



New Links for August 2010 – Please take a minute to check out this issue! For information on using these tools or joining the ET group, please contact Cathy Hendler.

- **Got knowledge?** – **WolframAlpha** does! WolframAlpha (www.wolframalpha.com) is an answer engine or online tool that answers questions, based on the world's facts. Once you submit a question (ex: population of China in 1870) or computational request (ex: 2+2), WolframAlpha answers by computing the answer from its gigantic database. Potentially useful tool for students and others who need to get data fast.
- **Technology explained in Plain English** – **In Plain English** is a series of videos on YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/>) that explain common web 2.0 technologies. These videos are short, and simple, using drawings and paper cut-outs to illustrate the point. Currently videos explanations are available for Twitter, Social Networking, Wikis, Blogs, RSS, and Phishing Scams among others. To search for a video, go to YouTube and use search terms "In Plain English" and "leelefever" (the author of the videos).

Staff Highlight: **Julia Faist** – Julia used **bubbl.us** (www.bubbl.us), a technology that was featured in a recent Emerging Technologies Newsletter. Julia reports that she "used www.bubbl.us to create a flowchart for a new Colleague process we will try using for creating a track for international students' files. It was very simple with many features - the flowchart's individual balloons can hold a lot of information, and you can simply click at the side or bottom to create balloons off the previous balloon. You can also share and work with friends. Overall, using bubbl.us was a great experience."

NOTE: The technologies included in the ET newsletter are typically web-based and are subject to change by the vendor. Note also that many technologies require storage of your information on the web, so be intentional about the information you post outside of KCC's environment. It is important to be careful when sharing of student information (FERPA issues), maintain awareness of intellectual property rights, and recognize the potential instability and lack of backup that may exist with these products. If possible, always keep a copy of your information in your own KCC file share as backup.