MSPnet

An Electronic Learning Network

Joni Falk

Joni_Falk@terc.edu

Brian Drayton

Brian _Drayton@terc.edu

http://mspnet.org

The Math and Science Partnership (MSP) program, funded by NSF, is designed to improve mathematics and science education in schools in the United States and Puerto Rico. Collaborative partnerships between K-12 educators and collegiate science, technology, engineering and mathematics faculty, work to improve student achievement, implement challenging curricula, and enhance quality, quantity and diversity of science and mathematics teachers.

MSPnet is an electronic learning community for the MSP program. Through the MSPnet Hub, funded MSP projects can exchange resources and tools and learn from each other's experiences. Through customized project spaces, geographically dispersed partners within a project can enhance their communication. Some sections of this site have been made available to the public to increase awareness of the efforts and achievements of the MSP program.

This project is funded by the National Science Foundation and designed and facilitated by **TERC**, a not-for-profit education research and development organization based in Cambridge, Massachusetts. TERC is internationally recognized for its leadership in inquiry-based mathematics and science teaching and learning.

MSPnet fosters:

- **Community**

- **Content**

- **Collaboration**

Community

MSPnet provides each affiliated staff member of an MSP project with access to two different communities, <u>MSPnet Hub</u>, and a <u>Project Based Community</u>

- **<u>MSPnet Hub:</u>**

The Hub is comprised of a leadership team from each MSP. This leadership team consists of PIs and Co-PIs, higher education partners, evaluators, professional developers, and lead teachers.

- **<u>Project Based Community</u>**

Each Project will have their own space for all staff affiliated with their MSP. The project based community can extend based the leadership team to include teachers and other people involved in your projects effort.

- **<u>Communicating with the Public</u>**

Some sections of the site are accessible to the public in order to showcase the efforts of the MSPs. One such section is Project Showcase, where projects will be able to share their abstract, press releases, and other project highlights. NOTE: All discussions, forums, comments, will NOT be accessible to the public, in order to provide a protected venue for dialogue between and within projects.

Two communities (The Hub and a Project Community) are represented by two tabs

Content

The community will contribute to the knowledge base represented on the site. Members can post to their own Project Space or to the HUB.

Even at Launch, you will notice that this site is content rich.

Library: Please browse the library with over 300 on educational reform and policy, professional development, Math, Science, and Technology teaching and learning, and emerging papers from the MSP community.

