Advanced Using Integrated Software Across the Curriculum

One of the highlights of the Summer Institute was our field trip to Liberty Science Center. The creative director for all of the new exhibitions gave a presentation on how the designers and researchers create an exhibition. This lecture and visit led to our first project for the course, designing an exhibit for Liberty Science Center. My first job after college was as a Park Ranger for the National Park Service at the Statue of Liberty NM. I chose to combine my love for Lady Liberty with scientific concepts, and designed "The Science of the Statue of Liberty." It was very interesting to combine what we learned at LSC with the material in the readings to try to create an effective exhibit.

Our next project was a group review of a district technology plan using the framework developed by Bers. Yalitza, Michael and I worked together very well as we analyzed the Jersey City Public School District Technology Plan. It was very interesting to see how each section of the district plan related to student success.

The next assignment was also a group assignment. Yalitza, Michael and I described a teacher evaluation plan using the Danielson Framework, for a district transitioning to a blended, flipped, rotational model of education. There were a lot of aspects to this analysis, and it demonstrated how complex such decisions can be in the real world.

Finally, our fourth project in this course was a Pecha Kucha presentation comparing two books, *Blended* by Horn and Staker, and *The Fifth Discipline* by Senge. The format for this presentation was new to me, 20 images shown for 20 seconds each. It was challenging to limit myself to only 20 seconds of explanation for each slide, but I was very pleased with the final project. I think the fixed framework forced me to choose each word carefully, and made my presentation better. I have tried it in my own classroom, and it gets easier as you change your mindset to brevity. I may even assign a Pecha Kucha to my students for a presentation!