



ATTENTION ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY STAFF!

As part of the MERLOT* family of academic community websites, the MERLOT-CATS website is an open-use repository for technical tools, training materials, hardware and software reviews, and other resources that academic technology staff have created and/or have found useful in their jobs and wish to share with their colleagues. This sharing will enable academic technologists to better serve the faculty and students on their campuses -- without having to reinvent the wheel.

You are invited to join this special community!

Go to <http://cats.merlot.org> and click on "Become a Member." Benefits include:

- Quickly find resources that might solve your technical needs and save you hours of work!
- Get help and advice from other community members! Help is just a click away in the "Member Profiles" section. Only members can post information about their areas of expertise and interest.
- Show off your wares! Although anyone can access the materials in MERLOT-CATS, only members can contribute tools and other materials.
- Share your expertise! Only members can attach "User Comments" to materials in the collection and help others determine if, when, and how best to use them.

MERLOT-CATS features include:

- News and events of interest to academic technologists
- Links to the main MERLOT website as well as MERLOT academic discipline community sites -- with over 6,200 instructional applications and other valuable resources
- Advanced member search to look for people with specific skills
- Ability to browse by subject category
- Ability to provide comments on the materials in the collection to help identify things that are of most value
- Materials identified by type, intended audience, IT category
- Ability to locate all materials submitted or created by an individual

For more information, contact Abbe Altman:

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WEBSITE CATEGORIES AVAILABLE

1. Accessibility (ADA)	4. Hardware	6. Information Management	9. Network
2. Communications	Mac	Access	LAN
Email	Maintenance	Collections	Network Administration
Meeting Support	Repair	Operations	Security
Messaging	Upgrades	Support	WAN
Online Collaboration	PC	Tools	10. Operating Systems
Telephones	Maintenance	7. Instructional Delivery	Mac
Video Conferencing	Repair	AV Media	NT
3. Development	Upgrades	Classroom Support	Security
Animation	UNIX	Computer Labs	Systems Administration
Audio	Maintenance	Equipment Checkout	Unix
Graphics	Repair	Smart Classrooms	11. Software
Instructional Design	Upgrades	8. Management	Applications
Usability	PDA's	Customer Relations	Databases
User Interface	Peripherals	Help Desk	Course Management Systems
Video	5. Help Desk	Lab	Programming
Web	Tools	Planning	Site Licenses
	Training	Project	Utilities
	Troubleshooting	Resource Checkout	12. Training
		Staff	End User (Customers)
		Student	Staff Development
		Technology Migration	
		Technology Planning	

The primary goal of the Community of Academic Technology Staff (CATS) is to support its members, both individually and collectively, in increasing their knowledge, productivity, and professional effectiveness in service of their academic technology goals.

*MERLOT (Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching) is a national online community project supported by 22 systems of higher education that enables faculty to share and easily locate high-quality online learning modules for their courses. Discipline- and interest-specific MERLOT sites, like CATS, are being developed by experts in their fields. For more information, visit www.merlot.org.

