E-Education: Learning with Technology

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Abstract:
Knowledge is a critical concept in social research. The knowledge gap literature, for example, argues that people with higher socio-economic status may acquire political and scientific knowledge at a faster rate than people with lower socio-economic status. The role of knowledge in the process of Internet acceptance, however, has not yet received enough attention. Internet knowledge has been defined as a set of individual characteristics or qualities that develop over time and that generalize from one set of tasks or uses involving the Internet to another (Potosky 2007). It is what people know about the Internet, both Internet terminology and Internet skills. As a central concept of social learning theory, knowledge has a great potential to supplement technology acceptance model.
Keywords: Internet, Education Technology, UNESCO, Computer-based learning, ICT.

Introduction:

Imagine a scene in which group of tech-savvy student wander among dusty library stacks seeking the book and articles from the recommended hard –copy lists given to them by their professors, with iPods and smart phones intact, they do one-handed text messaging and them pluck down their wireless laptop and check their e-mail before earnestly hunting down hunting down a book's call number. Eventually, they go searching for those texts, finally reach the right floor, but are frustrated when the text is not there or is there or is not what they thought it would be. They go back to their laptops, and using Boolean operators, online databases and interactive Web sites, all found via Google, they locate what they need: a novella by George Eliot from Project poems from the Dickinson Electronic Actives, and research on Ansel Adams from the Smithsonian's online service . They instantly message their classmates to ask for clarification about the assignment, and dialogue ensues about their respective research efforts along with exchange of Web addresses for several popular political blogs. One they have found the sources they need for their projects, they cite those works using the bibliographic software Nobel Bib. Perhaps this scenario, although fabricated, is a familiar one in schools and libraries today. This image of tech savvy students wandering a text-dominated landscape originates from title of Farris-Berg's report (2005) for Education/Evolving, an initiative in interested in student views about education.

This fictional scene sums up the attitude and awareness of toward learning thought technology. This is also an indicator that the student these days are very well aware about the learning material available because of the knowledge explosion and supportive technology.

Usage of smart phone by student in urban cities is a common site .It is high time that we accept the fact that the teaching strategies of the past are obsolete. Today the learner has

to be told how to research fact using technology. By putting restriction on the use of smart phone and blogs, we are only restricting the learning potential of our student.

Meaning of Teaching with Technology

The widely accepted definition of teaching with technology is learning the content by using all electronic technology, which may include the internet, satellite broadcast, video conferencing, audio and video tape, video and audio conferencing, internet conferencing, chat rooms, e-bulletin boards, web casts, computer-based instruction, and CD-ROM.

This may also include associated requisites, such as online learning and web-based learning that takes into account learning by means of the internet, and computer-based learning that is limited to learning using computers and E-learning.

Why has it become Essential to use Technology in Teaching

According to UNESCO-integrating technology education can help to bring quality education to everyone, everywhere-a key goal Education for All initiative. The citizens of the future must be equipped with sufficient knowledge to keep up with technological advances and demand of the 21st, Century. UNESCO also believes that recognizing innovative ICT in education practice can encourage and enhance even more educational innovations. The techniques of teaching have changes drastically over the year. Having great amount of Knowledge does not make a teacher effective in ensuring good learning. Not so long ago, the effectiveness of a teacher with respect to learning by the students was measured in terms of the traits that the teacher possessed such as.

Passion: That comes with enthusiasm and interest

Creativity: Making learning of a subjecting by incorporating various teaching aids in learning and encouraging out of box thing.

Flexibility: Adopting flexible style of teaching learning.

Integrating: Balance teaching learning wit real life situations.

Bonding: Building a trust worthy and loving bond with the student.

These qualities are essential but with the charging times and wired techno based learning, it is necessary to sustain the interest of the student in learning. If we teach today the way we were taught yesterday, we are not preparing student for today or tomorrow as they have moved from "know what" learning to "know how" and "know where" learning. They have now become digital migrants. With the fast pace of learning and Availability of so many techno

based opportunities, it is almost impossible and frightening to imagine a life without being by technology.

Before the introduction of technology in education, teachers and to spend many nights developing lessons, trying their hand at drawing 3D visuals for students, repeating the concept delivered in the class. There was hardly any time left with the teacher to study or relearn. The use of technology in the classroom by the teacher not only reduces the 'generation-gap' between teacher and student that their teacher and student but also instills pride and confidence in the student that their teacher is moving with the times and is well equipped to prepare them for 21 st century skills.

