MIchelle: We really wanna help faculty help themselves by making things easier that are more administrative, and then also help students with that management piece through the technology too.

Liesel: Welcome to the Magic Mountie Podcast. This is a podcast that's dedicated to helping faculty and other college employees as they try and navigate the challenging fabric of serving students, especially a Mt. San Antonio College, but everyone's welcome!

Liesel: Here at the Magic Mountie Podcast, Christina and I like to take you places that maybe you couldn't go in person. Places that maybe, I don't know ...

Christina: ... that might have circus music playing in the background.

Liesel: That's right. So this week we're taking you to a really fun event that we had upstairs at the Pod Loft. That's the new second floor space for professional development at Mt. SAC. It was our technology fair and it brought together all the different people who work in professional development across the campus that employs technology. Today we're gonna take you to a fun event that maybe you didn't get to go to, but we're gonna try and give you the sounds, the smells, and some of the exciting information that was shared at this fun fair.

Crystal: Right now we're at the Teaching with Technology Fair in the Pod Loft. My name's Crystal and I work in the library division, so I support the FCLT department as well. This is all about teaching faculty members how to integrate technology with their teaching.

Liesel: What are you looking at right now? What is some of the stuff that's happened in this loft?

Crystal: Okay, it's turned into a complete carnival. We've got popcorn. We've got caramel apples. We've got all kinds of tables with prizes and raffles. So it's turned into a colorful type of a fair.

Liesel: And what is the big objective today?

Crystal: Get through to the faculty members and teach them how to use these resources.

Liesel: Sounds good.

Liesel: Tell me who you are and what is Wheel of Apps?

Hugo Aguilera: I'm Hugo Aguilera from the Faculty Center for Learning Technology. The keeper of the Wheel of Apps. So basically you come up to the Wheel of Apps, you spin, and then depending on what number you land on, you get to pick a prize from the bucket associated to the number, and then you get to learn about a new app in Canvas that you may not already know about. And if you already know about the one that you land on, I will gladly talk to you about any of these apps, including You Do It, Proctorio, and a bunch of other apps built right into Canvas.

Liesel: All right. I'm gonna roll. I'm gonna give it a shot.

Hugo Aguilera: Let's do it!

Liesel: Let's see what happens. Here we go.

Hugo Aguilera: Let's do it. Number six.

Liesel: Oh!

Hugo Aguilera: So, number six. You get to learn about VeriCite.

Liesel: VeriCite. Is this the one that lets me know if my students are plagiarizing?

Hugo Aguilera: Yes. VeriCite is a built in online plagiarism detection tool built into every Canvas course here at Mt. SAC. It scans submissions from students against millions of online databases, but what I think makes it extra powerful is that it also scans it against other student submissions within the institutions, students in your own class, students in other classes, students in classes from past semesters you've taught in.

Hugo Aguilera: It's really kind of scanning against everything. It'll tell you if something's been plagiarized and once the student is graded, they will have what's called a plagiarism originality score on a scale of one to one hundred that's color coded. Green means less likely to be plagiarized. Yellow kinda plagiarized. Red means completely plagiarized, which at that point it's up to you what you wanna do with the student.

Liesel: Wow! Okay that sounds really like a cool app. All right.

Hugo Aguilera: It's a great app.

Liesel: Let me ask you too about ConferZoom while I have you.

Hugo Aguilera: Okay, sure. So ConferZoom is-

Liesel: Confer Zoom.

Hugo Aguilera: Yeah, ConferZoom or ConferZoom, so it's basically a tool that's provided to us by the online ... by the Chancellor's office through the Online Education Initiative. It's an online web conferencing tool. Every person that works at Mt. SAC gets a free account, a professional account that they can use. It's great for online webinars and web conferences.

Hugo Aguilera: A lot of our instructors use it for virtual office hours. You could set it up. You could link it directly into your Canvas course and you can interact with students face to face. You can share your screen. It's really interactive, and it works really, really well. It's based off of the Zoom technology.

