

Cool Tool Day Event Summary Notes

Date: October 5th, 2010

Time: 12:30 - 13:30

Location: SLAIS Terrace Lab

The following are summaries of cool tools" presented at the event:

- Bronwyn's "iTunes & Audio Podcasts"
 - Visit iTunes website for free available podcasts including:
 - TechNews Today
 - This Week in Tech (TWIT)
 - MacBOOK weekly
 - This week in Google
 - Search Engine - net neutrality and copyright
 - Spark from CBC radio - lifestyle and tech
- Alex's "Pure Text"
 - Windows
 - Application stevemiller.net/puretext
 - Keyboard shortcuts that allow you to maintain font and formatting when copying & pasting text
 - Mac Alternative
 - Visit alternativeto.net (similar to the process of using Firefox add-ons)
 - Browse site for applications you want to use
 - Select application and then click on "Visit Website"
 - Download application to your browser
- Franklin's "Data Visualization: Many Eyes"
 - Website: <http://manyeyes.alphaworks.ibm.com/manyeyes/>
 - Good place to find data sets
 - Good place to share data sets (warning: no way to keep data sets private so careful about uploading data sensitive documents)
 - Can do tricks with mapping
 - Provides options for visualizing data (example: using tag clouds, word trees, bubble chart, etc.)
 - Alternative website: visualizing.org (It is free, but new - so it is still being built)
- Will's "UBC Blogs & UBC Wiki"
 - UBC Blogs
 - Digital Learning Commons
 - All you need is your CWL to make a blog or website

- Social media aspect to blogs are groups, forums, profiles, friends, etc.
- About 6000 people are using the service now
- Built using WordPress
- Supports custom CSS in themes
- Consider it a content management platform (rather than a blog platform)
- UBC Wiki
 - Functions on Media Wiki software
 - It is not private, anyone can edit
 - Based on philosophical ownership, not structural
 - Your CWL should last "forever"
- Jonathan's "WilsonWeb"
 - Audio capability for reading/hearing articles off of WilsonWeb interface
 - Can download audio files as well as text
 - Can listen to audio while following along with the html text (words are highlight as they are read)
- Trevor's "OneNote"
 - Virtual notebook
 - Can organize into binders - notebooks - pages
 - Can type anywhere on screen/page (not line-based)
 - Can keep all different kinds of documents/files in one page (so that you have all related documents in one place)
 - Can link from it
 - Takes good snapshots of pages & will include url of html pages (only difficult doing this with pdfs)
 - Can keyword search through ALL One Note documents at once
 - Autosaves along the way (no save button)
 - Create shared notebooks
 - Can draw on page
 - Saves time in filing
 - visitmix website - works with silverlight
- Schuyler's "Search Shortcuts in Google Chrome"
 - Edit search engines
 - Can set up keyword shortcuts for different sites
 - Add to google toolbar add to chrome search
 - Example: type "gs" for google scholar
 - Might be able to do sim in FireFox
 - Another tool is Yubnub
 - Can set Yubnub into Chrome search bar and execute yubnub commands directly into your search

- Schuyler's "Dropbox & GoodReader"
 - Backup option
 - Stored in the cloud
 - Can stop using usb keys (all you need is access to the internet)
 - Can invite collaborators to your folders
 - For iphones, load GoodReader to navigate into your Dropbox account
- Franklin's "Portable apps"
 - Website: Portableapps.com
 - Legitimate site
 - Can store on usb key without having to download applications onto the computer's hard drive
 - Good way of getting around restrictions of downloading