

AIM Chat with pagreen@mac.com, jonnyoosting, photobypip.

22:04

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** oookay

jonnyoosting has joined this chat.

22:05

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** waiting for megan.

pagreen@mac.com has joined this chat.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Hey.

**jonnyoosting:** jeff - send photobypip an invite.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Is photobypip Philip?

photobypip has joined this chat.

**photobypip:** hey evrybody

**jonnyoosting:** yeah

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** okay, so it looks like all of us are here

**jonnyoosting:** hey phillip.

**jonnyoosting:** welcome

**photobypip:** hi

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** except ryan, who cannot make it tonight.

**photobypip:** thanks

**pagreen@mac.com:** Is it Philip or Phil?

**jonnyoosting:** why don't we start with some introductions for phillip

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** so, i'm jeff... i'm a freshman integrated marketing communications major at ithaca college.

**photobypip:** either one

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** well, ex-freshman.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** 😊

**jonnyoosting:** I'm Jon... a journalism master's student at MSU

**jonnyoosting:** michigan state university ^^^

**pagreen@mac.com:** I'm Megan, or Meg. I'm a journalism second-year at MSU.

**jonnyoosting:** and you phillip?

**photobypip:** well Im Philip or Phil Im a 3rd year photojournalism student at western kentucky university

**pagreen@mac.com:** Nice to meet you.

**jonnyoosting:** what are you doing in DC?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** glad you could join team 3!

22:10

**photobypip:** Well im originally from here so Im living rent free at my parents and doing an internship on capitol hill

**pagreen@mac.com:** That's cool.

**jonnyoosting:** nice. so what do you know about this project?

**photobypip:** as far as I know we are supposed to come up with new ideas for web based journalism

**pagreen@mac.com:** That's the essence. Do you have a copy of the schedule?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** that does pretty much sum it up.

**photobypip:** ya i got an email with it

**jonnyoosting:** well, so far we've just started brainstorming ideas and talking about sites we liked.

**jonnyoosting:** We have a blog where we've been posting stuffs too.

**photobypip:** cool

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** we've been posting the ideas to a blog, which i just emailed you an invite to.

**photobypip:** whats the blog address

**photobypip:** ahh great

**pagreen@mac.com:** Maybe we should e-mail him a transcript of Thursday's chat?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** <http://incubator3.wordpress.com>

**jonnyoosting:** it's on the blog (transcript)

**jonnyoosting:** ^^thx jeff

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** no prob

**pagreen@mac.com:** So, Philip, are you tech-savvy?

**jonnyoosting:** or a crazy genius or anything?

**photobypip:** I like to think so, right now im working on a story on illegal immigration that will be compleatly presented online

**jonnyoosting:** cool. what paper/site?

**pagreen@mac.com:** So now Ryan and I are outnumbered. Darn.

**photobypip:** i wouldnt say crazy genius tho

**photobypip:** its for rollcall.com

**pagreen@mac.com:** Too bad. We could have used one.

**photobypip:** the sight is totally lame tho

**jonnyoosting:** hmmm

22:15

**photobypip:** this will be the first of its kind as far as they go

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** roll call is a big deal, isnt it?

**photobypip:** ya

**photobypip:** but there site is an example of how awful news on the web can be

**photobypip:** unfourtunatly

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** yes, it looks a lot like a traditional newspaper

**photobypip:** ya and their "multimedia" is just still photos

**pagreen@mac.com:** Yeah, and in some ways it's worse, because it hurts to read the screen.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** and subscription required for their web edition? that's frustrating

**photobypip:** exactly

**photobypip:** but its aimed at rich white people

**pagreen@mac.com:** Do they even buy subscriptions?

**photobypip:** I think a lot of people do

**jonnyoosting:** okay, to start - a reminder of project criteria for myself and ya'll:

**jonnyoosting:** 1. use digital media 2. involve new forms of news in the public interest 3. focus on specific community

**pagreen@mac.com:** But right now we're just throwing ideas around.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** we're supposed to have ten ideas (each) posted to the blog today.

**photobypip:** could someone define "new forms of news"

**pagreen@mac.com:** Did anyone manage that?

**jonnyoosting:** phillip - the plan for tonight was just to share our 10 ideas each, and a little discussion about them. next week we're supposed to widdle our list down

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** thats for us to define.

