E-Learning Trends and Developments: Ten World of Learning Flatteners and Beyond

Curtis J. Bonk, Professor, Indiana University
President, SurveyShare
cjbonk@indiana.edu
http://php.indiana.edu/~cjbonk

The Ten Forces that Flattened the World

1. 11/9/89: Berlin Wall came down
2. 8/9/95: Netscape went public
3. Work Flow Software (e.g., PayPal and eBay)
4. Open-Sourcing (Self organizing collaborative communities; Mozilla, Apache, Wikipedia, Linux, Firefox,)
5. Outsourcing (Y2K)
6. Offshoring (e.g., China, Mexico, Thailand)
7. Supply-Chaining (e.g., Walmart)
8. Insourcing (UPS fixing Toshiba laptops)
9. In-forming (e.g., Google, Yahoo!, MSN Web Search)
10. The Steroids: Digital, Mobile, Personal, and Virtual (e.g., wireless, file sharing, VoIP, video camera in phone)

The Learning World has become Flat!

The Ten Forces that Flattened the Learning World

1. Tools for Searching/Finding Media and Information Resources
2. Availability of Quality Online and Blended Learning Environments
3. Free and Open Source Software for Learning
4. Open CourseWare
5. Online Learning Object Repositories and Portals
6. Virtual Collaboration Software
7. Online Massive Gaming, Simulations, and Virtual Worlds
8. Learning Mobility and Portability
9. Personalized Learning Tools
10. Open Information Communities

http://ella.slis.indiana.edu/~a enkim/iconping.html
The Ten Forces that Flattened the World

1. Tools for Searching/Finding Media and Information Resources: (e.g., Google, Yahoo!)

Singapore and Taipei (Intel Press Release, 2006)

- Singapore, the island city-state in Southeast Asia, is about to complete a major new public/private project that will see large chunks of the 270 square mile city provided with Wi-Fi access by the end of 2006. The entire city, indoors and out, is due to be covered by 2015.
- In the coldest capital in Canada, the city residents of Iqaluit (pop. 6,000) enjoy free wireless from one free hotspot (with two more due soon to cover the suburbs), while Taipei, Taiwan (pop. 2.6 million) has a few more—over 4,000 hotspots that provide coverage for 90 percent of the city.

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2. The Availability of Quality Online and Blended Learning Environments
More than 70 Million Adults Want to Head Back to School
August 22, 2006, Yahoo News
Report: "Degrees of Opportunity" from Capella University

- Degrees of Opportunity, a new national study of the attitudes of adult Americans toward continuing their education, indicates that more than half of American adults age 25 to 60 would like to pursue additional education -- the equivalent of more than 70 million adult Americans.

China has seen a huge rise in internet users
BBC, January 24, 2007

- China had 137m internet users by the end of 2006, an increase of 23% from the year before, the centre reported.
- This figure means that more than 10% of the population is now online.
- About 210 million of America's 300 million people now use the internet, according to US government figures.
- China will only surpass this number if it keeps up a 24% annual growth rate in the next two years.

Growth in Student Enrollments

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<td>Cert</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>120</td>
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<td>MS</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public MBA</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporate MBA</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>300</td>
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Defense Acquisition University
Shaping a Culture of Career-Long Learning

<table>
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<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cost per student</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>7000</td>
</tr>
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</table>

54% of participants in Taiwan regarded BL is important or very important. This is lower than China (65%), the US (68%), Korea (68%), and the UK (75%).

3. Free and Open Source Software for Learning

The Ten Forces that flattened the World

27. How important is blended learning for the strategic planning for training and development in your organization for the next few years?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Very Important</th>
<th>Important</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Not Important</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Function</td>
<td>36.24</td>
<td>42.37</td>
<td>23.32</td>
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<tr>
<td>User</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>6.97</td>
<td>1.92</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Platform</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>40.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3
The Success of Open Source: A Subject for UC Berkeley Researcher
By Paula Murphy, TITC Assoc. Director, Dec 2004

"If you are going to try to scale production systems to non-friend, non-kinship groups, you have to have some sort of governance," explains Weber. "For example, I would not put my lecture notes on the web because I feel strangely about people I don't know benefiting from my work without them giving anything in return.

