



Instructional Technology

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The INST Program will be represented at the SITE conference in San Antonio March 23-30 Drs. Crawford, Willis and Driskell to make presentations!

From the Program Coordinator

The 27 th Annual Texas Computer Education Association Convention took place February 5-9 in Austin. I attended the convention (I never miss it), did a presentation, and found some very interesting and practical products on display in the huge exhibit hall. [WeAreTeachers](#) is a new website designed to be a kind of [MySpace](#) for teachers. Though still under construction, it holds a great deal of promise since its chief learning officer is Sandy Fivecoat, who amongst other accomplishments was the Texas Education Agency's first Director of Technology during the 1980s.

[CCS Presentation Systems](#), had a nifty little loudspeaker system, the [GoSpeak! Wireless Microphone UltraPortable Speaker System](#) by Interlink Electronics. This device will easily project your voice to an audience of 200 people. [M&A Technology](#) showed its very mobile tablet PC called the [iKnow](#). It has a seven inch screen and weighs about two pounds, including a built in camera all at a price under \$800.00. Also, [Parat Solutions](#), demonstrated its mobile laptop lab storage and charging system called [Paradidact](#). It also provides for easy software updates as the laptops are charged during the evening hours.

If you ever get an opportunity to attend this exciting convention, make certain that you take advantage of it. You will not be disappointed! Richard A. Smith

What is a wiki?

A wiki is an interesting collaborative online environment. Have you ever wanted an effective tool for mass collaborative authoring or an area where viewers can edit the content, well you might just need to learn more about wikis. [Wikipedia](#) offers an explanation of a wiki. There are innumerable types of wikis, with a growing number of educational wikis. For example, [The Student Room](#) is a United Kingdom-based wiki forum, for both PreK-12 school-based and university-based students. For an interesting background of this wiki, visit the History of the [Student Room](#).

[Curiki](#), is a wiki dedicated to curriculum.

2700 Bay Area Boulevard Houston, Texas, USA , 77058-1098 281-283-3554 <http://inst.cl.uh.edu> [INST podcast](#)