**photobypip:** ahh ok

22:20

**pagreen@mac.com:** Who wants to start?

**photobypip:** well I had a few ideas I could toss out

**jonnyoosting:** i don't think we have to necessarily create a new form of news, just take into consideration some new media aspects

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** we are supposed to deviate at least somewhat from a traditional view of news.... one example they gave was [chicagocrime.org](http://chicagocrime.org)

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** which is a mashup of google maps and chicago crime stats

**pagreen@mac.com:** Yeah, we don't have to code anything new.

**jonnyoosting:** citizen journalism, existing technology for new presentation, etc...

**photobypip:** ahh so not new news just new presentation

**jonnyoosting:** yeah yeah yeah

**photobypip:** I think the google maps thing is huge

**jonnyoosting:** or new ways of involving readers in the news

**photobypip:** it can really educate people and describe things the way pics and words cannot

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** jon, what were your 10 ideas?

**jonnyoosting:** yeah, google maps is huge. the question is how we use it in a new way

**jonnyoosting:** well, a few of them are weak, but here they are:

**jonnyoosting:** shit. it won't send the message because it's too long! argg.

**jonnyoosting:** Abbreviated and one at a time then:

**photobypip:** take your time

**jonnyoosting:** 1.google maps based comment section - to see where people are responding from, etc..

**jonnyoosting:** 2. story node - a visual timeline of a story with user created "linkage" through nodes:

**jonnyoosting:** mockup: <http://i28.photobucket.com/albums/c249/BoomerPetway/storynode.jpg>

**jonnyoosting:** instant context, etc...

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** i like that

22:25

**pagreen@mac.com:** We need context.

**jonnyoosting:** 3. lame and probably done: Googlemaps based representation of where local news stories are happening

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** i think it has been done but not developed well enough

**photobypip:** maybe lame but definatly expandable

**photobypip:** btw my spelling is awful

**jonnyoosting:** 4. Online training program (flash vid maybe) for interested cit journalists

**pagreen@mac.com:** Please, we're the texting generation. Like spelling counts.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** omg lol k? 😊

**jonnyoosting:** 5. app for citizen journalists. maybe on a cell phone, or on a website. take the mystery out of creating a news story

**pagreen@mac.com:** Yeah, that's it.

**jonnyoosting:** walk them through it

**photobypip:** bbc does a lot of that ill get links

**jonnyoosting:** 6. possible? one easy to use app for small papers to instantly create many feeds and widgets - igoogle, facebook, rss, etc...

**pagreen@mac.com:** How would we make that?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** i seem to remember someone describing a similar system for #5 as "mad libs for journalists"

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** it's likely that whatever content management system a newspaper uses supplies RSS already

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** widgets, etc. wouldnt be too hard to create with that

**jonnyoosting:** 7. app for making newspapers available offline. apparently google is working on this technology - to update stuff online, but then have it on your computer even when offline.

**photobypip:** [http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/school\\_report/5275764.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/school_report/5275764.stm)

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** you mean google gears

**jonnyoosting:** yeah

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** <http://gears.google.com>

22:30

**jonnyoosting:** phillip - i'm thinking of a program that actually prompts them to upload a photo, asks who, what, when, where, why, etc...

**pagreen@mac.com:** Not a bad idea, though it wouldn't allow for much color.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** it's just info gathering for the "real" journalists, right?

**photobypip:** education is the most powerful thing in the way of citizen journalism

**jonnyoosting:** yeah - but it might encourage some reluctant citizens who fear they don't know how to write well. it could allow more advanced interface for those comfortable

**pagreen@mac.com:** Writing poorly doesn't seem to stop a lot of people. 😞

**photobypip:** another crude example [http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Wikinews:Breaking\\_news](http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Wikinews:Breaking_news)

**jonnyoosting:** yeah, but I'd guess that there are several more who we don't hear from because of this

**pagreen@mac.com:** Probably right.

**jonnyoosting:** it could be a cell phone app too. instant story

**jonnyoosting:** anyway, my other three are kind of lame and I'll save them for the blog so as to not waste your time here

**jonnyoosting:** someone else go!

**pagreen@mac.com:** Then where would the story go once created.

**jonnyoosting:** well, the program would work in collaboration with a local paper, I'd imagine, who would then post it

**pagreen@mac.com:** I meant to use a ?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Okay.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** my ideas are on the blog.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (1) Geographical alerts, based on geocoded news stories. Select areas based on a map. Each story could have primary and secondary locations.

