



**Date:** Saturday, 01-24-2009

**Session Title:** ACTLab - Why we sponsored ProductCamp 2009 and many other BarCamps and how to turn your product of knowledge into a community of possibilities.

**Presenter:**

What should I take away from the session? (Summary):

ACT Lab is an interactive class that allows students to explore their creativity. They sponsored ProductCamp because this is the spirit in which products should be created. Also wanted to interact with the community.

ACTLab hosts Austin Jelly and Dorkbot on Wednesdays and is open to the public from 7-10p.

Notes (key points, book suggestions, website suggestions, etc)

ACTLab is an interactive class at UT that anyone regardless of major can take to express themselves through various mediums for a grade

A student can write code, perform Improv, Interpretive Dance, create HW, crochet, etc

Writing papers is not allowed. All poems must be performed

Professors and Aides facilitate students throughout semester to create a project based on the current semester theme

Program was started in 1993. Sandy Stone is current professor

"Teach process of wide-eyed conception to realization. The students' greatest dreams embodied"

Every Student has to create a website to document their work throughout the semester

There is no particular background the students need to participate. If needed they will be taught, electronics, programming, communications etc as a part of the class to complete project

The students are encouraged to take risks and it is ok to fail spectacularly (with documentation)

Taught to temper ambitious. The best product is the one you deliver

If decide to do a group project, the format is "parallel Play" preschool concept. Preschoolers don't play together but play next to each other. They coincide. This makes great products

Main thing is to teach pursuing your passion