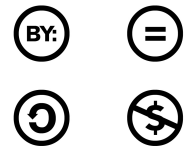




New Learning Activities – what will we want next?

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The 'we' in the title?

Q: Have you ever been, or are you now, an e-learner on a formal course?

- Students?
- Academics?
- Managers?
- Educational technologists?
- Repository providers?
- David Wiley's water polo parable



A metaphor for this talk

Social computing:
Interactivity and
community

Relevant and
up-to-date

Feedback +++



Responsive and
personalised
content

Fun and
engaging

Student/tutor
balance

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/blueron48/320804265/>
Pikes Peak and Hot Air Balloon [blueron48](#)

Intrallet, Edinburgh



Who are students interacting with?

Q: Is it rude not to look at the person who is speaking to you?

- Students online in lectures – how do you feel?
- Multitasking: How useful is ‘continuous partial attention’?
- Is this a cultural problem that can (should) be overcome?
- Should we designing online time into lectures?



You, and the kit in your pocket

Q: Would you prefer to use the technology you own, rather than the kit specified by an institution?

- Implications for student (technical) support. Problems with quality control (testing on n platforms?)
- Reduction in students' freedom to collaborate?
- Performance differences (tutor/student and student/student)
- Learning new kit is a time overhead



Lies we may be telling students ...

Q: Do you go online only once a week (or less frequently)?

- Is once a week enough?
- Is ownership the same as access?
- Problems logging on at work (firewalls and other impediments)
- Power users, novice users and tutors - Is this a new digital divide?



Workload and life balance ...

Q5: Do you respond to more than 30 emails a day?

- Is this what we expect students to do? What is the technology turn-off risk?
- How can we predict student workload? Back to digital divide
- Aggregation – what will be missed
- Distraction – back to multi-tasking



If we rely more on technology ...

Q6: In the past twelve months have you experienced technology failure?

- As we rely more on technology failures will be more important (e.g. e-assessment)
- Students (and staff) will be working on a JIT basis more of the time
- We know that links fail (link rot)
- Legacy, reuse and portability



Repositories give choices, but ...

Q7: Do you find it easy to make choices?

- Students are not used to having choice
- There may be perception of lack of control. How can tutors keep up?
- Course design and assessment issues
- Accessibility concerns about Web 2.0 type activities



Returning to that metaphor ...



But, it's worth
addressing
these issues
to have the
future we want

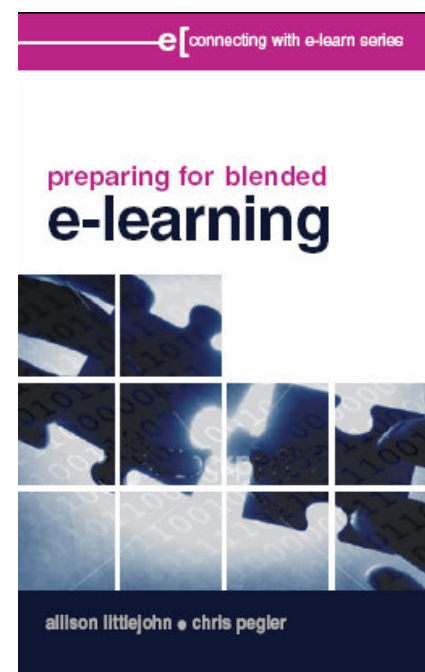
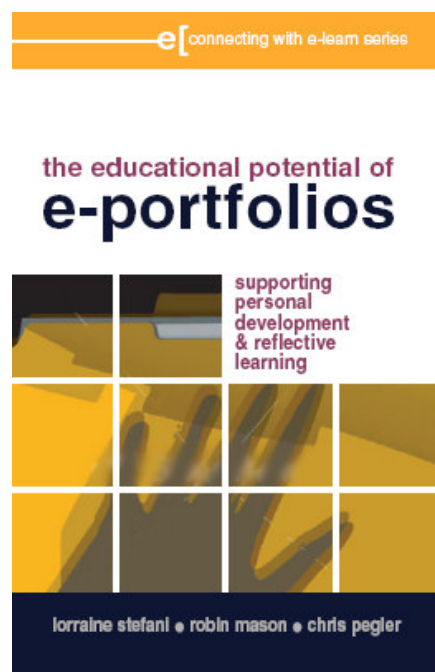
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Chris Pegler

Visionary with a few niggling reservations ...

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