Title of Session: Faculty Resistance to Online Learning

Moderator: Roger Goodson **Title of File:** 20070628frol

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Room: Faculty Resistance to Online Learning Group

BJB2: wow, what a crowd! [Ed. Note: This discussion immediately followed the OTL discussion which Roger also led. BJB]

OscarM joined the room.

RogerMG: I agree, and it was fun.

BJB2 smiles. Yes!

BJB2: learning a lot, Oscar?

OscarM: yeah actually, there's a LOT more online stuff than I thought it was

BJB2 nods

OscarM: I thought WebCT was the only way of doing stuff online

BJB2: yikes!

OscarM: haha yup

GeorgeK joined the room.

BJB2: one major difference between webCT or any courseware like that and Tapped In is that in the courseware, when the course is over, so are your online contacts and resources....

CarlaAG joined the room.

BJB2: which is not the case for Tapped In.

BJB2: welcome, Carla

CarlaAG: Hi!

OscarM: good point

BJB2: especially for teachers, Oscar, it's important to be able to have that continuing dialogue with your colleagues

OscarM: agreed!

RogerMG: Carla and Oscar, we always get a good turnout from Texas here.

DavidWe joined the room.

DavidWe waves from Atlanta, Georgia

DavidWe: Hi, Roger

RogerMG: OK . . . we'll give it another couple of minutes for late arrivals, but in the meantime, I have a question: 'Why should we try to get others into online/E-learning?'

RogerMG: Hi David.

GeorgeK: It would be a shame not to use the excellent resource

OscarM: well, because we have the technology to do so

BJB2: so, why DO we want to get others to use online/Elearning?

RogerMG: Yes . . . why bother . . .

RogerMG: The (the resisters) clearly don't want to do it.

RogerMG: . . . and it really can be stress producing for those of us that are trying to encourage its use . . .can't it?

GeorgeK: Let me show my age and my generation's obsession with TV. Do we want our students to learn to live in a Wagon-Train kind of world, or a Star-Trek kind of world? If the latter, they need lots of practice with the took.

BJB2: maybe we should define which resisters...university professors? K-12 teachers?

DavidWe . o O (K-12 administrators?)

BJB2 smiles...good one, David

RogerMG: Could be all of the above.

RogerMG: I mean, why not just 'give up' on them?

BJB2: kids don't seem to need the convincing

DavidWe: nope - the kids WANT to use the technology - tools they feel comfortable with

CarlaAG: What's wrong with them using technology?

RogerMG: Well, I've got plenty to do without the added stress (and time-consumed) by trying to convince others to get online.

GeorgeK: My business colleagues always tell me that, if I am not graduating students who are capable of living on a Blackberry, I am wasting everyone's time.

DavidWe: ??

DavidWe . o O (they should LIVE on a blackberry - that's a goal?)

BJB2: problem is, does industry hire the professors?

GeorgeK: Be capable of conducting all manner of business on one.

BJB2: does industry drive the course curriculum? should it?

DavidWe: but the blackberry will be replaced by some other cool tool/toy in 5 years

GeorgeK: Industry does hire business and science professors by the drove.

DavidWe: IMHO, it's NOT ABOUT THE TECHNOLOGY

DavidWe . o O (critical thinking, skills, etc.)

BJB2 . o O (David is sooooo subtle)

CarlaAG: yeah I think it would be replaced... maybe by the new i phone..

RogerMG: Maybe, just maybe, I should just work with the 'converted', and leave the others (students and faculty) alone. What do you think?

DavidWe: Precisely!

DavidWe agrees with Carla

CarlaAG: the i phone has like everything

DavidWe . o O (no printer)

OscarM: lol

DavidWe . o O (no chocolate dispenser)

DavidWe: It's really missing some important things for me

CarlaAG: like what?

DavidWe is kidding, actually

DavidWe: I rarely use my cell phone, actually

DavidWe: I prefer my laptop and email to voicemail

BJB2: David, critical thinking has been taught for many years without technology...

DavidWe agrees with BJ

CarlaAG: oh well I pretty much use my phone almost for everything

BJB2 . o O (isn't that the purpose of a college education?)

RogerMG: <---- becoming cell phone addicted

DavidWe smiles

BJB2 . o O (or any education)

DavidWe: I would say a bit about this retiring school principal, Dr. Tim Tyson, Roger, if you like

RogerMG: OK

DavidWe: He gave the closing keynote at the NECC Conference (concluded yesterday

afternoon)

DavidWe: Superb presentation

DavidWe: Middle school principal in suburban Atlanta

DavidWe: http://www.drtimtyson.com/

DavidWe: He's leaving his school to become a speaker/consultant, etc.

RogerMG: Give us a quick and dirty synopsis . .

