Panelists

As they appear in the program

Don Knezek, Ph.D, ISTE CEO, *is recognized internationally for his leadership in collaboration, planning, and standards development related to technology in schools. In his twenty-eight years as a professional educator and with degrees from Dartmouth College, the University of Hawaii, and the University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Knezek's experience includes K-12 classroom, district office, regional service center, state department, and national and international organization leadership for technology. Don has directed large, multi-state projects in the Star Schools and Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology programs of the U.S. Department of Education.*

Don is CEO of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), and Director of The National (USA) Center for Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology (NCPT3). He is a Co-Director for the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) Project – an important ISTE initiative. He is also Project Director of the Technology Standards for School Administrators (TSSA) Project, and Co-Chair of the Educational Technology Advisory Committee to the Texas State Board of Education. Through the last decade, Dr. Knezek led the innovative Educational Technology Division at Education Service Center, Region 20, in San Antonio, Texas.

Dr. Knezek is an advocate for educator staff development in context, and he is a tireless champion for equitable access to teaching and learning opportunities through technology.
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Peggy Kelly, Ed.D, Professor of Education Technology and Mathematics Education *and* **Associate Dean of the College of Education** *at California State University San Marcos and a former president of ISTE.*

Peggy is also co-director of the ISTE NETS project with Lajeane Thomas. Dr. Kelly has been the developer of the NETS documents including the Connecting Curriculum and Technology, Preparing Teachers to Use Technology, NETS for Teachers - Resources for Assessment,, and NETS for Students - PreK-2 Interdisciplinary Units. Peggy also is a member of the Board of Examiners as a chair of accreditation visits to colleges of education for the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Peggy has 16 years of experience in teaching grades K through 8 and enjoys remaining connected with schools, through site-based teacher education programs, demonstration classroom teaching, school-based initiatives, and grant evaluations.
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Lajeane Thomas, Ed.D, Professor of Curriculum, Instruction, and Leadership at Louisiana Tech University, *Ruston, Louisiana serves as Chair of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Accreditation and Standards Committee and Project Director for the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) Project funded through the U.S. Department of Education's Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology (PT3) funding initiative. The NETS Projects have facilitated development of National Educational Technology Standards for students, teachers, administrators, and the joint ISTE and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) standards for school or campus-based technology facilitators, secondary computer science education teachers, and district technology directors (See: http://cnets.iste.org). Lajeane served as Project Administrator for the Louisiana Innovative Challenge Grant during which she spearheaded the development of the Louisiana State Plan for Technology.*

Lajeane has served on the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC) Board, on the ISTE Board, and is a past ISTE President. She currently holds a position on the Executive Board of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and served on its NCATE Technology Task Force which prepared the report, "Technology and the New Professional Teacher: Preparing for the 21st Century Classroom;" the ATE National Commission on Technology and the Future of Teacher Education; and on the US Department of Education, Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology Coordinating Council. At National Educational Computing Conference (NECC) '97 in Seattle, she received the ISTE Outstanding Technology Leader in Education Award.
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Jon Haber is president of SkillCheck, Inc., *a Boston-based firm specializing in the development of technology assessments for the global business and educational industries. Before founding SkillCheck, Jon was a journalist working in the US, the UK and the Middle East. His company began as book publishers, providing a line of computer training materials and quick reference guides for companies such as IBM, Digital Equipment Corporation, Kelly Services and Manpower, Inc.*

Jon's role with the NETS*S Resources for Assessment guide was to provide the "nuts-and-bolts" information regarding creating and implementing ICT educational assessments, whether in the classroom, school, district, state or national level. This includes guidelines for test creation (useful for test development in any academic discipline), information on technology available for enabling ICT assessment, scaling and validation issues.
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James Sweet, Senior Program Associate, NCREL Center for Technology, Research and Development Group—*Jim Sweet came to Learning Point Associates in 2002 from Chicago Public Schools, where he had been director of online learning. In his current position, he manages a team charged with validation of assessments and design of professional development and curriculum based on National Educational Technology Standards (NETS) for students and teachers. He has also led a research team that conducted case studies of 19 schools that have used technology as a tool to help close achievement gaps.*

