



Best Educational E-Practices (BEEP)

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Another Look at Leading Edge E-Learning Technologies

*"...The single common 'breakthrough' thread is...
their ability to impel us to think in new and innovative ways about the concept of 'school.'"*
(Susan McLester, Editor-in-Chief, [Technology & Learning](#), November 2001)

Almost a year ago, [BEEP #7](#) examined some of what were then intriguing new technologies of potential interest to e-learning planners. This month's issue takes another look at this fast-changing subject, with special attention to wireless technologies (which in one year has gone from just a few links to an entire category), ongoing sources of relevant information, and upcoming meetings and conferences.

New E-deas for E-learning Planners and Users

- [CNET.com](#). Ongoing source of evaluation of new and existing technologies of all kinds.
- [Cursor control system](#). Hands-free, camera-controlled, mouse replacement system for situations where a normal pointing device cannot be used.
- [Digital Photography Review](#). Web site that reviews the newest products in digital photography and imaging, with discussion forums, sample images, side-by-side comparisons and more. Similar product reviews can be found at the [Imaging Resource](#) Web site.
- [Digital slide show](#). Essentially a computer floppy disk drive that plugs into a TV, comes with a remote control, and allows up to 40 digital pictures to be seen in the comfort of a large room.
- [Education with New Technologies](#). Web site sponsored by Harvard (MA), designed to help educators develop, enact and assess effective ways of using new technologies.
- [Graphical user interface](#). Software that converts data sets into scalable, highly customizable, graphical presentations.
- [Internet 2.edu](#). Comprehensive Web site with information about this consortium of more than 190 universities working in partnership with industry and government to create a leading edge network capability for the national research community.
- [Pocketnow.com](#). Web site that offers a variety of services and information to users of Windows CE devices and accessories.
- [Portable hard drive](#). Personal removable storage USB device that attaches to a key ring, requires no software, and holds up to 32 megabytes of data.
- [Smart lecterns](#). Classroom command posts that provide point and click or touch screen control of all multimedia assets and room management functions in one place.
- ["The Spirit of Invention."](#) Article by Judith V. Boettcher in *Syllabus* 14 (11), June 2001. A look at the dynamics of technological change in education and its meaning for 21st century teaching.
- ["Ten Hottest Technologies."](#) Article in *Telecommunications Online*, May 2001. Most recent annual list of best picks. Look for an update in May 2002.
- [Ten Best Web Sites for Educational Technology](#). Compiled by [From Now On](#) online journal.
- [3-D immersive environments](#). Explanation of a coming Internet breakthrough that will combine visual, aural and haptics (touch) technology.
- ["Top Ten Technology Breakthroughs for Schools."](#) Article by Susan McLester in *Tech-Learning*, November 15, 2001.
- [Traffic analyzer](#). A plug and play device that analyzes all TCP/IP traffic for any content defined as inappropriate.
- [Ultrathin displays](#). Joint venture of several companies to produce a different kind of screen known as an organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display.

Innovations in Wireless Technology

- ["The ABCs of Wireless Communications."](#) Report by Danielle Dunne for the Wireless Communications Research Center, December 7, 2001.
- [Anywhereyougo.com.](#) Comprehensive, commercial Web site that addresses all aspects of the wireless industry.
- ["Bluetooth: Dream Technology Comes Down to Earth."](#) Update on this network technology by Stephen Lawson for ITWorld.com, December 11, 2001.
- ["It's a Phone, It's a PDA, It's Both, and More's to Come in Wireless."](#) Article by David N. Smith in *Houston Business Journal*, December 21, 2001, that provides a readable overview of the state of wireless technology in everyday life.
- ["WAP: Introduction."](#) Explanation of the wireless application protocol by Chris Tull of [anywhereyougo.com.](#)
- [Wireless NewsFactor.](#) Web site with real time wireless news from around the world.
- [The Wireless-Ready Web.](#) Web site maintained by Palm Products for users of wireless handheld devices. Includes a special Web clipping application for easy transfer of information to wireless devices like the Palm Pilot.
- [Wireless Technology: Special Edition.](#) In-depth coverage of the subject by search engine Northern Light, with news articles, timeline, glossary and more.
- [Wireless Technologies: Expanding the Range of Options.](#) Product summary column in *Syllabus* 15 (3), October 2001, that examines a variety of wireless devices.

Selected Educational Technology E-Sources

(Good for keeping up with the latest developments)

[Educational Technology and Society.](#)
[Chronicle of Higher Education.](#)
[Communications Solutions.](#)
[Converge.](#)
[Educause Review.](#)
[Ed Tech Journals Reviewed by](#)
[ERIC/IT.](#)
[Educational Technology Review.](#)
[FETConnections.](#)

[International Journal on E-Learning.](#)
[International Review Of Research](#)
[In Open and Distance Learning.](#)
[Journal of Technology Education.](#)
[MIT Technology Review.](#)
[Syllabus.](#)
[Technology & Learning.](#)
[T.H.E. Journal.](#)
[The Technology Source.](#)

Some Upcoming 2002 Educational Technology Conferences

[Florida Educational Technology Conference - March](#)
[International Technology Education Association Conference - March](#)
[League for Innovation - March and November](#)
[Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education - March](#)
[CVC Online Student Support Services Conference - March](#)
[International Conference on College Teaching/Learning - April](#)
[Teaching in the Community Colleges Online Conference - May](#)
[Distance Learning Administration Conference - June](#)
[Educause Southeast Regional Conference - June](#)
[National Educational Computing Conference - June](#)
[LERN Teaching on the Net - June](#)
[Technology in Education - June](#)
[Ed Tech Conference 2001 - July](#)
[Syllabus 2002 - July](#)
[Educause 2002 - October](#)
[E-Learning World Conference on E-Learning... - October](#)
[Asynchronous Learning Networks 2002 - November](#)
[League for Innovation Conference on Information Technology - November](#)

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