

## Cool Tool Day 2 Event Summary Notes

Date: November 9th, 2010

Time: 12:30 - 1:30

Location: SLAIS Terrace Lab

Presenters and their “cool tools:”

- Will “Firebug & Firesheep”
  - Firebug
    - Shows html, css for each element in a web page
    - Can test/see how styles were implemented to specific elements
    - Look at layout (ex. pixels in padding & layout)
    - Other features - will tell you what elements are causing issues if pages are having trouble loading
    - Can help identify errors/messy code (it’s nice to have clean code)
  - Firesheep
    - People can use cookies to steal your information
    - Dealing with cookies - install it in your firefox for when using wifi networks
    - Making sure you use secure wifi networks
    - Should see **https** if the wifi is secure instead of http
- Alex “Yahoo Pipes”
  - Interface is confusing, but should be aware of the tool
  - Can send RSS feed links to friends etc.
  - Can use for sending filtered (types of) images from flickr
- Meagan “cIRcle”
  - UBC Digital repository
  - Slais graduates’ work are not being heavily represented
  - Contribution to cIRcle helps increase visibility, helps students, helps for future job opportunities (ex. can send employers links to works)
  - Uses open source software
  - Think about submitting your papers for showcasing your work,
    - In sending paper, student is not giving up copyright
    - Just need to 1) sign form to say cIRcle can showcase it on the site, and 2) have a professor email cIRcle saying “yes this is a good paper.”
- Katie “blekko”
  - Search engine uses slash tags in search box
    - ex. search query can be watchdog /Christian ... Recipes /vegan ... Recipes /vegan/ gluten-free ... etc.
  - If a slash tag doesn’t exist in the list of slash tags, you can add it to the user index

- The user generated libraries added to the index is makes this search engine different
  - So the user searches through the site's original list of slash tags and users' added slash tags
- Tosha "GazoPa"
    - Image search engine
    - Search by image (not by keywords - no words needed)
    - Upload, draw, or type in URL of image to search
    - For example, upload an image and get results of similar images and information on how similar retrieved results are to the searched image
    - Can change view of results
    - Good for finding information with an image that would be very difficult to describe using words
    - Has flickr option, so you can search through license types for images (fair use or copyright)
    - Can retrieve information about the subject in the image
    - Advanced search with colours, shapes etc. to find other related images
    - Cross-language
    - If you upload your photo, it doesn't get added to the images searched - but it does stay on their server
    - You can add text to your image
  - Cynthia "Foxit"
    - Google it - free for downloads
    - PDF reader tool if you want something different from Adobe
    - Can add annotations/notes to all pdf texts (not same restrictions as in Adobe)
    - Text recognition is a little wonky, but still okay
    - Add notes to highlighted sections of the text (icon put in the margin)
    - Write comments in the margins of the text (easy to add and delete)
    - All notes are visible and readable in the actual document
  - Alex "Mandeleh"
    - Mandeleh is another type of reader
    - Foxit is good for editing pdf when done (ex. good for signing a pdf document etc.)
    - In January a PDF conference in california will be held for fixing the tool
  - Justin "Calibre"
    - e-book management
    - Open source e-book manager
    - URL: [calibre-ebook.com](http://calibre-ebook.com)
    - Tag all books, metadata
    - Conversion tool - take a pdf and convert to other style of document

- Features include ability to set it up to sync through wireless to your phone from your desktop at home
- Built in e-reader
- Possibly useful for annotation - need to explore that option
- ManyBooks.Net - didn't want to be locked into the system from Amazon/Kindle
  - Good site for finding public domain ebooks
  - Can browse through different categories - ex. creative commons
  - Get in different formats (html etc.)
  - Baen - websrcption.net - good selection of older or advanced reader copies for sci-fi DRM free and for cheap!
- Quinquin "Wink"
  - Free download - capture screen shots for creating instructional videos etc.
  - Can set it to capture many screen shots/frames over a set period of time
  - Can use voice overs/audio track to accompany video
  - Create video project of frames taken, edit frames, copy and paste frames, set time duration for viewing of each frame
  - Set streaming medium in firefox
  - File size is very small
  - Can send to friends
  - Compatible for Mac and PC use
  - Limited features, but good for creating basic videos
- Shannon "What I Learned Today"
  - Blog by Nicole C. Engard (Director of Open Source Education for open source library systems)
  - Talks a lot about gadgets
  - Library based tech blog and other library related topics that might not be found elsewhere
  - Useful for keeping track of information related issues
    - For example, getting announcements about Facebook's privacy setting changes etc.

Comments/suggestions from participants:

- In posting summary notes of tools presented, tools should be hyperlinked to their live web urls