Resources: The resource section will continue to evolve as the MSPs define their needs and the tools that they would like to share. Currently you will find:
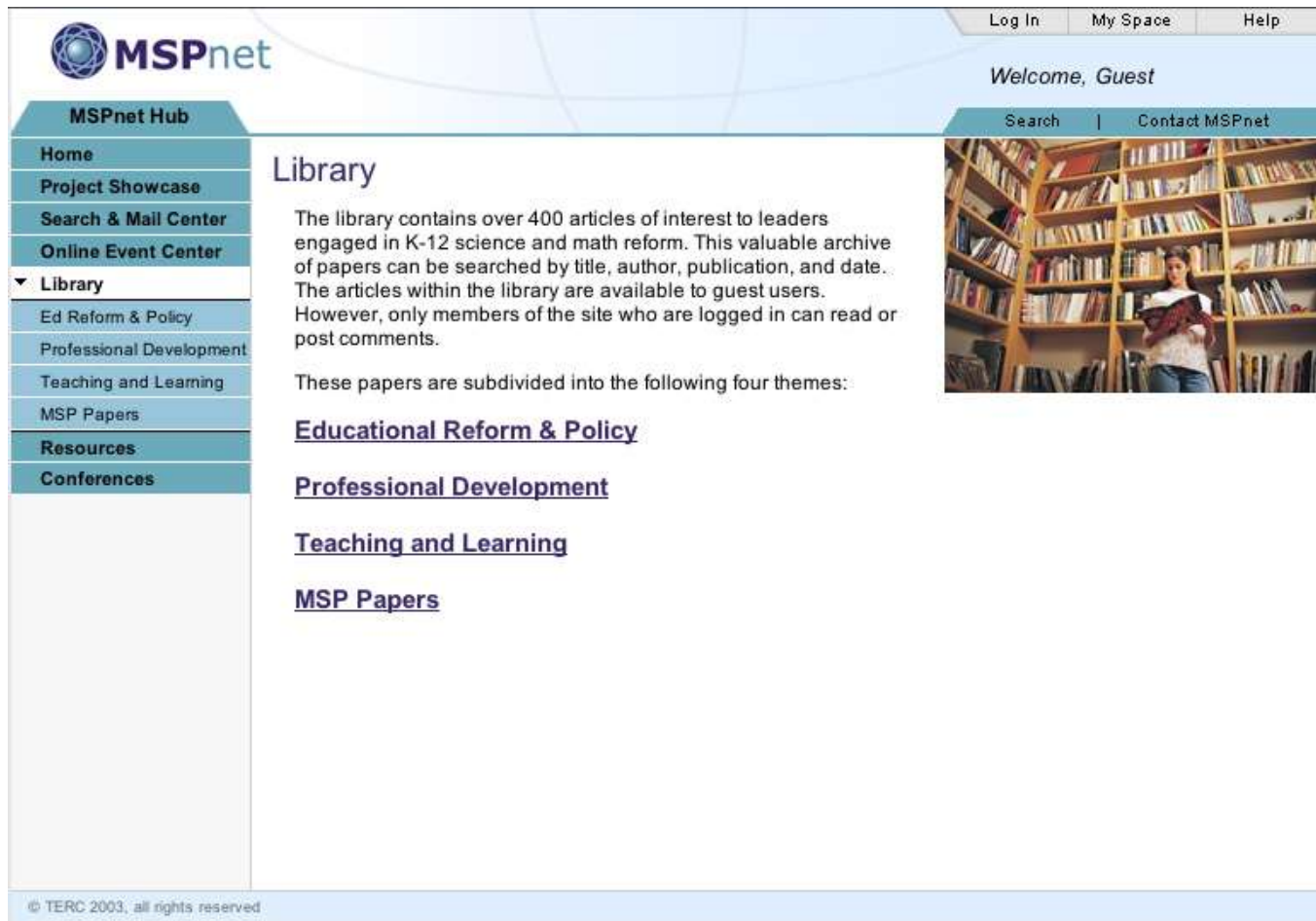
MSP Program Notes: You will find the latest news from the MSP program including NSF solicitations, etc.

Useful Websites: This section provides links to organizations and websites that support and promote all aspects of science and mathematics educational reform.

MSP Toolbox: You will be able to contribute and find tools related to assessment, logic models, evaluation, and professional development.

Related Programs: Here you will find links and featured highlights from the National Science Digital Library and the Centers for Learning and Teaching.

This is a view of the Library. We encourage you to POST and to share COMMENTS when you read articles.

Collaboration

In order to build a learning community, we encourage you to not only read and browse but to post, comment, and discuss your ideas with others. While the site will continue to evolve to incorporate new interactive collaborative features, it already provides the ability to do the following:

Comment: All MSPnet members are encouraged to post comments about any item which they access in the Library or Resources area. Note: Comments are only visible to members of the space (Hub or Project) in which they are written.

Discuss: MSPnet will host multiple discussions on topics of interest. Check out the _Online Event Center_ for discussions pertaining to speakers, articles, and panels. In February 2004, the site will begin with its first video presentation and related interactive discussion with Nancy Love on Using Data Effectively.

Forums: Forums are continuing areas dedicated to particular groups — "job-alikes" like evaluators, or special-interest groups that may arise. Only members of the specified group can read and post to a Forum. We encourage you to take an active part.

Mail: You can easily mail individuals or groups of people through the Search and Mail Center. The tools provided here allow you to search the database for colleagues, to create groups, and to send mail to your groups or to individual members. Your mail is **PRIVATE** and will only be visible to you and the recipients whom you select.

YOUR VOICE COUNTS!!!!

- **Log-On   http://mspnet.org**

- **Familiarize yourself with the 10 sections of the site.**

- **Participate in discussions and forums.**

- **Post new articles, resources, tools and add your comments to those which you access.**

- **Volunteer to moderate a discussion of a paper or topic or to lead a forum.**

- **Visit frequently.**

- **Send your suggestions and comments.**