Liesel: Can they use it to talk with each other?

Hugo Aguilera: Yes. It's not just for instructor to student interaction. Instructors communicate with each other as well. Similar to the way Skype does it, but it's all built into your Canvas course.

Liesel: Do I need to add it somehow or is it just sitting there waiting for someone to click on it?

Hugo Aguilera: So it's already added to all Canvas courses. All you would need to do as an instructor is enable it by going into the course settings and then the course navigation tab and drag it up to the top so it enables it. You also have to create a free account. Free because you work at Mt. SAC. The link to register for the account is just ConferZoom.org. As long as you register with you Mt. SAC email address, you'll get a free professional account.

Liesel: Wonderful!

MIchelle: I'm Michelle Newhart. I'm the Instructional Designer here at Mt. San Antonio College and every year since I started here we've had an open house in the fall and the other years it's just been our own unit. We had some big announcement each year that either had to do with new employees or switching to Canvas, which was big and this year we really wanted to highlight our collaboration with other units and we wanted to highlight all of the resources that are in building six for faculty.

Liesel: And so many of them are creative in nature.

MIchelle: Yeah, exactly. We have tons of things for people to use that have to do with technology or design of courses. We just want people to be aware how many people and services and resources are here for them to help them make their courses awesome.

Liesel: I love all the sounds in the background. Apologies to everyone at home. You're missing a great time. And also technology can be stressful for some people and people can have anxiety about it, so by making it fun are you trying to sort of tackle that as well?

MIchelle: Exactly. Yeah, so we wanted to make it fun because a lot of events you can go to tend to be more effortful to be at the event. You're there to learn something but we're hoping to make it fun but you still go away with information that's really useful to you.

Carol Impara: I'm Carol Impara and I teach Nutrition in the Consumer Science and Design Technologies department. Kahoot! is a free web-based published quiz thing where you don't have to buy anything but you can create a quiz like this, and then what you do is you have students log on their smart phones into Safari Kahoot!IT and then you provide them with a game pin and then once they do that they identify themselves as ... on the screen and then they answer the question. It comes up on their phone.

Carol Impara: What's nice is you have the opportunity to include pictures with it. You can set points for it. You can set how much time it goes up. It looks like you have to have at least two answers, but I usually do four. What I've done it for is test comprehension completely anonymously 'cause you don't see who's answering what. I've also done polls, like how many of you have taken this prerequisite? How many of you have taken this? And then I've actually used it like in my advisory committee. I said, "Based on this Kahoot! data, kind of thing,"

Carol Impara: I often use the results to either direct later on in the class or I'll change the class next time or something like that. Or if there's a lack of comprehension in certain areas I might go over something again. It's engaging, it's fun, it's silly. The music is terribly silly.

Christina: Maybe a little like the music that's playing now?

Carol Impara: It's not quite as annoying as the music that's playing now.

Liesel: All right what am I acquiring knowledge-wise at Ring Around the Resources?

Esteban Aguilar: So here at Ring Around the Resources, I'm talking to people about Films on Demand and Canopy, which are two different streaming services that the library offers to instructors and students. Films on Demand is very much instructional video oriented so you can find a lot of stuff on there from how to not do plagiarism, to how to conduct an interview, how to dress for an interview, but there's also a couple of hidden gems on there, like Errol Flynn's version of Hamlet which is kind of weird. Canopy on the other hand is very documentary-focused. It has-

Liesel: It looks like Netflix.

Esteban Aguilar: It very much so. Yeah. They actually have a few Netflix documentaries on here, but they also have a lot of PBS documentaries, Ken Burns documentaries, the Criterion Collection so-

Liesel: Those are really special!

Esteban Aguilar: Yeah, yeah. I was gonna say, Hoop Dreams, which is an all time classic.

Liesel: I love Hoop Dreams.

