

CoolHub.IMSA: Beyond Elluminate Videoconferencing

Projects in CoolHub employ different sets of social media and communication tools to achieve collaborative results. While some projects use videoconferencing no project relies on videoconferencing alone.

Global Science Seminars

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Global Science Seminars brings together scientists from the Field Museum, the Shedd Aquarium, the National Park Service and other agencies, IMSA emeriti and alumni faculty, teachers and students in schools around the world. Elluminate connects scientists in labs and the field to classrooms, allowing for application sharing and live questions and answers. Prior to the videoconference (CoolChat), advance-reading materials are saved to the Document Library where participants may download them to come better prepared. Following each CoolChat, the scientist continues to engage with participants for two weeks using the Forums for extended learning. Blogs and the Announcement application inform all members of CoolHub about upcoming seminars.

ROBOTICS 2011

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The Robotics Project involves 85 IMSA students, alumni, parents and engineers from Caterpillar and Argonne Laboratories in designing and producing robots for the FIRST Competition. This project makes no use of Elluminate but relies heavily on a daily Blog to keep all members apprised of team activities and progress, a Forum and a Wiki for problem solving and event signups, a project-wide Announcement application, a shared Calendar to keep track of deadlines and a Document Library for indexing resources that include schematics, CAD drawings, project management plans and video clips of robot prototypes.

International Sustainable Alternative Energy Project

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This student-initiated Project involves 29 students and faculty from IMSA, Thomas Jefferson HS (Virginia) and RFDZ HS (Beijing) and scientists and engineers in the design, fabrication and testing of wind turbines and biodiesel generation. Elluminate is used for large group video communications. Members post new developments in the Blog and hold discussions in a Forum. A Wiki is used for research links. The Announcement application and a shared Calendar keeps members informed of coming events. Papers, including experimental designs are available to all members in the Document Library.

NCSA CoolHub Development

 [Blogs](#)  [Chat](#)  [Document Library](#)  [Elluminate](#)  [Wiki](#)

Twenty-five developers and administrators from NCSA (National Center for Supercomputing Applications) and IMSA use CoolHub to drive the production of CoolHub.IMSA. This project was among the first to be created in CoolHub and provides a record of the design and development of the CoolHub Liferay platform from its earliest stages. Lead developers for the Project in Urbana and Aurora meet once a week via Elluminate to troubleshoot bugs and discuss next steps. In addition to an online ticket system for project management (JIRA), the Blog and Wiki are used to report new problems and prioritize development activities. Members use Chat for instant messaging. The Document Library is used to catalog external program evaluations and reports.