Chat session using De Bono's hats

We will be having a chat session that uses some of De Bono's hats to facilitate the discussion.

About De Bono's six hats

De Bonos' six hats is a tool for allowing you to look at decisions from a number of different perspectives. This forces you to move outside your habitual thinking style, and helps you to get a more rounded view of a situation.
Before the chat sessions starts you should review the following site and check out :
  ➢ All the hats and their characteristics
  ➢ Print out a copy of this Word document to have with you during the chat session

Mindtools book store
http://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newTED_07.htm

Appendix IV - Edward de Bono's "Six Thinking Hats"
http://me.udel.edu/~wilkins/tqd_man/tqd_a4_6hats.html

Rules of the Chat
At various stages in the chat we will be 'putting on different hats'. Each stage will run for approximately 5 minutes

Stage One – welcome

A few minutes at the beginning of the chat to get into the situation

Stage 2 – Red Hat

'Wearing' the **red hat**, you look at problems using intuition, gut reaction, and emotion. Also try to think how other people will react emotionally. Try to understand the responses of people who do not fully know your reasoning.

Stage 3 – Black Hat

Using **black hat** thinking, look at all the bad points of the decision. Look at it cautiously and defensively. Try to see why it might not work. This is important because it highlights the weak points in a plan. It allows you to eliminate them, alter them, or prepare contingency plans to counter them.

Stage 4 – Yellow Hat

The **yellow hat** helps you to think positively. It is the optimistic viewpoint that helps you to see all the benefits of the decision and the value in it. Yellow Hat thinking helps you to keep going when everything looks gloomy and difficult.

Stage 5 – Green Hat

The **Green Hat** stands for creativity. This is where you can develop creative solutions to a problem. It is a freewheeling way of thinking, in which there is little criticism of ideas.

Stage 6 - Debriefing

A chance to reflect on the usefulness of using the chat tool to run sessions like this using De Bono's hats.

➢ Stay in the appropriate hat for each stage of the chat
➢ Don't take offence at any of the comments. People will be responding in a particular role.
➢ The moderator will move everyone onto the next stage in the chat
➢ Don't spend time welcoming latecomers. It will break the flow of the chat.
➢ Any latecomers should spend the first few minutes reviewing the progress of the chat

The scenario

A teacher in your department has spent the last 3 years developing their online WebCT course. The course includes lots of flash animations, interactive graphics and PDF documents. The course is due to be delivered for the beginning of next semester.
The Head of your Department has spoken to the teacher and advised him/her that one of the students recently enrolled in his/her course is an off campus blind student who lives in the country. This student like all others will require access to the online resources.

As a teacher in this department you will need to work as a team to
  ➢ Identify the issues and
  ➢ Implement an action plan