Esteban Aguilar: Exactly. It's one of the ones that's on here as well. And this has some all time movies but it's more Hollywood oriented. I've also got a couple of tabs open explaining about open educational resources. So if instructors are looking for low cost to no cost alternatives to replace expensive textbooks, looking at places like OpenStax or Merlot or Open SUNY. Those are good places to be able to find textbooks that students can use for free. All peer reviewed, quality open access material.

Liesel: If faculty need help trying to find these, how do they reach you? Tell me who you are and how to reach you.

Esteban Aguilar: Yes, they can reach me, Esteban Aguilar. I'm the Electronic Resources Librarian. My email is EAguilar100@mtsac.edu.

Liesel: 100!

Esteban Aguilar: Exactly, yes. I guess there are 99 other Esteban Aguilar's here? I don't know.

Liesel: I like to think it means you tell the truth.

Esteban Aguilar: Exactly. I always keep it 100. I also have a little game here where people can toss some ping pong balls into some boxes and see what they win! So do you wanna give it a toss and see what you win?

Liesel: It's going down!

Liesel: And what am I looking at here? What do the signs say?

Esteban Aguilar: Wack a Research Mole and Zoltar: Psychic Librarian.

Liesel: That is the coolest Library thing, ever.

Esteban Aguilar: You gotta thank Pauline Schwartz for that 'cause she came up with the amazing titles for this.

Pauline: The metaphor here is that the research workshops can help the students wack their research moles and the research mole are like common problems that students have with their research. Like choosing topics that are way too broad.

Liesel: Bam!

Pauline: Right. Or having really weak sources.

Liesel: Boom!

Pauline: Irrelevant sources.

Liesel: Yack!

Pauline: And things like that.

Liesel: Sorry, I'm really getting into the Wack a Mole metaphor here. Oh wait, here's the sound effect. Here we go. Wow!

Liesel: Okay. That source is really out of date. I got it. Nice. Okay. So we learned how to wack these common problems.

Pauline: Exactly.

Liesel: So does it help to actually get us as teachers to understand what they are to convey that easily and in a fun way to our students?

Pauline: Of course! We actually have a hand out that has Top Three Reasons to Take a Library Workshop.

Liesel: The number three reason why students should take a library research is ...

Pauline: They can get in research ready shape with an experienced research coach like a librarian.

Liesel: Ooh they can get coached. Okay it's like a personal trainer-

Pauline: Exactly. Exactly! That's exactly it. So they do like their research squats and-

Liesel: Lifting heavy journals.

Pauline: Exactly. From one of us who can spot them along their research journey.

Liesel: Oh, metaphor! You must be a librarian.

Pauline: I am!

Liesel: All right. The number two reason why students should take a library research workshop ...

Pauline: Is that the research department at Mt. SAC did a study on our research and workshop data form 2013 to 2017 and what they found was that students who took our library research workshops had a 20% higher course success rate than students in the same classes who didn't take the workshops. Yeah, so that's what we say boosts your course success rates.

Liesel: The number one reason why you should assign a library research workshop is ...

Pauline: To help students find the stuff that they need. Right? So, the students are gonna learn where to search, so we'll tell 'em all about our library databases, how to access 'em, how to choose them, how they're different from general web searching, things like that, and students will learn how to search, so we give them strategies that they can use in almost any library database, and they can transfer that knowledge when they try a new database or when thy transfer at a school, 'cause we have a lot of the same databases that other colleges have.

Liesel: When students walk in they literally are just like stumbling around. They're like, "Where's the stuff I need?" And you're like, "We're gonna give you the stuff you need."

Pauline: Exactly. We have the stuff you need and we will show you how to use it.

Liesel: Amazing!

Pauline: And the last one is that we help them pick good sources. So a lot of the students have a hard time figuring out what are reliable sources, how to detect them, what they're gonna trust, so we give them strategies to figure that out.

Liesel: So Christina, you get to find out about Ask a Librarian.

Christina: Okay. Let's see. Looks like there's a computer database for this. How does this work? How do I find it?

