Center for Technology-Enhanced Learning

Dr. Khusro Kidwai, Director of Online Teaching and Learning
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Khusro directs learning design support for online and blended courses, faculty development initiatives, faculty support with learning technologies, and the Centre for Technology-Enhanced Learning’s Research and Development (R&D) initiatives. Current R&D projects include: e-Rubric Tool and IBSTPI’s Online Learner Competencies App.

Dr. Rucha Modak, Learning Designer
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Prior to joining USM, Rucha was an instructional designer and a researcher at Penn State University. Since joining USM in May 2013, Rucha has worked with faculty members to build open online or blended courses, integrate VoiceThread and pilot the use of GoREACT – an online video assessment tool. In collaboration with different units, she is currently leading the effort to research the use of Grammarly – an online grammar checking tool – at USM.

Pieter Tryzelaar, Learning Designer
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Pieter is interested in blending multimedia production with instructional technology and design. He recently earned a M.Ed. in Instructional Technology and an M.F.A. in Intermedia, an interdisciplinary art and technology program from the University of Maine. He helps USM faculty members design online and blended courses and explore different technologies, such as the Wacom tablet or Screencast-o-Matic.

Shane O’Hara, Online Learning Support Specialist
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Shane is charged with Tier II Blackboard support (in conjunction with the Help Desk) and researching/incubating/implementing emerging technologies appropriate for online learning. He was the recipient of the 2012 Emerging Professional Staff Award, which recognizes outstanding promise for continued excellence and achievement with less than five years of professional experience in higher education.