

Appendix E: *Library Resources Going Mobile*. An article about mobile learning
at AU

WHERE TO INVEST NOW P.17

CANADIAN BUSINESS

WHO'S GOT THE MOST STAR POWER? **P.38** >



CONRAD'S FALL: THE FINAL CHAPTER **P.58**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2007

A GOOD COUNTRY FOR CROOKS

If you suspect Canada is soft on white-collar crime, these ex-Mounties have news for you: it's worse than you think

P.24

canadianbusiness.com

\$4.95



Bill Majcher (front) and Craig Hannaford

GEAR, SPORTS AND PERSONALITY

Pursuit

POKER QUEEN
"NO MERCY"
MERCIER

side of business," says Darren Meister, faculty director of the HBA Program and associate professor of Information Systems at the Richard Ivey School of Business.

"Our goal is to develop our students' decision-making skills involving the use of technology. But technology is not an end in itself: the emphasis is on how technology can be used to make organizations and industries more competitive, both nationally and globally."

Library Resources Going Mobile

One result of the rapid adoption of mobile technology in all sectors of society is the rise of mobile learning.

Mobile learning – the delivery of electronic learning materials on mobile computing devices – provides flexibility in time and location of study and

expands the availability of on-the-spot information and resources.

A leader in this field is Alberta's Athabasca University, where students can now access and download selected course materials using PDAs, mobile phones and other mobile devices.

A leader in this field is Alberta's Athabasca University, where students can now access and download selected course materials using PDAs, mobile phones and other mobile devices. The university stores resources for courses on its mobile M-Library.

"We're currently piloting the conversion of courses and library materials for delivery on mobile technology," says Tony Tin, electronic resources librarian and co-ordinator of the mobile learning project at Athabasca. "Our library has created the Digital Reading Room to integrate learning resources already in digital format into the curriculum and facilitate

the delivery of course materials using a variety of technologies."

The Digital Reading Room is an interactive online reading room, offering digital files for course readings and supplementary materials. It currently houses more than 20,780 resources serving 235 courses, says Tin, noting that they have been specially selected by faculty and are organized by course and by lesson for convenient mobile and desktop online access by students.

"About 60% of our course and library material is currently in digital format and our goal is to make that 100%."

The university faces other challenges, says Tin. One of them is that phone costs are prohibitive for some people, and some devices don't support a lot of data streaming. But the technology is developing fast, he adds, and in the near future iPhones may be deployed to deliver course material to students. ●

THE REBIRTH OF I.T.

There's renewed and long-term demand for Information Technology professionals.

The Canadian I.T. sector is projected to grow by 58,000 new jobs over the next three to five years – with an additional 31,000 employees needed to replace existing staff. Find out today how Sheridan's Information and Communications Technologies programs will equip you for success in these fast-growing fields.

Apply Now for 2008!

Call 416-754-2600 or visit <http://tech.sheridaninstitute.ca>

I CHOOSE Sheridan