ICT enriched learning environments at the University of Luxembourg

Gilbert BUSANA, Robert REUTER, Ingo SCHANDELER

educational media teachers @ Bachelor en Sciences de l’Education
lecturers and researchers @ EMACS research unit, FLSHASE

http://www.emacs.uni.lu/charter

Charter, 2nd eLearning conference, Zweibrücken, 29th of May 2008

Outline

• Context of Higher Education in Luxembourg
• Current situation @ University of Luxembourg
• A special use case:
  Bachelor of educational sciences (BScE)
Higher Education in Luxembourg

- Lecturers ==> students: top-down
- Lecturers ==> students: top-down (web 1.0)
- Teachers <=> students: “learning community” (web 2.0)
  - Collaboration via ICT tools
  - Extended learning environments

Current situation

- 3 types of self-developed ePlatforms
  - Ganesha (project based) http://cicel.uni.lu
  - DECOTEC (project based, completed)
  - TAO (large scale eAssessment, proj.) http://www.tao.lu
- recently: moodle used @ UL level
A special use case

- Bachelor in Educational Sciences (BScE)
- Student workload supported by ICT tools:
  - 1/3 contact studies
  - 2/3 autonomous studies

ICT History @ BScE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ICT rooms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>web 1.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DECOTEC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>moodle</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>web 2.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Paradigm shift
ICT based learning tools

- Information
- Communication
- Collaboration
- Production
- Publication

Learning tool

Learner centered approach
Collaboration
DECOTEC

Student

Teacher community

Student community

Administration & Services

social bookmarking
del.icio.us

moodle

forum
glossary

peer review

Wiki

Email

World

Production
DECOTEC

ePortfolio

Student

Teacher community

Administration & Services

software tools
office suite
reference manager
video suite

camcorders
cameras
dictaphones
hard-drives
ICT rooms

World

social web
Facebook
StudiVZ
ELGG

hardware
tools
Moodle forum

Moodle assignment
Socio-constructivist approach

- complex environment
- open and evolving environment
- self-regulated, autonomous learning
- process and product oriented
- authentic and active learning
- embedded in a learning community (learner, teacher, mentor, administration, world)

Technology is often the Trojan Horse through which innovation enters the school.

Chris Held (cited in Peck & Dorricott, 1994, p. 14)
A virtual desktop

- need for an integrated solution (portal) with single sign-on
- “outsourcing”
- must stay an open environment
- must be customizable by user
- intelligent use of available www tools

Issues

- a lot of different platforms
  => a lot of information that needs to be parsed
- used to a tool: resistance against change
- fear of the new tools (students & teachers)
- steep learning curve (ongoing ICT literacy evaluation)
Conclusion

1. ICT tools must be adapted to the pedagogical needs (ICT ≠ aim)
2. ICT possibilities => ideas for new concepts
3. paradigm shift made possible through specialized ICT tools
4. ICT integration remains heterogeneous

Future directions

• virtual desktop with single sign-on
• staying open to new developments
• preference for open source technologies
• evaluation of ICT tool usage (ongoing Ph. D. thesis)
• exchange with other universities
  e.g. Charter universities
THX 4 ur attn!

gilbert.busana@uni.lu

Download the presentation at:
http://www.emacs.uni.lu/charter

BScE website: http://bsce.uni.lu