit
Springfield, MO
August 15 and 16, 2006

Make outline of this.

Rod Boyd take notes

Introduction: Good to be here. Thanks to all who invited. Intro who I am and where I have been. MK, El Salvador 15 years, evangelism, discipleship, church planting, construction, pastoring, children and youth ministry, full-time Bible School teacher, full-time University teacher (UCAD), missions to other nations. Now working world wide as AGWM Technical Services Manager. Using technology at it's fullest to reach the lost (tool, etc.).

Have everyone intro who they are and what ministry they are in and how they are currently using technology.

Intro Statement: We are all aware of the pressing new demands of the information age and the wonderful opportunities it affords. Technology becomes a subject and where students can do their homework on the computer, but you wouldn't take a course in

"pencil" so why do the same with computers? First and foremost, students need to learn "with" technology, capturing its many uses and advantages in a meaningful context. In doing so students can adapt to the inevitable rapid growth and change in the way information technology impacts their lives. Technology should be a normal part of the curriculum in all classes. The role of technology is a natural part of the life of the school -- integral to the curriculum, neither artificially overplayed nor under-represented. It is on this curricular foundation that a school can build focus areas in programming, multimedia, and other technology centered offerings.

What does this mean for us? The teaching institution must lead, modeling for other ministers and churches. The worst thing is for it to fall behind and become irrelevant.

I.   Association is a key to memory:

- You remember approximately 10 percent of what you read.

- You remember approximately 20 percent of what you hear.

- You remember approximately 30 percent of what you see.

- You remember approximately 50 percent of what you hear and see together.
- You remember approximately 70 percent of what you say (if you think as you are saying it).
- You remember approximately 90 percent of what you do.

What bearing does this have on the use of technology in training ministers?

II.   What technology is available to be used in the classroom?

Possible suggestions:

- Computer for teacher, for students
- Video projector (show how I teach with outline and ppt slides, show graphics, show videos, show DVDs, show relevant web sites.)
- Overhead projector
- Slide projector
- Opaque projector
- Movie projector
- Cassette player
- Scanner
- Color printer to color overheads
- Laser printer to b/w overheads
- Copier on b/w overheads
- Digital camera
- Digital video camera
- Thumb drive
- Others?

What are the pros and cons of each of these (not harmed by power outage or big UPS), cost of replacement parts like bulbs, etc?

Will this help the teaching institution become more relevant or up to date?

Possible small group worksheet:

If you have the computers, would you offer a class on computers? Why?

If you have the computers, should a computer class be mandatory? Why?

If you have this class, what types of things would you teach in this class?

Would you make this equipment available to students to use during other hours? Why or why not? Could this equipment be made available to all ministers to do research?

Where would the funds come from to pay for the supervision, maintenance and operation of the "computer lab"?

Report back.

III.   How can we cheaply get computers for teachers and students to use? How can we cheaply get other equipment? How can we get cheap software (non-pirated) for

each computer? (Open Office in Spanish, etc.) When take container to field take used computers. We give away dozens of computers if you can pay for the transportation. Cheap computers just about everywhere. UN $100 computer. There are missions sources for cheap computers. Microsoft charity/community/education license. Example of Microsoft license UCAD had. http://www.techsoup.org/, http://www.ccbnonprofits.com/

IV.   How can we get cheap internet? Do we even need to bother with getting an internet connection? What are the benefits of an internet connection? What are the different type of connections (Cable, DSL, dial-up) and pros and cons of all. Might be cheaper to get broadband connection and then get a router for everyone to use than to pay for lots of people to use dialup independently and then pay the phone charges. Wireless over wired?

V.   How can we cheaply network the computers, or is there a need to network the computers?

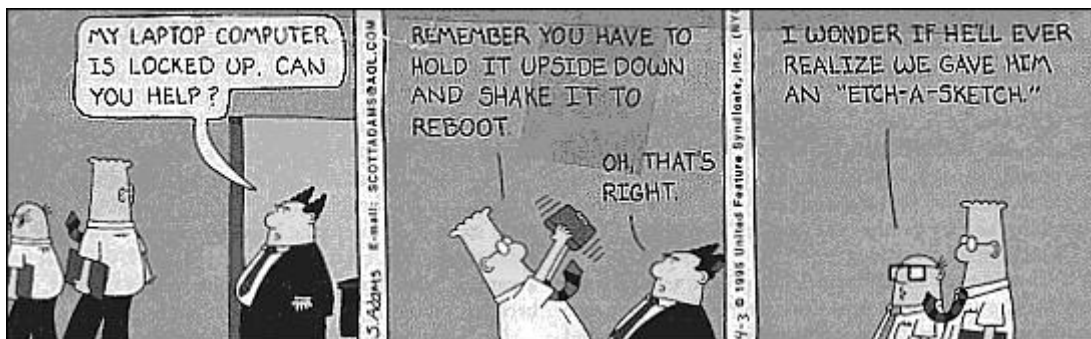VI.   How can people be trained to use the computers and or maintain and repair the computers?

V. How can ministers get computers once they are on their own? How can they use computers in their ministry (make list): sermon prep, display songs, further ministerial education. Other issues we have not thought of?

VI. How can missionaries help in all of these areas? Purchase a copy of CompuBiblia or BECA for all to use. Provide websites to share info like www.IBADla.net or CRA http://www.elasesor.org/:

- http://www.elasesor.org/31ForoTec.htm
- http://www.elasesor.org/31Biblio.htm
- http://www.elasesor.org/31EducVirtual.htm
- http://www.elasesor.org/centro_interface/Results/RecursosPorDivision.asp
- http://www.elasesor.org/centro_interface/Results/PlanesDeCurso.asp

VII. CDs for material distribution?

VIII. Can Technology be the answer for offering expanded library services, i.e. the advent of electronic libraries. Every Bible school should have one or more computers with these libraries installed. LALS (cataloguing).

IX.   If computers are taught, what would the curriculum include? Make list.

X.   Who would teach the teachers? How can the teacher benefit from using computers in his course preparation? Every semester when teach same class doesn't have to do everything all over again, but can refine and tweak what taught last year. Makes it very easy to share this with someone else who will be teaching the same class.

X.   How can technology be used in distance and independent learning, i.e. video, Internet, broadcast (i.e. Bill McDonald's TV ministry and education)?

Conclusion: Could an initiative come out of this? Maybe even a working group to advance these initiatives?