Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP V1, MAA Session on Research on the Teaching and Learning of Undergraduate Mathematics

1003-V1-759 Bernd S. W. Schroeder* (schroder@coes.LaTech.edu), Program of Mathematics and Statistics, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston, LA 71272, and James Rutledge and Alice Bedard-Voorhees. Using MERLOT to turn research into research that has impact.

MERLOT is a faculty-driven initiative that at its heart was designed to take the hit-and-miss out of the search for high-quality, on-line learning materials. MERLOT's peer-reviewed collection achieves this purpose for individual users, making MERLOT an effective dissemination mechanism. Moreover, MERLOT's Personal Collection feature can be used to relieve a department of the need to locally create and maintain a resource web site. A single username and password for a department allow all faculty, both full-time and adjunct, to participate in building, editing and annotating these department collections.

The MERLOT Virtual Speakers Bureau (in collaboration with the Community Colleges of Colorado Online) offers a guest speaker database that can give projects wider impact through guest lecturers, workshops, etc. The MERLOT Virtual Speakers Bureau can arrange contact with the listed experts and facilitate a "virtual visit", via asynchronous or synchronous discussion, online conferencing, email, compressed two-way video, satellite downlink, satellite downlink with FAX questions, or phone conference. Interaction that is nearly the equivalent of face-to-face conversation can be arranged at the cost of a long distance phone call. (Received September 29, 2004)