



Technology Enhanced Learning Didactic Activities and Support @ VUT

Gottfried S. Csanyi

E-Learning Centre, Vienna University of Technology





There is a need for new curriculum

Traditionally the curriculum consisted of three elements: knowledge, skills, attitudes, which tends to value knowledge above skills, and skills above attitudes.

Experience of life suggests different priorities: positive attitudes are key to a rewarding life and job, skills are also more important than knowledge.

These priorities should be asserted in the development of new curriculum, which would raise the value of social capital, civil society and the role of non-formal learning."

< http://www.eaea.org/index.php?k=4768&aid=4768 >





Topics of this Presentation

- 1. Technology enhanced teaching @ VUT
- 2. Didactic support of the ELC
- 3. Analysis of activities and needs
- 4. Information and mobilization





Topic 1

Technology Enhanced Teaching @ VUT



About 170 courses in TUWEL/Moodle – the central supported LMS

Unknown number of courses using

- Weblogs
- Wikis
- Homepages
- TUWIS++



E-Learning – what for?



Organisation of courses and learners

- Presentation of **content** / learning materials
- Stimulation of learner's activities
- Facilitation of learner's collaboration
- **Communication** between teachers and learners / learners and learners
- Feedback and answers to learners
- **Assessment** of learner's achievements

Moodle based courses



Many supplements of traditional courses: "PDF-repositories"





Moodle based courses



Some blended learning courses: f2f meetings and self-directed learning





Moodle based courses



None (as far as we know):

E-Learning in pure form





Topic 2

Didactic Support





Basic questions

- What are the best methods to design a TEL course – according to my learning objectives?
- Which technology tools are available to realize my didactical ideas?
- How to create high quality content for TEL?
- How can I apply the chosen tools in an effective and efficient way?





Our Policy

- Support whatever is possible
- But: Concentrate on efficient solutions
- Main teaching strategy: Blended Learning
- Main goals: fostering
 - active learning
 - selfdirected learning
 - development of competencies

Support questions and corresponding offers



Question: What are the best methods to design a TEL course according to my learning objectives?

Support offers – DIDACTICS:

- Workshops
- Personal consultation
- E-Learning Impulse / Day
- Website / TUWEL courses

Support questions and corresponding offers



Question: How to create high quality content for TEL?

Support offers CONTENT CREATION:

- Workshops
- Personal consultation
- TUWEL course

Support questions and corresponding offers



Question: Which technological tools are available to realize my didactical ideas?

Support offers – TECHNICS:

- Workshops
- E-Learning Impulse / Days
- Helpdesk
- Personal consultation
- TUWEL features course





Question: How can I apply the chosen tools in an effective and efficient way?

Support offers – TECHNICS:

- Helpdesk
- personal consultation
- Workshops





Experiences & Hypotheses

- Helpdesk and personal consultation are more frequented over the time
- Workshops and information events (E-Learning Impulses / Days) are less frequented now than two years ago
- Teachers (= customers) do want answers and solutions HERE & NOW
- Teaching is private sphere





Conclusions

- Our formal support offers (information events, workshops) do not exactly meet the real needs.
- We will have to analyze the
 - really existing teaching activities (beyond using TUWEL)
 - and individual needs and interests
- We will have to intesify communication with teachers, students, and managers on more informal level





Topic 3

Analysis of Activitiesand Needs





Research Questions (I)

- Who practices technology enhanced teaching (TET)
 - (how many teachers,
 - at which faculties and institutes,
 - on which hierarchical level)?
- Who would like to practices TET but feels or is handycapped (by what)?
- What are teachers actually doing when technology enhanced teaching?





Research Questions (II)

- Where are teachers satisfied with their results what would they want to improve?
- Where are students satisfied with courses what would they want to be improved?
- Which kind of support do teachers and students factually expect from the ELC





Methods

- Informal talks with teachers and students
- Formal interviews (semistructured) with teachers and students
- E-mail survey (open questions)

Planning for the future (optional)

Online survey (representative)





First Results

(Produced by an e-mail survey among appr. 1000 students with open questions)

- Some teachers have good TEL-concepts, but lack technical knowledge and skills to realize them effectively.
- Many of them learn how to teach only by trial and error – they do not ask for support.

Open questions

- Why?
- How could this be changed?





Topic 4

Information and Mobilization





Information events

- E-Learning Impulse (every two months)
- E-Learning Day (once a year)

Talks on informal individual level

Communication on formal level

- Individual (see research activities)
- Institutional: university management individual faculties





Thank you for your attention – and questions