

IMPACT OF SOCIAL NETWORK FOR NETWORKING IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

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ABSTRACT

In present scenario, social networking seems to have had a deep impact on our social structure and intrasocial interaction. It has proved to be a concept that has caught the human society by storm. One of the monumental achievement is, this Social Media has created a realm of digital environment in today's New Age Teaching and Learning. However, social networking can be defined as an online computer network through which people interact and bond with each other. In simple words, it is virtually, society, where one can know other people and communicate with them. Undoubtedly and Unquestionably, it's an emphatic assertion, that we find a social networking global phenomenon that has caused a huge paradigm shift in the world of New Age Teaching and Learning and in the field of communication. Social Networking has become very popular during the past few years, and it plays a significant role in our life nowadays. It helps us in every fields of life such as political field, economic field and educational field. This paper will summarize some of challenges and opportunities to use social networking as educational tool.

Keywords- Social networking; E-learning; Education, connected approach of learning, Collaborative generation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Undoubtedly and unquestionably, social media has become ubiquitous in the daily personal lives of new age teaching and learning. This paper explains how students and teaching community are well acquainted with the emerging trend. It's unbelievable but true that over an abbreviated period, social media has ubiquitous. The social constructivism theory is based on how socialization and interaction with other people can help students

learn and construct their own knowledge and personal learning processes. Social medias be a set of constructivist tools that can facilitate participative learning module that is being introduced in new age teaching and learning.

Social networking has become one of the most important communication tools among people nowadays. However, social networks exist on the Internet websites where millions of people share interests on certain disciplines, and make available

We also find that this idea is supported by the Greek philosophy of Aristotle when he emphasized in his theory of knowledge on the need to use some form of entertainment during the process of giving lessons. So, I think that these sites will be useful tools that can generate a revolution in the field of education if we could control them to suit the requirements of knowledge and science.

As the web expands its reach, educators are becoming more and more aware of the need to incorporate SNS into the classroom. Using these ubiquitous technologies engages students and demonstrates to them a variety of uses for the internet and their favourite sites. As with any technology application, there are both positives and negatives. A list of some pros and cons can be found on the "Social Networking in the United States" page. This page will examine diverse types of technologies that are being developed specifically for the classroom, as well as the use of SNS in the classroom.

5. EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES

There are many different SNS that have been created specifically for education. Some of them are Learning Management Systems ("LMS"), others are Virtual Learning Environments ("VLE") - these are similar ideas, but provide different options for the professors. These sorts of sites are tailored specifically for educators provide places to post assignments and grades as well as ways to interact with the professor and other students through forums or chats. These are becoming increasingly prevalent as colleges recognize the market for online education. Moodle, used by the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and Blackboard, used by the University of Illinois, Springfield, are two excellent examples of educational technologies. They provide spaces for the professor to post questions, assignments, and readings, and places for students to interact with one another. One of the biggest challenges in online education is the lack of interaction between students these sites try to

provide more opportunities for discussion and communication.

6. SOCIAL NETWORKING IN CLASSROOMS AND HIGHER EDUCATION

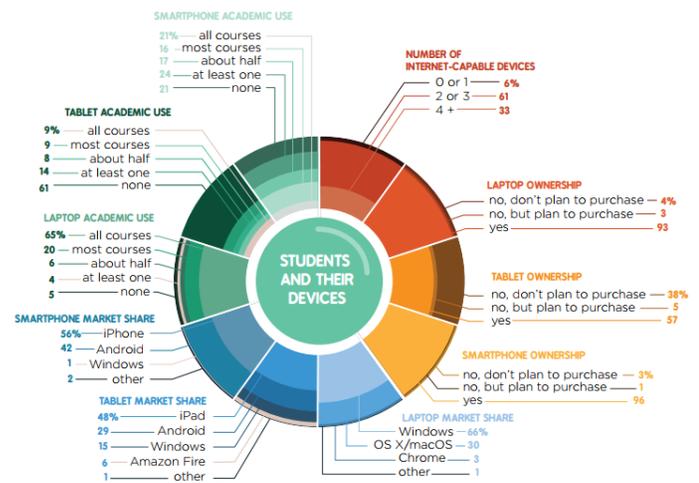
With the increased prevalence of social media websites, educational institutions would do well to consider the implications of these sites. Should they be banned from schools, or incorporated into the classroom? How do educators choose appropriate sites to use, keeping in mind privacy issues and the possible implications of each site? Some schools, such as the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, are at the forefront of recent technology.

