

Advance Organizer for Group Presentation

Title: Transforming Education one Byte at a Time

Today, most learning is scaffolded by technology. This is especially true at the post-secondary level where support ranges from fully delivered on-line classes to computers used by instructors and staff for creating instructional aids.

Learning environments that employ technology are not replicas of traditional classrooms in a different setting. Technologically enhanced learning provides numerous creative opportunities for instructors, learners, administrators, and policymakers. The “classroom” is no longer required to exist in a brick-and-mortar structure. Students and teachers can be hundreds of miles apart. Asynchronous communication and assistive devices allow individuals to learn according to their own schedules and styles.

At the same time, technology creates obstacles for each of those stakeholder groups while often challenging institutional infrastructures. A diversity of ages and learning styles among students, instructors’ unfamiliarity with technology, replacement of “live” faculty with digital delivery, and volatile institutional budgets are among the top-ranked topics of concern in the industry’s literature, especially among post-secondary education providers.

In this presentation, we will consider the implications of technology on instructional pedagogies, efficiency and efficacy of students and instructors, and our understanding of teaching and learning.

Prior to viewing the presentation, please review the following articles:

Bowers, C. A. (1998, Spring). The paradox of technology: What’s gained and lost? *Thought and action: The NEA higher education journal*, pp. 49-57. Retrieved 22 March 2008, from www.nea.org/he/heta98/images/s98pg49.pdf

Van Dusen, G. C. (1998, Spring). Technology: Higher education’s magic bullet. *Thought and action: The NEA higher education journal*, pp. 59-67. Retrieved 22 March 2008, from www.nea.org/he/heta98/s98pg59.pdf

Learning Federation, The. (2002). Next generation learning systems and the role of teachers. In U. S. Departments of Commerce and Education, *Visions 2020: Transforming education and training through advanced technologies*. Washington, DC: Office of Technology Policy. Full report available on-line at www.technology.gov/reports/TechPolicy/2020Visions.pdf **[Important Note: This publication is oddly paginated. This is the 7th article, and it is on pages 46-51 of the PDF document.]** (This document is a 2.4MB download.)