DavidWe: The school, which has been encouraging students to build short movies on VERY serious topics, has been doing some cool stuff - distributed worldwide through the school web site AND iTunes

DavidWe: http://mabryonline.org/

RogerMG: Interesting.

DavidWe: Real project-based learning by 6th and 7th graders - stem-cell research, organ donation, child slavery (in the production of cocoa in Ivory Coast) in Africa...

DavidWe: two of the kids were briefly on the stage with him in front of 5,000 NECC attendees

DavidWe: he was worried that the topics might cost him his job, but they were so compelling (and he learned about genetically-modified crops from his kids) that he couldn't say no

RogerMG: I always like seeing students at conferences to back up the speakers . . .gives it more credibility.

DavidWe: I wish you all could have seen the short films by the students

DavidWe: It's FANTASTIC to have student work exhibited

RogerMG: I agree.

DavidWe sits on his hands for a few minutes

RogerMG: Maybe I should try something like that to reduce my stress level of trying to convince others to get with it with tech.

RogerMG: I keep wondering how we could use TI more as a educative tool for faculty . . .we've tried to involve more faculty here, but they show up a couple of times and then disappear.

David We . o O (sustained online professional development)

DavidWe: Someone has to push the agenda, locally (someone at the school - an administrator or lead teacher)

GeorgeK: Maybe you should pretend they are getting CPE units or something?

BJB2: and the agenda has to be authentic learning for a reason...just as George suggested

DavidWe: That would be wonderful if we could manage to actually make participation in TI valued in that way, George

DavidWe agrees with Bj

GeorgeK: I come back because I learn something each time I participate.

RogerMG: Actually, in a university venue, we could push for recognition of involvement in TI as not only 'professional dev.', but as 'publication.' Tenure issues you know.

BJB2: Carla and Oscar are here because their instructor requires them to participate in a few Tapped In discussions

DavidWe: Teachers have to realize that not only is it expected of them to continue their own professional development - they need to be encouraged to see themselves as contributors to a "community of practice"

RogerMG: IC

DavidWe likes Roger's idea very much

OscarM: yeah it's a great idea

BJB2: Carla and Oscar, do you have to submit transcripts?

CarlaAG: Yeah

RogerMG: Are Carla and Oscar UGs or Grads

OscarM: yup

CarlaAG: yah

OscarM: undergrad

CarlaAG: I'm a UG

DavidWe: Do you, Carla, Oscar, see yourselves logging in to Tapped In when you are in

the classroom?

RogerMG: ic . . . and both from Texas . . . are you both in the same U?

CarlaAG: I think I would

CarlaAG: Yeah

OscarM: yup

OscarM: well I don't know about me

DavidWe reminds folks that his feelings won't be hurt with a negative answer

DavidWe nods to Oscar

OscarM: well it's because I'm going into music ed

DavidWe: I appreciate the honesty

DavidWe: What would make it compelling enough for you TO login, Oscar?

DavidWe . o O (sound?)

DavidWe smiles

OscarM: some more music issues

CarlaAG: I think I would log on sometimes to get some more info on different things

DavidWe: You know we have two discussions about music in the curriculum (actually one more focused on lyrics, actually)

RogerMG: Aren't there some music areas in TI?

DavidWe: yes, Roger

OscarM: yeah there are

DavidWe: Do you know about those discussions, Oscar?

BJB2 nods to Roger. There was a series of Music Across the Curriculum events...

BJB2: and Learning From Lyrics

RogerMG: IC Wow.

OscarM: yeah actually, my professor discussed those the "Learning From Lyrics"

OscarM: but I was unable to make it that day

DavidWe: right, timing may not always work out, but...

DavidWe . o O (hopefully, another time)

OscarM: I hope so!

RogerMG: How about the transcript Oscar?

OscarM: ..what about it?

RogerMG: Were you able to access that?

DavidWe: Do you know we keep the transcripts of all public discussions available for download?

download.

BJB2: transcripts are archived at www.tappedin.org/transcripts

DavidWe notes it can be a bit boring to go through the transcript, sometimes, but, still...there may be something valuable that one finds

OscarM: oh well I didn't know they were available for download, I understood that only the discussion we entered were available for download...

RogerMG: Oscar, so you could hit the transcript and let the prof. know you saw it.

DavidWe: we've got years' worth of transcripts

RogerMG: Impress the hell out of him/her.

OscarM: haha cool

BJB2: most calendar event transcripts are archived a few days after the events

DavidWe wonders if people could act out the transcript with classmates

OscarM: yeah sorry about that!

DavidWe thinks Paul Newman would want to play Roger in the film version of this discussion

DavidWe smiles

RogerMG: I was thinking more of Redford.