Pauline: Okay. The way this works is you go to the library webpage. Let me go there for you. You can get connected with a librarian 24/7-

Christina: Wow!

Pauline: Any day of the week.

Christina: Wow!

Pauline: And you just click here on the library homepage where it says "Chat with a Librarian 24/7" and there's a chatbox here and that's good for quick questions and then there's a chat form and that's great because what that allows the student to do is you can chat with the librarian on one side of the screen and then the other side of the screen is a shared window, and so if you have a question like I need to look for a book, I don't remember where to search, the librarian can push that page-

Christina: Oh wow.

Pauline: ... to the student and explain to them how to do something.

Christina: Does it ever happen that the librarian doesn't respond right away and you have to wait 'till the next day or ...

Pauline: Right. So with the online chat, the way we cover it is we partner with other college and university libraries all over the world, so in order to cover all these different time zones.

Pauline: So the person, depending on what time of day they ask their question, they could be speaking or chatting with a librarian in Boston or Hawaii or Australia or something like that. That's how we cover all these time zones. They're all college and university librarians though, so they all know how to do research. But sometimes they might not know how to answer a local question to Mt. SAC, in which case that question gets into our followup queue and we reply. The Mt. SAC librarian reply within one to two business days by email. We have these scripts that we can write so that any librarian can use our scripts to answer questions quickly.

Liesel: Okay, so the Zoltar theme then is ...

Pauline: Ask a question, we answer your question. Any time. Any day.

Christina: I love all the ... fortune telling. That makes sense! We've got Zoltar speaks.

Pauline: Let's see.

Christina: We've got a big tarot encyclopedia. Wow.

Liesel: So Zoltar, what is my fortune? "You did not assign library research workshops. Your students chose bad topics and used weak sources. You are filled with dread and regret as you read their papers." Are you sure this isn't what happened to me last semester when I forgot to assign library workshops 'cause I think it is! Ah!

Christina: My fortune is, "My students will complete library research workshops and I will enjoy amazing research assignments." You're welcome!

Sandra: My name is Sandra Weatherilt, from Nutrition and Foods, and I'm also on the Distance Learning Committee.

Liesel: We are looking at a new tool. It looks like a tool that we're going to be getting at Mt. SAC soon called SoftChalk. It's a software product-

Sandra: Yes.

Liesel: ... and it says it's a fast and easy way to make our distance learner courses cooler, more engaging, so you've probably seen it working. What does SoftChalk do?

Sandra: It's actually a content authoring tool that can work in any classroom, not just distance learning, so it's a way for professors to create content that their students can engage in. I'll give you a nutrition example. If I wanted to put up a picture of a digestive tract image and I wanted my students to identify different areas of the digestive system, I can create with this program hot spots on the various digestive tract and have students identify them.

Sandra: So it's kind of like a ... it could be used as a review. It could be used as actually exams or quizzes, so I actually played with it a little bit over the summer. I haven't gone full-blown into it, but the distance learning committee actually will be piloting the program and we hope to provide feedback to the college to see whether this is something that faculty would like to actually use.

MIchelle: We really want people to know that we realize there's a lot on faculty's shoulders. They have a lot of obligations. A lot of things to keep track of. They're hired for their subject matter expertise and their ability to work well with students and their empathy for students, and we just want people to know you don't have to go it alone on the other things, on all these supplemental things, like figuring out the technology or figuring out how to access good design or figuring out how to use some of the technology to make things work more efficiently.

Christina: Good job! Good! Yeah.

Mark: All right the prize is ...

Christina: Here's your prize...

Mark: Ah, Awesome.

Liesel: Did you get a cool prize?

Liesel: Hey, thanks so much for joining us for the Magic Mountie Podcast. We love your likes. We love your shares and we love your comments, so please engage with our community. Download from wherever you love to get your podcasts, iTunes, Google, Rate My Professors, we're there. We want you to be back with us next week. Remember, any opinions that are expressed in this podcast do not necessarily represent Mt. San Antonio College or any of its agents. We'll see you next time.