Chicago Public Schools: Featured

Sharnell Jackson is presently the **Office of Technology Services Chief Officer of eLearning** for the Chicago Public Schools and the Area VII Learning Technology Center for the Illinois State Board of Education where she has served as an administrator and teacher for the past thirty years. Prior to becoming the Chicago Public Schools Educational Technology Manager for curriculum and instruction, she helped to design, develop, manage and support an interactive web-based curriculum and instruction management system portal with a suite of interactive tools for technology integrated professional development and is currently implementing interactive early literacy and NETS assessments for teaching and learning for teachers, students, administrators, media specialists and technology coordinators in CPS schools. She is also the Past President of the Illinois Computing Educators for the State of Illinois.

Sharnell has served on many blue ribbon panels, received several local and state teaching awards. She obtained and Administrative degree from Lewis University in Romeoville, Illinois and a Masters of Education in Curriculum and Instruction from National Louis University in Evanston, Illinois. Sharnell received a Masters of Education degree in Mathematics, Science, and Instructional Technology as part of fellowship with NASA's Classroom of the Future located on the campus of the Wheeling Jesuit University in Wheeling West Virginia serving as a member of NASA's Master Teacher Cadre for the past six years.

Sharnell's proudest accomplishment is being the mother of Jisun and Marty, grandma of Daja, and wife of thirty years to her wonderful husband Martin Jackson.

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About the International Society for Technology in Education

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE ®) is the trusted source in education technology for professional development, knowledge generation, and advocacy. A nonprofit membership organization, ISTE provides leadership and service to improve teaching and learning by advancing the effective use of technology in K-12 and teacher education. Home of the National Educational Technology Standards (NETS), the Center for Applied Research in Education Technology (CARET), and the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC), ISTE represents more than 85,000 worldwide leaders and potential leaders in educational technology. We support our members with information, networking opportunities, and guidance as they face the challenge of integrating technology into schools.

Recent ISTE initiatives include the ISTE Institute: Leading with NETS, and the ISTE Futures Project. Visit www.iste.org or call 1.800.336.5191 to learn more about ISTE.

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About Certiport

Certiport provides industry-leading training, assessment, and certification solutions that enable individuals to develop the skills necessary to achieve more, distinguish themselves, and advance in today's academic and business environments. These solutions include the ISTE NETS-aligned Microsoft® Office Specialist and the Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC_®) programs, delivered through a channel of more than 9,000 Certiport Centers worldwide. Certiport is a pioneer in using pervasive testing technology and data management systems based on extensive research and professional validation processes. For more information about Certiport, visit www.certiport.com.

About Course Technology

Since 1989, Course Technology has been publishing innovative texts and creative electronic learning solutions to help educators teach, students learn, and individuals expand their interest in and understanding of emergent and current technologies. Our mission is to help people teach and learn with technology. Course Technology and its employees have never been better positioned to fulfill this mission than we are today. The breadth of our product portfolio, the strength of our technology tools and the coverage of our distribution is unrivaled throughout the U.S. and abroad. Our goal is to produce dynamic books in all technology-related disciplines, as well as complete instructional resource materials and powerful technology-based assessment and learning solutions that surpass our customers' needs and expectations. We also provide highly interactive, easy-to-use, online professional development courses that help K-12 educators to develop their technology skills and to integrate technology into their curriculum.

About SkillCheck

Today, SkillCheck specializes in providing performance-based testing for educators, trainers and human resource specialists. SkillCheck developed the Internet and Computing Core Certification (IC3) in conjunction with its partner, Certiport, Inc. and currently provides ICT education solutions in North America and abroad. SkillCheck also worked with the Australian Council on Educational Research in helping to automate an ICT assessment that will be used to benchmark 6th and 10th grade Digital Literacy skills for the entire country in late 2005.