Hervé Didiot-Cook and Matt Lingard
Winning with Wimba? From early enthusiasts to the mainstream at a UK university

Conference Item (Presentation slides)

Original citation:

This version available at: http://eprints.lse.ac.uk/24727/

Available in LSE Research Online: May 2014

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Winning with Wimba?
From early enthusiasts to the mainstream at a UK University

Matt Lingard & Hervé Didiot-Cook

Matt Lingard
Learning Technologist
7 years...
5 years...
- “Why don’t Lecturers use the VLE?”
- Blogs, wikis, feeds, e-portfolios
Hervé Didiot-Cook

Language Co-ordinator (French)

Current Interests: IS, Learning Design, E-Repository, language lab & moodle?

Founded: 1895
Students: 7800 FT, 800 PT
51% postgraduates

Faculty & Staff: 1460 FT, 1320 PT

66% Overseas students

Students: 7800 FT, 800 PT
30 past & present Heads of States!
Language Centre

- Teaching & Applied Research
  - Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)
  - English for Academic Purposes (EAP)
- 250 MFL students as part of a degree
- 1800 extra-curricular MFL students
- 1600 students take EAP courses

Centre for Learning Technology

- Integration of technology into teaching
- 8 Staff
- LMS: Moodle (+WebCT)
- Wimba, Echo360, Multimedia, E-Packs…
Paradigm Change

Laurillard: Radical shift from

Teaching as telling (tell-practice-test) ... ... to

Learning as doing... i.e. learner as an active agent

Dewey: “Experiential learning”

Problem-based learning, situated learning, meta-cognition, social constructivism, collaborative learning...

= learning as an essentially active process

Why Voice Tools?

• Driven by a pedagogy
  based on learner autonomy (Little)

  – Confidence & practice
  – Self reflection & feedback
  – Interaction & discussion
  – Tests & Assessments
Wimba @ LSE


Technology
Pedagogy
Challenges

LSE

Technology

WebCT
moodle

Wimba hosted

LSE
**Magic triangle**

1) Working practices  
2) Leadership  
4) Support  
3) User friendly technology

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**Connect & Collaborate**

1. **Actor Network Theory**  
   (Callon, Latour, Law…)  
   Social explanations = NOT causality BUT connections

2. **Resource Based View of the Firm**  
   (Ciborra)  
   collaborative practices based on learning …to develop capabilities… to sustain core capabilities
Actor Network Theory

- **Actor:**
- **Actor Network:**
- **Problematization:** Use of Wimba
- **Obligatory Point of Passage:** Hervé & Matt

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Ciborra

Basic learning processes in the core capabilities formation process

Collaborative Working

1) IT skills : staff < students
2) Working practices in HE = highly individual… Humanities/social sciences > natural sciences
3) Teaching across several institutions
   = > Key: Learning, developing thru team work (Ciborra)
   -> CPD = professional training “on the job”

Leadership: vision & delivery

- At different levels:
  - School : central LT team, strategy
  - Dept (Languages) : co-ordination, division of labour, resources
  - Subject (French) : motivation, support, appraisal
User-friendly technology

- Moodle vs. WebCT
- Wimba: interface & new tools
- Transferable
  - mp3s used for storytelling in Showbeyond.com
- Not perfect!
  - Too teacher-centred
  - Peripheral technology

Support

Technology & Pedagogy: ever closer

- For teachers: Fast changing environment
  critical = central pool of expertise solely
  focused on the needs of faculty

- For students
The way forward: learning

- E-learning strategy for further integration
- CPD programme & collaboration
- Requesting funding for training workshops
- LSE Moodle LAPD + sandbox
- WIMBA UK Moodle User group

Contacts

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