Free and Open Source Software

OpenSource Courseware
Moodle and Sakai Project

Open Source Tools

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4. Open CourseWare (MIT OCW, Utah State, Japan, CORE, OOPS)

Open CourseWare Tufts OpenCourseWare Project
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5. Online Learning Object Repositories and Portals (shared content)

Learning Object Repositories

Welcome to JISC Collections

JBC Collecion - Portfolio of Online Resources

- Arts & Humanities
- Health & Life Sciences
- Science, Engineering & Technology
- Social Sciences

Multidisciplinary Resources (including Environments and Reference Titles)

Community of Learners: Medical and Business Cases Online (cases community)

Free Portals on Oil and Gas Industry

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6. Virtual Collaboration Software (async and sync)
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7. Online Massive Gaming, Simulations, and Virtual Worlds

The king of alter egos is surprisingly humble guy, 2/4/2007, Kevin Maney, USA TODAY

Charles & Rebecca Nesson, Harvard Law School

- Businesses started experimenting. Sun has been holding press conferences in Second Life. Starwood Hotels set up a virtual version of a concept hotel called Aloft, asking Second Life residents to tour the hotel and give feedback. Harvard’s law school built a virtual campus.
- IBM is using Second Life as a way to hold meetings — avatars around a conference table — with people in different parts of the world.
Newsmaker: IBM's virtual pioneer

Second Life is much more than a chat room—it "changes everything," says IBM's Irving Wladawsky-Berg. By Stephen Shankland, CNET News.com, December 18, 2006

- A view of IBM’s theater in Second Life. The virtual structure can hold up to 200 people for company meetings, or client gatherings.

The Second Life avatar of IBM's chief executive and chairman, Sam Palmisano, standing outside the Forbidden City, a space in the virtual world created by IBM with the Chinese government...announcing $100 million in investment in two years to IBM employees in Beijing and Second Life; Nov 13, 2006

- IBM's chief steps into "Second Life" for incubator launch

Reporters and well-wishers gather inside Second Life on Dell Island just prior to the start of the company's press conferences announcing its entry into the virtual world, CNET, News.com, Nov. 14, 2006

- Visitors to Dell Island can sit down at one of several drafting tables to configure their XPS 1710 notebooks. The notebooks can be purchased for use within an avatar’s second life; Dell eventually wants to let residents purchase real PCs for their first lives.

Massive Multiplayer Online Gaming (MMOG)

Serious Games?

Serious Gaming: The Trainer's New Best Friend

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8. Learning Mobility and Portability (low cost wireless devices, podcasts)
Students at the Mennonite Centre for Newcomers are testing mobile learning - downloading an English grammar lesson, then answering a series of multiple choice, or true or false questions.

Friday, February 9, 2007, CBC News

Text-message course helping newcomers learn English

Jan 26, 2007,
The Skype roadmap: Trial and error By Tim Weber
Business editor, BBC News website, Davos

• More than 171m users have registered with Skype so far, and 200,000 new users are signing up every day - although he refuses to be drawn on the number of active users.
• Still, at any given time more than 8 million people are "online" and using Skype

February 13, 2007, USA Today

Electronic Books (e.g., The Sony Reader)

Skype: Online Phone Calls

The iPhone unveiled - a voip phone from Linksys
Brandon Hall, Chief Learning Officer Magazine, July 2006

"Podcasts provide a way to distribute an audio or video episode via the Internet for playback at any time on any MP3 device or PC. Podcasts allow training in the form of event capture, new product information, sales tips, orientation, etc. to be delivered on a just-in-time, just-enough basis to anyone anywhere."

Podcasts in Business
(Combined video, audio, text files)
Learning TRENDS by Elliott Masie - September 18,

Podcast Questions
1. Who has listened to a podcast?
2. Who listens to a certain podcast on a regular basis?
3. Who has created a podcast?
4. Who has created a vodcast?
5. Who thinks podcasting is simply more talking heads?
Webcasts: WorldBridges Goals

What is WorldBridges?
- WorldBridges is a network of individuals and organizations that use live, interactive webcasting and other new media technologies to help people connect, learn, and collaborate. (Webheads, Koreabridge, Worldbridges Tibet, EdTechTalk, etc.)

Goals & Values
- Our primary goal is to foster understanding and cooperation amongst the citizens of the world. We value civility and respect, open source collaboration, fair distribution of income, and a sense of world identity.

Educational Applications
1. Recordings of lectures (Coursecasing)
2. Supplemental textbook or entire textbook
3. Student projects
4. Interviews
5. Language lessons
6. Oral reports
7. K-12 classroom interactions
8. downloadable library of resources
9. Recordings of performances

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9. Personalized Learning Tools (Blogs, MySpace, Flickr, RSS, etc.)

Language Learning (ChinesePod—learn Mandarin)
Blogging (75,000 new blogs each day, USA Today, March 27, 2006)

Brandon Hall, Chief Learning Officer Magazine, July 2006

"A blog is a Web journal containing dated entries on a given topic or scheme. They can include search, feedback from readers and links to other sites. They can be written by one person or a group. Blogs can be used to share a viewpoint, enable collaborative discussion, present new product ideas, or explain ongoing news or changes."