DavidWe: well, also good

GeorgeK: I'd need Elmer Fudd to play me

DavidWe laughs

RogerMG: Good one

DavidWe: That's the CARTOON version, George...

DavidWe . o O (another subsidiary market for the transcript)

DavidWe: I'll have my agent call your agent

GeorgeK: No, not for me, heeeheeeheee

DavidWe laughs

RogerMG: We just had some UG relatives visiting us . . .they are totally into tech. Borrowed one of my computers, txting everywhere, music vids. the works.

DavidWe isn't surprised

OscarM: lol wow

RogerMG: I wish I could use my thumbs on a cell phone that rapidly.

DavidWe . o O (practice!)

RogerMG: Carla . . .how are you doing?

CarlaAG: Good...

RogerMG: Do you txt. message and all that?

DavidWe hands out some of his sister's home-baked chocolate chip cookies as treats

CarlaAG: oh yeah!... ha!

DavidWe: How many chat windows can you handle at the same time, Carla?

CarlaAG: I think everyone text messages now

RogerMG: So, how much time out of an average day are you txting Carla?

DavidWe agrees although it may be everyone under a certain age

CarlaAG: at least 2 or 3

DavidWe nods

CarlaAG: a lot...

CarlaAG: I'd rather text than talk on the phone

DavidWe agrees with Carla

OscarM: isn't that kinda weird? a lot of people do that...

RogerMG: So, when you are doing other things (eating, drinking, hanging out) you're txting too.

CarlaAG: oh yeah...

DavidWe: There are times when I do want to speak on the phone (and when I really like speaking to someone in person)...

CarlaAG: I freak out with myself... because I do it so much

DavidWe smiles

CarlaAG: I try not to text for one day and I cant..

RogerMG: How about you Oscar?

DavidWe: do you feel you are addicted, Carla?

DavidWe wonders

CarlaAG: yeah... a little lol

DavidWe smiles

OscarM: I txt message once in a while about a rehearsal that I might forget about, but that's about it really...

RogerMG: There are much worse addictions Carla.

CarlaAG: oh yeah

DavidWe: Right now I just opened up iChat (AIM) and Yahoo Messenger...but I'm not chatting with anyone - just available

CarlaAG: I'm trying to work on it though,

RogerMG: So, what do you think about the new Iphone?

CarlaAG: I like it, but it's way to much

CarlaAG: \$600...

CarlaAG: wow

OscarM: pssshhh

CarlaAG: I would never pay that much for a phone

DavidWe won't be running out to get one, even if it comes from Apple

RogerMG: Yeah . . . they also want \$60 a month for service.

DavidWe: Do you have an iPod, you guys?

CarlaAG: I do

DavidWe thinks the iPhone will combine phone and iPod and other stuff

OscarM: yup (music majors book)

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: Sorry, Oscar, should have known the answer to that one

RogerMG: Carla is totally 'electronisized.' :-)

CarlaAG: ha...

OscarM: haha

DavidWe: I don't have an iPod...not sure why it doesn't appeal to me more - I guess I can play music on my laptop, so...

DavidWe doesn't like wires sticking in his ears

CarlaAG: oh haha

RogerMG: I have one, and it's great on long, really long airline flights.

DavidWe understands that

CarlaAG: yeah I love my ipod when I go running or just walking to class...

DavidWe: it's certainly part of the businesswoman/man's gear in NYC - nicely dressed people with shoulder bags with white wires hanging down

CarlaAG: yeah..

DavidWe: I really think it is almost fashion, in a way

OscarM: yeah I agree

DavidWe smiles

CarlaAG: oh yeah...because of all the different colors..

DavidWe: absolutely

CarlaAG: and the different sizes

DavidWe: The accessories make Apple a fortune, I would guess

CarlaAG: yeah

DavidWe: but cool is something that is very hard to design from the start...helps to be

lucky

DavidWe: and Apple spends a lot of money on "cool"

CarlaAG: I love how the new phones have mps players in them

DavidWe: yes, I think the goal is to have the digital "swiss army knife"

DavidWe . o O (well...)

David We smiles

BJB2: did your question get answered, Roger?

RogerMG: OK . . . running out of time. This has been fun.

BJB2 thinks we should ignore the resisters and focus on those that want to learn in new ways

RogerMG: Of course, I tried (miserably) to play Devils Advocate . . .which I am not too great at.

RogerMG: I agree with BJ.

GeorgeK: Thanks everyone.

RogerMG: Oscar, Carla . . . Later.

BJB2: Thanks, Roger and George

OscarM: later! Good bye!

DavidWe: Thanks, Roger. Thanks, George

BJB2 waves goodnight

DavidWe: Thanks for being here, Oscar, Carla