Educational benefits of social networking were discovered during a research at the University of Minnesota. "What we found was that students using social networking sites are actually practicing the kinds of 21st century skills we want them to develop to be successful today," said Christine Greenhow, a learning technologies researcher in the university's College of Education and Human Development and principal investigator of the study. This is beneficial to educators as they can tailor the learning style around what the students are learning in the classroom. Studies have shown that 3-dimensional environments, like those created by the website Second Life, promote interaction and increase users' language skills.

The use of SNS can be challenging for educators. They need to learn new software and can teach students how to use it. SNS with forums may create more work for teachers, as they may need to moderate those discussions. School districts that are reluctant to change or that do not have the budget for recent technologies may impede a teacher's ability to take advantage of the benefits of SNS. Educators also need to consider public vs. private considerations. For example, if a teacher uses Facebook, should she allow students to friend her? Some people (like Young 2010) suggest creating a

second profile for their classrooms to avoid this issue. Other issues are less easily overcome, but teachers should at least examine how SNS might be used to enhance their classes and engage their students.

TECHNOLOGY IS PERVASIVE IN THE LIVES OF STUDENTS:



7. ROLES OF SOCIAL NETWORK SITES

If we make an analytical study, we can realize that, right from a student to a teacher, from a banker to a client, from an employer to an employee and so on busy communicating with a virtual partner or a friend on these networking. Literally, it is interesting that people might not know who their next door neighbour is but they hardly have forgotten who are there on their face book friend. Social networking sites have come to play an important role in developing a person's communication skills. These sites give ample scope to the users to create and edit their profiles, indulge chatting and video chatting, write blogs, etc. the users of such sites can get to learn themselves through 'trial and error method' how to upload photos, create photo albums, delete unwanted snaps, download any data, control privacy setting, shares files, etc. Undoubtedly, these sites have become an effective strategy for improving one's communication as well as technical skills.

8. ROLES OF TEACHERS AND LEARNERS

With the Social Media integrated as the unique environment of learning, the role of teacher is altered to be less controlled as implied from his research result that "teachers should change their role into 'facilitator' rather than the 'giver of knowledge'" and promote more group work and relaxing learning environment.

For Online Distance Learning (ODL) teachers, Easton (2003), claimed that the teachers had two roles, starting from an instructional designer at first to an interaction facilitator when the online courses begin. Duncan and Barnett found that, besides the roles of directing and leading the online learning class to reach the goal, the online teachers also had to be aware of a balance of flexibility of the teaching time and problem-solving task that might occur anytime while working in a lesson. As to student's new roles they must engage in online task based learning or discussion. This has eliminated the general chatting time better than face to face discussions. Asserted that students' views of the best on line language learners consisted of self-motivation, punctuality of assignment and originality of work.

9. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

In this era, opportunities in education are available like never. Though teachers using online tools are enabling students take part in their education, they may also show them to unsuitable material, sexual predators, and bullying and harassment by peers.

Challenges that face use the social networking in education

There are many challenges facing the use of social networking in education such as privacy, taking up time and miscommunication.

9.1. Privacy

Nowadays, the social-networking sites such as Facebook and Twitter are open for anyone who wants to participate. However, researchers have studied in relationship between privacy concerns and online behaviour. Studies have shown that users will express very powerful concerns about privacy of their personal information, but be less than

vigilant about safeguarding it. Although a lot of the information individuals' supply on social-networking sites is elective, users are progressively more comfortable with displaying a great deal of personal information online. Therefore, one of the main concerns for users who register in these sites is privacy. How private is the information that users place on social networking? Who has access to the information and what is it used for? Whose role is it- parent, student, educator and website developer to ensure an individual understands his right to privacy and exercises it accordingly? Everyone asks himself these questions. So, the privacy is one of the obstacles that has faced the use of social networking in education.

