

# New Liberated Learning Project Offers the Chance to Showcase Landmark's Strengths

*By Mary Kukovich*

## Landmark Chosen as One of 11 U.S. Schools to Participate in Worldwide Initiative

Caroline Eisner loves technology — a characteristic you wouldn't expect from someone who earned her Ph.D. in English literature. “Mixing technology with humanities has always come naturally,” she said. “In fact, I put myself through graduate school by working as a technology consultant.”

She's also a passionate educator with a special interest in improving the delivery of learning. “At every school, college or university, it's paramount that we better understand how our students learn and how we can enhance their learning experience.”

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean at Landmark College, Dr. Eisner is putting her affinity for technology and learning to work in advancing the mission and reputation of Landmark College. She is spearheading Landmark's new partnership with the prestigious Liberated Learning Consortium, a worldwide initiative dedicated to advancing speech-recognition technology to eliminate barriers to learning and improve access to information. The College is one of just 21 partners selected to participate.

“The Liberated Learning project will give Landmark a national platform to make its teaching and learning visible by asking if speech recognition software enhances the learning environment, and if so, how? And, if how, why? And when? And for whom?” explained Dr. Eisner. “In other words, do these technologies enhance student learning and increase student outcomes, especially for students with learning disabilities and AD/HD? Will these technologies help create better teachers and better instruction?”

One reason why Dr. Eisner sought Landmark's involvement in the Liberated Learning initiative was the rich opportunities it will offer the College's faculty and students. “Landmark's faculty members can take great pride in the knowledge and professional insights they have developed; this project will enable us to showcase their experiences with a broader audience. In addition, our students will have the chance to participate in a hands-on way in the research,” she said.

Institutions from Australia, Canada, China, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States are partnering on the project. “In the United States, our partner schools are the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), University of Massachusetts Boston, Messiah College and Purdue University,” noted Dr. Eisner.

“Over the coming year, we'll be reaching out to the Landmark community to seek their support and involvement,” she added. “Anyone interested in learning more can visit [www.liberatedlearning.com](http://www.liberatedlearning.com) or contact my office directly to explore ways they can be involved.”

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Dr. Caroline L. Eisner