Not Just an American Phenomenon

China says number of blogs tops 34 million with 55 million regular readers

Canadian Press

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

SEOUL (AP) — The number of blogs in China has topped 34 million, more than 25 times as many as the country had four years ago, news reports said Tuesday.

China's 17.1 million people in China consider themselves Web bloggers, while 51 million regularly read them, newspapers and the Xinhua news agency said, citing a report by the government's China Internet Network Information Center.

With blogs and blogs much closer in China, the government controls all media, and the Internet offers opportunities for spreading opinions. Blogs help spread information that might have potential political impact.

Yahoo News

Love me, love my blog,” as Netorati couple-surf

BY SARA LEDWITH Thu Aug 3, 8:30 AM ET

• Nick Currie and his girlfriend Shizu Yuasa (R) surf the internet over breakfast in Tokyo in this handout photo. As the Internet evolves -- with its webcams, iPods, Instant Messaging, broadband, wi-fi and weblogs -- its image as a relationship-wrecker is changing. Now a sociable habit is emerging among the Netorati couple-surfing. (Nick Currie/Handout/Reuters)

• "For my birthday, he upgraded my RAM and I thought it was incredibly romantic," writes Jess.

Blogs at Work

Employers catch on to workers' Web blogs, and a 57% majority said they're social networking, according to a recent survey by the Ponemon Institute. A 48% majority said they use blogs at work to express themselves. A 40% majority said they post blogs at work, according to a recent survey by the Ponemon Institute. A 39% majority said they use blogs at work to express themselves.
Blogging Questions
1. Who has a blog? Any for a specific class?
2. Who regularly reads other people's blogs?
3. Who assigns blogging tasks?
4. Who has created a video blog?
5. Who thinks it is an utter waste of time to blog?

Adventure Blogging
(Ben Saunders, Mark Fennell)

Business Blogs

Social Networking Software
(Web 2.0)

Corporate Social Networking

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10. Open Information Communities (e.g., Wikipedia, YouTube)
Six ed-tech trends to watch in 2007
Gregg W. Downey, Editor,
eSchool News, December 22, 2006

Trend No. 1: The leveling power of the World Wide Web
• No longer need you be a major motion picture studio to create a box-office smash. You don’t need a radio station to be a popular disc jockey. You don’t need a television network to create a video that can be seen literally by millions.

The Me Channel
A personal-video broadcasting system from SplashCast brings new meaning to the term “reality TV,” Wade Roush, Feb 9, 2007
• Using SplashCast, individuals, video channels and film music, or photos or video clips elsewhere on the Web, can create their own shows. Opera producer Ken Beare, even wrote operas such as Monte Carlo and wanted to be on TV... now he may have what you need: shows and broadcast on the Web. (On demand)

Folksonomy
(Bruns & Humphreys, 2005; Wikipedia, 2007)
• “Folksonomy” is an internet-based collaborative environment and information retrieval methodology created from within the user community. It consists of open-ended labels that categorize content such as Web pages, online photographs, and Web links. A folksonomy is most notably contrasted from a taxonomy in that the authors of the labeling system are often the main users (and sometimes originators) of the content to which the labels are applied.

Mass collaboration could change the way companies operate, USA Today
Kevin Maney, Dec 27, 2006
• Desperate for ways to find new places to drill, Goldcorp (a Canadian gold-mining company) did the unthinkable for a mining company: It posted all its proprietary data on the Internet and let anyone interpret it for possible drilling targets. Prize money was promised.
• Within weeks, submissions poured in. People around the world found drilling targets Goldcorp never thought of. The process shaved years off exploration and shot Goldcorp from $100 million in revenue to $3 billion.
A Million Penguins

- Back in November, Meredith wrote a post on *We Are Smarter Than Me*, an anticipated Pearson publication that is a collaborative effort of thousands of authors registered on WeAreSmarter.org. Today, Penguin UK launched a similar effort - its first wiki novel *A Million Penguins*.
- Using MediaWiki technology, anyone who registers on www.amillionpenguins.com is able to edit and/or add onto this web-based tale for the next 5 weeks. Already, there are 500 posts (some by return users), four chapters, and an interlude.

Wiki Questions

1. Who regularly reads Wikipedia articles just for fun?
2. Who regularly reads Wikibooks?
3. Who seeks Wikipedia for content?
4. Who has edited or written new articles on Wikipedia or Wikibooks?
5. Who thinks it is ok for college students to cite from Wikipedia?

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Other Open Educational Resource Issues:
Copyright, Consortia, Knowledge Brokers, Conferences, Journals.

Open Source and Open Educational Resources Conferences

The Learning World is really flat!