Chapter 23 Designing a cMOOC for Lecturer Professional Development in the 21st Century

Thomas Cochrane Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

Vickel Narayan Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

Victorio Burcio-Martin Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

ABSTRACT

This chapter explores the design of a framework for up-scaling a lecturer professional development strategy based upon communities of practice from pockets of excellence to span across a university utilizing a cMOOC framework. The framework links global experts into an authentic professional development experience via the integration of a range of mobile social media learning technologies. The framework includes a series of triggering events designed to support the development of participants' personal eportfolios and pedagogical practice that can then be optionally validated by external CMALT accreditation. We believe the framework provides a transferable professional development model for other institutions to explore.

INTRODUCTION

The authors of this chapter have facilitated the development of lecturer communities of practice exploring new pedagogies in many different higher education contexts (Cochrane & Narayan, 2012; Cochrane, Narayan, & Oldfield, 2015). The results have been impressive with significant

DOI: 10.4018/978-1-4666-9624-2.ch023

transformation of pedagogical practice evidenced (Cochrane, Antonczak, & Guinibert, 2014). We have also been directly involved in the development of an institutional wide strategy for professional development (Cochrane, Black, Lee, Narayan, & Verswijvelen, 2012; Cochrane & Narayan, 2013). However our strategy revolves around mentoring and technology stewardship of small communities of practice and is a resource intense approach. Therefore, within the context of a new university we are exploring the potential to upscale our COP strategy, by leveraging the affordances of cMOOCs as a framework for supporting a wider number of concurrent COPs both institutionally, and potentially globally.

THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS

There are a number of theoretical foundations that inform the design of our mobile social media cMOOC framework, which we explore in the following sections, including:

- Social learning theories (Head & Dakers, 2005; Vygotsky, 1978).
- Communities of practice (Lave & Wenger, 1991; Wenger, 1998; Wenger, White, & Smith, 2009).
- New Pedagogies: heutagogy (Blaschke, 2012; Hase & Kenyon, 2001, 2007), connectivism (Siemens, 2005), and rhizomatic learning (Cormier, 2008b).
- Technology as a catalyst: SAMR (Hockly, 2012; Puentedura, 2006).
- cMOOCs (McAuley, Stewart, Siemens, & Cormier, 2010; Waard, 2012)
- The Scholarship Of Teaching and Learning, SOTL (Boyer, 1990; Danvers, 2003; Haigh, 2010; Weaver, Robbie, Kokonis, & Miceli, 2012).
- Accreditation of professional development (CMALT).

Social Learning Theories

Social learning theories emphasize the collaborative and relational aspects of how we learn. Vygotsky (1978) highlights the social nature of how we construct knowledge (social constructivism), and how we learn via extending the limits of our knowledge through interaction with more experienced peers. Vygotsky's ideas have laid the foundation of many modern pedagogical frameworks (Brown, Metz, & Campione, 1996). Laurillard (2001) builds upon the foundation of social constructivism within her conversational framework, and extends this into a model for collaborative curriculum development (Laurillard, 2012). Head and Dakers apply social constructivism and collaborative learning within the context of learning in technology education:

In this model, the teacher and pupils agree the areas and themes for research within an overall context. Students act as researchers on one of these themes or sub-themes and in so doing become the community experts on that theme. They are then in a position to teach the others in the classroom and thus contribute to the creation of common knowledge and understanding. In order to carry out these tasks, the learners develop a language that becomes increasingly subject specific and academic as they learn and disseminate. (Head & Dakers, 2005, p. 43)

The development of social media and social networking has provided rich tools to support social constructivist pedagogy and led to the coining of terms such as pedagogy 2.0 (McLoughlin & Lee, 2007, 2010), produser (Bruns, 2008), and learner-generated contexts (Cook, 2007).

Communities of Practice

Lave and Wenger (1991) explored the apprenticeship model of learning, and Wenger (1998) has further developed the concept of communities of practice (COP) to describe a model for supporting and nurturing learning in groups of learners interested in a common domain of inquiry. In particular Wenger et al., (Wenger, McDermott, & Snyder, 2002; Wenger, White, Smith, & Rowe, 2005) highlight the importance of nurturing and supporting the practice and activity of COPs via the use of social technologies and the mediating 17 more pages are available in the full version of this document, which may be purchased using the "Add to Cart" button on the publisher's webpage: www.igi-global.com/chapter/designing-a-cmooc-for-lecturer-professionaldevelopment-in-the-21st-century/146405

Related Content

Characteristics of a Teacherpreneur

(2020). Enhancing Teaching and Leadership Initiatives With Teacherpreneurs: Emerging Research and Opportunities (pp. 24-41). www.irma-international.org/chapter/characteristics-of-a-teacherpreneur/250156

An E-Portfolio System for Cultivating in Students the Ability to Perform Educational Technology Research: For Quality Assurance of Master's Course Students' Problem-Solving Abilities

Toshiki Matsuda (2017). Handbook of Research on Technology-Centric Strategies for Higher Education Administration (pp. 318-338).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/an-e-portfolio-system-for-cultivating-in-students-the-ability-to-perform-educationaltechnology-research/182635

Emotional Intelligence and Political Skill Really Matter in Educational Leadership

Nikoletta Taliadorouand Petros Pashiardis (2015). *Multidimensional Perspectives on Principal Leadership Effectiveness (pp. 228-256).*

www.irma-international.org/chapter/emotional-intelligence-and-political-skill-really-matter-in-educationalleadership/121142

Engineering Students' Communication Apprehension and Competence in Technical Oral Presentations

Noor Raha Mohd Radzuanand Sarjit Kaur (2016). *Handbook of Research on Effective Communication, Leadership, and Conflict Resolution (pp. 371-383).*

www.irma-international.org/chapter/engineering-students-communication-apprehension-and-competence-in-technicaloral-presentations/146664

Auditor Evaluation and Reporting on Cybersecurity Risks

Jeffrey S. Zanzigand Guillermo A. Francia III (2021). Encyclopedia of Organizational Knowledge, Administration, and Technology (pp. 1194-1211).

www.irma-international.org/chapter/auditor-evaluation-and-reporting-on-cybersecurity-risks/263609