22:35

**pagreen@mac.com:** Did we talk about that a bit before?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** Google alerts + geocoded stories, in essence.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** yes, we did.

**jonnyoosting:** alerts meaning?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** email, sms, etc

**pagreen@mac.com:** What are sms?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** text messages

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (2) Online "talk radio" type program debating / discussing topics, complete with voice or video responses from the audience.

**jonnyoosting:** I like the video response option. very popular on youtube, etc...

**pagreen@mac.com:** Would it be posted live?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** yeah, i dont think anyone has done that for current events / news.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** i would say so.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** if youtube can do it live, why not a newspaper?

**pagreen@mac.com:** True.

**photobypip:** idk i might be a skeptic but a video response seems like a gimmick

**photobypip:** whats the difference in relevance between that and a text post

**pagreen@mac.com:** I don't know, people seem to like feeling like they have a voice.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** i just think it's the next logical step after talk radio call-ins

**photobypip:** besides the text being more thought out

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** and people like to have their fifteen minutes of fame

**pagreen@mac.com:** Text seems to be going by the wayside to an extent.

**jonnyoosting:** gimmicky? maybe. but people seem to be into doing it.

**photobypip:** ya im just trying to be a bit of a devils advocate

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** secondlife is adding audio now...

**photobypip:** if it gets more people to speak up then why not

**pagreen@mac.com:** By all means, Philip.

**pagreen@mac.com:** We need devil's advocates.

22:40

**pagreen@mac.com:** I thought 2nd life already had audio.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** like voices

**pagreen@mac.com:** I see. Can you pick your voice?

**jonnyoosting:** voip?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** no, it's VOIP

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** your own voice

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (3) News quiz with prizes – different type of quiz for each age group, perhaps several different levels for adults with increasing prizes.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Interesting. Make it easier to spot the transvestites.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** we had discussed this idea before

**jonnyoosting:** in second life you mean?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Yeah, and varying types of news.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** not necessarily SL... i actually just think putting it on the news org's website would be the best

**pagreen@mac.com:** Yes, Jon. That's what I meant. Sorry if that was a little random.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Oh, sorry.

**photobypip:** soo let me see if i got it

**photobypip:** audio response to news stories

**pagreen@mac.com:** I disagree. I think it would be better to imbed with a social site.

**pagreen@mac.com:** News sites are getting less and less traffic.

**photobypip:** Im not sure about the whole social site thing, news needs to be distinctly news, not gossip

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** the audio response to news stories was my #2 idea

22:45

**photobypip:** you cant dumb it down in hopes of getting a bigger audience

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** she is recommending integrating with a social site for my idea #3

**photobypip:** then its just usa today

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** haha

**pagreen@mac.com:** It wouldn't be any less news; it would just be in a place that people would already visit.

**pagreen@mac.com:** The less effort required, the more people do something.

**jonnyoosting:** i agree

**photobypip:** ok so an expansion of like lets say google news in the search window

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** incentives (prizes / winning) helps too

**jonnyoosting:** many papers are already creating facebook widgets

**pagreen@mac.com:** What are widgets for?

**jonnyoosting:** sorry, facebook apps they call them

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** megan, you need to get a facebook 😊

**pagreen@mac.com:** I'm a conscientious objector.

**pagreen@mac.com:** 😊

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** at least get a generic account in a fake name to test things out

**jonnyoosting:** you've got a mac right? the things that pop up with the date, calculator, sudoku... are widgets

**pagreen@mac.com:** I probably should.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** woo dashboard!

**pagreen@mac.com:** Okay, thanks.

**jonnyoosting:** yeah. same idea.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** are we ready to move on?

**jonnyoosting:** yeah!

**photobypip:** yup

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (4) Customized daily newspaper (one page or selected length), emailed as a PDF file. Also could be used with something like HPs failed [instant delivery](#) product. (I think that product was released too early)

**pagreen@mac.com:** How do we customize?

**jonnyoosting:** i thought about something like this too, but playable on ipod video

**pagreen@mac.com:** Do people request, or do we learn about them?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** customize thru a web interface

**photobypip:** like googlezon

**photobypip:** anybody seen that

**pagreen@mac.com:** Not me. What is it?

22:50

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** i dont think its really possible to "learn" about one's interests through what someone reads or doesnt read on a piece of paper

**photobypip:** ill get a link

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** so it would have to be based on what they say they want

**pagreen@mac.com:** There should be a provision for breaking news to be included.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** [The Original: Epic 2014](#)

**photobypip:** thats it

**pagreen@mac.com:** Everyone says they don't want crime news, but sometimes they need it.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** im sure that could be included

**jonnyoosting:** oh yeah. I've seen that.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** any questions / comments on the idea?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Not at the moment.

