

Press Release

Microsoft Corporation Innovative Teachers Worldwide Forum

This summer, more than 90 classroom teachers from around the world gathered at Microsoft Corporation's first annual Innovative Teachers Worldwide Forum in Redmond, Washington.

Teachers from across the country submitted portfolios demonstrating exemplary use of technology in their classrooms. Heather Renz of Vern Patrick Elementary School in Redmond, Oregon was one of twelve teachers selected by Microsoft to represent the United States at this event.

Teachers were honored for their achievements, heard keynote speeches, and worked in small groups to address key questions on the use of technology in teaching and learning. Over 30 of the teachers also presented best practices to their peers.

Keynote addresses discussed the need to develop transformational strategies for education worldwide, and were delivered by:

- Dr. Eduardo Chaves of the Universidade Estadual de Campinas (Brazil),
- Dr. Yvonne Camaal-Canul, Director of the Office of School Improvement, Michigan Department of Education (United States),
- Dr. Victor McNair, University of Ulster (Northern Ireland), and
- Mr. Michael Furdyk, founder of TakingITGlobal (Canada).

Next month a white paper written from the findings of the conference will be available from the Microsoft Innovative Teachers Web site:

<http://www.microsoft.com/education/innovativeteachers.mspx>

Name of the event: Microsoft Innovative Teachers Worldwide Forum

Location: Redmond, Washington, USA

Dates: July 18-19, 2005

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