

# Accidental Pedagogy

Glenda Morgan on research and practice in academic technology in higher education.

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## Elliot Masie on the patent issue

Elliot Masie and the MASIE Center's Learning CONSORTIUM that he leads have commented on the LMS patent issue. The MASIE Center does a lot of work on e-learning and LMS's, especially in the corporate space. I attended their conference on LMSs in Las Vegas earlier this year and blogged about it here

Elliot writes:

"The MASIE Center is concerned about the patent award process for e-Learning and we have testified as unpaid witnesses in a recent suit, to counter the claims. We believe that there is substantial "prior art" in this arena, though the strategy is often to drive up the cost of litigation until the case is settled.

While patents for legitimate inventions are a key aspect of our society, I am not convinced that these recent e-Learning patents were awarded accurately and am concerned that the patents may have a disruptive effect on both LMS procurement and innovation in our field.

We will be hosting a special set of sessions on Patents & Learning at Learning 2006 to be held in Orlando, Florida on November 5 to 8th."  
<http://www.learning2006.com/blog/learning-patents-special-sessions.html>