**jonnyoosting:** not bad. but pdf's seem so '90s

**photobypip:** and they need to be individually published

**photobypip:** customized html would be more efficient

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** it's tough to get standard formatting without pdf

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** browsers dont always play nice

**pagreen@mac.com:** Like maybe a series of links. Then someone wouldn't have to lay out every person's page.

22:55

**pagreen@mac.com:** Lay out takes forever.

**jonnyoosting:** let's keep going. we don't have to decide on ideas tonight

**photobypip:** i concur

**pagreen@mac.com:** Sounds good.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Do you have more, Jeff?

**jonnyoosting:** this is going to take forever if we don't pick up the pace

**jonnyoosting:** jeff - you still there?

**jonnyoosting:** megan - why don't you go. jeff seems to be missing.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Okay. I only had five ideas, though.

**pagreen@mac.com:** t

**jonnyoosting:** ok

**pagreen@mac.com:** Three were posted on the blog.

**pagreen@mac.com:** My latest idea was to use something like cartoon news for kids, just to get them used to watching it.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Doesn't really apply to communities, though.

23:00

**jonnyoosting:** kids are a community, right?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Possibly. Thanks, Jon.

**pagreen@mac.com:** #2- fantasy city council/%43ongress.

**pagreen@mac.com:** That was supposed to say Congress.

**jonnyoosting:** explain this more. do you have a link to the iowa one?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Not on me, but I looked at it. What people would do is choose an issue or area.

**pagreen@mac.com:** They would build a team of lawmakers they thought would act on it.

**pagreen@mac.com:** And compete for the most effective team.

**jonnyoosting:** would it be stealing their (Iowa folks) idea?

**photobypip:** and this would be like an online forum or an in person thing sponcered by a paper

**pagreen@mac.com:** Not if we build on it. And we can credit them.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Online forum.

**photobypip:** ahh ya that could be cool

**jonnyoosting:** interesting idea. if you find a link to the iowa one later, post it on the blog?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Sure, I'll do that.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** sorry!! my computer went dumb for a while

**jonnyoosting:** it's okay. megan started sharing

**pagreen@mac.com:** #3- something along the line of Stephen Colbert's "All You Need to Know" segment, minus the satire.

**pagreen@mac.com:** The day's highlights, in a minute or two.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Hopefully people will get inspired to look for more.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** so it would be video?

23:05

**pagreen@mac.com:** Probably. It

**pagreen@mac.com:** It's fastest.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Anyway, Jeff, do you want to finish yours?

**photobypip:** <http://blogs.roanoke.com/vlog/>

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** sure

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (5) BS-o-meter – readers can contest inaccurate facts, raising a flag on the blog. Professors/experts could have more clout.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** we discussed that.

**photobypip:** video cast of the days events via roanoke times

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** we good on that?

**jonnyoosting:** sure

**pagreen@mac.com:** Next idea.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (6) Point / counterpoint blogs – match up people who disagree, have each explain his/her opinions.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** also discussed.

**jonnyoosting:** a lot of papers are doing videos like the roanoke thing

**jonnyoosting:** how do you find who to match up?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** instead of one side vs. another (since theres usually more than 2 sides), i figured point/counterpoint would be best

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** that could be determined by the editors of the publication.... not very web 2.0 or original, but it could bring together contrasting bloggers

23:10

**jonnyoosting:** okay okay

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (7) Online news in [Special English](#) (like Voice of America) for immigrants, etc.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Special English?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** yes, i know news tends to be in pretty simple language anyway, but make it super easy for immigrants (and kids too?)\

**pagreen@mac.com:** Would it be written or spoken?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** both? either? not sure.

**photobypip:** how about just having the news in spanish, korean, ect

**pagreen@mac.com:** Doesn't matter now, I guess.

**jonnyoosting:** hmmm. how could this be adopted by news sources - would they have to rewrite all their stuff. remember, this will be tested by real news sites

**jonnyoosting:** eventually

**pagreen@mac.com:** We can work out the details later, I think.

**photobypip:** the latimes already has a spanish print addition

**photobypip:** so do many gannet papers

**jonnyoosting:** many papers already do spanish

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** encourage writers to use it, have a special section or site? i dunno.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** my #8 was spanish language versions.... if you just put them online, that eliminates the cost of paper / typesetting / etc

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** just hire some translators and post it online

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (can you tell my ideas are getting lamer as we go on?)

