



### **Rachel S. Smith, Consultant and Trainer**

Rachel has been helping groups see their work visually since 2004. She is recognized for her work in making new technologies approachable through talks, trainings, and written materials and has authored instructional materials, guides, and monographs on the creative and technical aspects of teaching and facilitating groups with technology. As a trainer, she helps participants discover and develop skills in graphic facilitation, strategic visioning, team performance, and digital facilitation. A specialist in project coordination and user interface design, Rachel also develops ways to integrate technology into visual practice.

### **REPRESENTATIVE WORK**

Rachel has visually facilitated face-to-face and online groups working in diverse domains, including education, technology, industry, and health services. Her clients are large and small companies, government agencies, public and private schools, and non-profits. She is especially familiar with the culture of higher education, having worked in that domain since 1992, and enjoys facilitating groups of faculty, staff, and administrators from schools and universities.

- Facilitated a cross-departmental group of administrators, faculty, and staff at a private university as they re-envisioned the school in service of the 21<sup>st</sup>-century learner.
- Guided a private K-12 school's faculty and administrative staff as they created a five-year strategic vision centered on the 21<sup>st</sup>-century graduate. The process included two staff retreats and concluded with game plans for five different school initiatives.
- Coached the leadership team of a well-known media company as they sought to redesign the way they worked together and shift the company culture to a more positive one.
- Facilitated a hospital staff retreat after a difficult company reorganization. During the retreat, the staff pulled together to create an action plan for regrouping and moving forward.
- Trained a department at a major technology company overseas to use graphic facilitation and strategic visioning practices in their work. Participants learned how to integrate creative and effective visual techniques with current work practices.
- Created a series of three digital graphic movies for an educational services company to help explain what they do and why it is valuable for their clients.
- Co-facilitated a strategic visioning process for a non-profit association in a series of online meetings. The organization's board of directors wanted to create a plan for growing the association while still meeting the needs of members who value the personalized level of service the organization provides.
- Created a series of three digital graphic movies for a corporate client interested in describing its quality-assurance program to employees. Each segment was about seven minutes long and explained one aspect of the program in English, Spanish, and French.

## PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

Rachel has spoken and delivered workshops at conferences around the world, including TEDxUFM (Guatemala City), MacWorld|iWorld (San Francisco), International Forum of Visual Practitioners (regular presentations, locations vary), Digital Heritage Conference (Rotterdam, Holland), IAF-Asia (Tokyo, Japan), IAF (locations vary), and others.

Currently, she is the author of *Digital Visual Facilitation*, a blog for visual practitioners.  
(<http://digitalfacilitation.net>)

Her forthcoming book, *Beyond Virtual Meetings: Facilitating Collaboration Across Distance and Time*, explains how anyone on a virtual team can use facilitation skills to make remote work smoother and more effective.

## EDUCATION and BACKGROUND

Rachel holds a Masters Degree in Education with an emphasis on educational technology from Stanford University and a BA in Art Education from Florida State University.

She has a deep understanding of new media and its application to education through her previous role as Vice President for Services of the New Media Consortium. Rachel's research and writing on emerging technologies, including social media, mobile devices, cloud computing, collective intelligence, and others informed the New Media Consortium's annual series of *Horizon Reports* from 2006 through 2011.

## SAMPLES OF WORK

TEDx Talk, *Drawing in Class*:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tJPeumHNLy>

Sampling of graphic notes taken on the iPad:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ninmah/sets/72157624615328301/>

Sampling of graphic notes taken on paper:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ninmah/galleries/72157625801990541/>

Video, *Visual Recording on the iPad*:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRjG46hUAW8>

Video, *Virtual Visual Meetings*:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pLqxQKeoAFA>