If quality education and excellence in achievement are the watchword of the present generation learners, then teachers of the present day have no other option but to be techno savvy. They have to be trained and equipment with technology skills to be professionally competent to cater to the need of the new generation. The technology has facilitated learning of the learners by catering to the varied style that the learners possess. Some student learns by doing, some by observing. This kind of variation in learning capability creates a rather large hurdle for educators to overcome in their attempts to reach and engage all learners. Until the resent onslaught and availability of technology technology caters to the multiple intelligence of the students and has made the reach of the students and has made the reach not the teachers to the student easier. Through working with other classmate during teaching hours provide the best opportunity to learn but there are still a large no. of students who cannot think their best at that time. For this category of students, technology can provide the best opportunity of learning. Technology- based training can also increase the geographic reach of training and bring access to those with transportation barriers. The learner can fulfill their learning requirements at any time of day or night. This flexibility holds particular promise for those whose life schedules are not well-studied with the time of day a particular course is offered.

Barriers in using Technology in Teaching –Learning

Outreach should exceed our grasp, driven by our assessment of the needs of students in the twenty first century, and not by the existing institutional requirements that they must fit into.

According to a study conducted by K. Gulati, S.Dang(2011)on teacher s' perspective , their awareness level of specific technologies and the role of technology plays, it was found that many teachers lacked a functional computer lit racy foundation upon which to build new technology and skills. The study revealed that the teachers had low level of technologies Knowledge and computers and related technologies have been not a part of their own

education environment. Data suggests that teacher in India need to be increasingly encouraged to explore the emerging technologies for teaching.

The lecture method continues to be the most popular method of teaching since its introduction centuries ago, and many technology innovations suspends about in restricted used by teachers. Lack of imagination about the possibility of technology meeting the demand of the learner and the knowledge explosion has not been explored to its fullest.

"A troubling gap remains between the promise and the reality of technology related innovative instructional and learning practice in much of higher education. There is a vast gap between the two as the technological cart has been put before the academic horse and a strong flip to put this around is required. The academic have to understand the technology and its relevance in the classroom, to get technology in the class room".

The techno savvy generation of the students has arrived, and there increasing potential and aspiration for the techno best learning cannot be overlooked. We have to keep pace in this new generation learners. In the words of John Cotton Dana- "Who dare to teach must never cease to learn".

Different Types of Technology that can be used for Teaching

There is a vast range of different types of technology available to assist teaching learning. Some of these equipments are listed below

Webcam Wall: Very effective visual can be created with this to introduce concepts of climate, volume, etc

Podcast: Summaries of the class lecture can be delivered through an audio file distributed online.

Panorama view in the Teaching Geography :An all round view of the geography lesson can become an effective tool of teaching

Laptop: A ready to use portable PC that can be used to access mail and do all internets suffering for search information.

To be techno savvy has become essential as an integration of technology is the only means of satisfying the growing learning demands of the students.

Advantage of Using Different Types of Technologies

While sitting the suffering the internet itself can gradually improve the learning, taking help from colleagues, communication through e-mail, blogs can also arouse the interest and enhancer technological based learning.

Posting assignments on the web portal, incorporating digital projectors in the lessons, having a seeker approach may all help. The use of different types of technologies in the classroom has many advantages. Some of them are listed below:

* Access to great material is simplified.
* New approaches to learning g and offering a frame work for assessing student's progress and teacher effectiveness.
* Teaching can be more effective through the use of ICT tools and techniques.
* It can enhance and compliment traditional teaching styles
* Multiple methods of teaching can be used through ICT.
* Individualized support is available for the learner through individualized interactive material.
* Student's perspective and their reactions can be easily seen which helps the teachers to improve their teaching.
* Student can access the material and resources at their own convenience.
* Provide opportunities for the teachers to improve professionally.
* The Blog: Becomes a pool of knowledge for the learners.

Conclusion

Integrating technology into education and pedagogical techniques by no means dilutes the authority of the teacher or hampers the learning by the learner, it only ensure that the best and the latest knowledge available all around the world easily accessible to the teachers as well as taught. The latest information is disseminated to the learner and the teachers get into the constant learning mode by updating the knowledge.

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