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (9) An intelligent RSS reader that judged which storied you read / viewed / forwarded, and then showed you recommended stories.

**photobypip:** this idea is very similar to what amazon uses to analyze shopping habbits

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** yeah, it sounds dumb... but combining content from multiple sources for suggestion purposes is somewhat original

23:15

**pagreen@mac.com:** The problem with the different applications of that idea is that a lot of people will get

Paris Hilton and not much else.

**jonnyoosting:** community based?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Though I suppose that would happen anyway.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** im sure there is a way we could work in community aspects

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** i am in brainfart mode right now, tho... haha

**jonnyoosting:** me too - let's finish soon!

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** (10) Adjustable font sizes for the visually impaired / those who want to fill up their screens with tons of text.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** yes, boring... and i am sure it has been done

**pagreen@mac.com:** Not necessarily a bad idea, though.

**photobypip:** ya thats an ada complience thing i think the technology still exists

**jonnyoosting:** megan - your other(s)?

**photobypip:** however, with css styling that would be super easy to create

**pagreen@mac.com:** As I recall, I have one left.

**pagreen@mac.com:** A Facebook newscast competition.

**pagreen@mac.com:** With a given subject, to limit sensationalism.

**pagreen@mac.com:** Schools assemble teams and compete, and students vote.

**pagreen@mac.com:** The catch is that the link to vote is imbedded in the newscast.

**pagreen@mac.com:** So you have to watch to vote.

**photobypip:** Im not sure i trust the avrage college student to vote on good journalism

23:20

**photobypip:** but where your going is interesting

**jonnyoosting:** i like the idea of getting college campuses involved, although the execution seems difficult

**pagreen@mac.com:** The idea is to trick them in to watching. Which school wins doesn't really matter. Except that they get one year's rights to broadcast the official Facebook newscast.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** interesting

**photobypip:** as soon as facebook introduced the news feed i felt that they should include actual news, along with all the social bs

**pagreen@mac.com:** Anyway, that's about all I have. Maybe I was slow this week.

**jonnyoosting:** Phillip - you got anything?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** <http://www.ideastorm.com/> <-- great idea

**photobypip:** if im not mistaken theres a push right now to make facebook's programming open source, giving news outlets the ability to create apps that operate within the system

**photobypip:** will the facebook thing was my step

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** not open source, but there is an API i think

**photobypip:** also there's the google maps thing which takes technology and tells a better story

**photobypip:** msnbc kinda did the whole map based navigation for stories of katrina but it was totally info heavy and not user friendly

**jonnyoosting:** do you know the googlemaps API - using it at all for your online story?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Sorry to interrupt, but do we have to choose our five ideas to concentrate on this week, or next week?

**jonnyoosting:** next week - first chat

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** next week

**photobypip:** i need to sit down with it but the story is so national i think it is necessary

**jonnyoosting:** second chat is with mixed groups

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** lets pick on tues?

**pagreen@mac.com:** What time?

23:25

**jonnyoosting:** yeah, tuesday at 9 et

**pagreen@mac.com:** Okay. Let's try to keep that one a little shorter.

**jonnyoosting:** are we wrapping it up, then?

**photobypip:** works for me as of right now

**pagreen@mac.com:** Maybe look through our own ideas tomorrow and decide which ones don't have a chance.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** yeah

**jonnyoosting:** yeah, everybody come Tuesday with a short list of your favorites.

**photobypip:** sounds good

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** 3 faves each?

**pagreen@mac.com:** Okay, works for me.

**jonnyoosting:** okay.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** at least one not your own

**pagreen@mac.com:** Good idea.

**jonnyoosting:** jeff - you gonna post this again. or did you lose any of it when your comp went stupid?

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** i have it all

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** and will post it when we are done

**jonnyoosting:** all right. I'm out then!

**photobypip:** peace

photobypip has left this chat.

**Jeffrey Tatanus:** see ya!

**pagreen@mac.com:** Good night, all.

jonnyoosting has left this chat.

pagreen@mac.com has left this chat.