1023-I1-238 P. Christopher Staecker* (cstaecker@messiah.edu), Messiah College, Box 3041, One College Ave., Grantham, PA 17027. Wiki in the mathematics classroom. Preliminary report.

A wiki is a collection of online documents which can be edited in real time by any user. Use of blogs in education has become fairly commonplace, and wiki is a natural extension of these technologies which opens up many new techniques designed to be both reading and writing intensive.

We discuss new types of writing assignments that a wiki framework can enable: Static blog-like content can be used for students to discuss course content, or to allow classmates to read each other's papers. Dynamic fully collaborative content in the style of Wikipedia can be used to produce a student-written version of the textbook and course notes. Hybrid static/dynamic assignments can be used, where students write substantial content alone, and then accept edits and additions from other students.

The Wikipedia-style approach will be discussed in detail. In this model, students edit the wiki regularly, with assignments requiring both creation of new content and modification of existing content. The students control both the content and the context of their posts, creating links between subjects, and developing the overall structure of the site. By the time of the final exam, the wiki is a significant product of collaborative writing, as well as a reference for the students. (Received August 29, 2006)