9.1.1. Real friendship

Through social networking, person has a lot of friend but the quality and integrity of these friendships is not always true. On the other hand, data on these social-networking sites for a person is not always 100% honest and reliable, and they do not verify personal details (age, location, etc.) of their members. While sites provide an opportunity for individuals to present a positive and accurate self-image, there is an equal potential to abuse this openness. So, having many friends through social networking sites is likely to be more harmful than good. This will affect the use of social networking in education.

9.2. Taking up time

The study which was conducted by the site www.azureim.com showed the amount of time spent by individuals with each other online. This has effect on health of individuals, because spending a lot of time browsing these social networks can affect the way the genes operate within the human body, and weakens the immune and hormone levels, and function of arteries. In addition, it is also having an impact on mental health. Moreover, the use of social networking in the education can cause lack of motivation towards learning and can be boring sitting in front of computer for a long time, especially if the scientific

material presented is free of audio and visual effects that will attract learner towards learning.

9.3. Miscommunication

E-Learning does not afford the student with the same opportunities of explanation and clarification that occur in face-to face interaction [4]. Learners face some difficulty through social networking in expressing their views and ideas in writing, as many learners prefer to express their ideas orally which is approach they have used for many years through their study, while e-education users need to be acquired to writing skills to express their ideas and opinions freely. Face to face allows individuals to perceive physical clues like tone, inflection, body language, in an online environment, these are lacking.

10. OPPORTUNITIES TO USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING IN EDUCATION

In the field of education, social-networking sites offer a student the opportunity to connect with other students, educators, administrators, alumni, both within and outside his current institution. Scholars praise social-networking tools for their capability to attract, motivate and engage students in meaningful communicative practice, content exchange, and collaboration. There are some of opportunities in the use social networking in education I will mention some of them.

10.1. Flexibility

“Flexible learning expands choice on what, when, where and how people learn. It supports distinctive styles of learning, including e-learning. Flexibility means anticipating, and responding to, the ever-changing needs and expectations of Vocational Education and Training clients - enterprises learners and communities. Flexibility is one of the most attractive elements of online learning in social networking. Blended approaches that combine face-to-face and online learning are preferable to an online pedagogy alone. Face-to face classes are likely to enable important level of emotional understanding, while the convenience and

flexibility of online components can motivate students to complete educational tasks.

It contributes to the different perspectives of the students, forums such as chat rooms that exist in social networking provide opportunities to exchange views on topics, which increases the opportunities to take advantage of views and proposals and their integration with the views of the student, and helps in the formation of a solid foundation for students in their knowledge purpose of. The education theories confirm that human interaction is a vital element in the learning process. It should be noted that social networking provides participation through such virtual classrooms, chat rooms and meetings by video.

10.2. Repeatable

Remember information depends on all of our sensory, while the response depends on the features of individual and the motivation to learn. So, it must be therefore provided a way that has offered for a learner the possibility of repetition, which is rarely offered by traditional educational methods. The social networking has offered this way through their sites and gives the opportunity for learners to retrieve the information immediately or later.

10.3. Convenience and accessibility

The social networking is easy and quick in term of accessing accessibility, reviewing, updating, and editing learning material needs anytime and anywhere. In addition, it allows for option to select learning materials from large quantity of courses offered online which the learner needs and it also makes easier distribution of courses material. The social networking helps to reduce stress and increase satisfaction among students. It allows each student (slow or quick) to study at their own pace and speed (self-pacing). Furthermore, it is easy to join bulletin board discussion any time, or visiting classmates and instructors remotely in chat room.

It can provide stronger understanding and increase retention on the subject, due to using many elements which exist under e-learning, e.g. multimedia, quizzes, interaction ... etc and the

ability to retry training and over in order to understand. The social networking allows access to courses available in their sites, allowing the learner to follow-up online at any time it deems appropriate, and overcome the limitations of space and time in the educational process. As a result, it helps resolve timetable conflicts.

11. CONCLUSION

There are some benefits and obstacles that face the using the social networking as educational tool. Privacy, real friendship, taking up time and miscommunication are the most important challenges facing education through the social networking. On the other hand, flexibility, repeatable and convenience and accessibility have a vital influence in the use of social networking in education. In addition, this paper addressed some of previous studies about the relationship between the social networking and education.

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