

Title of Session: Blogstreams Salon
Moderator: Bee Dieu and Aaron Campbell
Guest Speaker: David Warlick
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Room: Blogstreams Salon Group Room

BeeD: Welcome to the Blogstreams

BeeD: Salon Group Dave

AaronPC joined the room.

BeeD: Good morning Aaron

BeeD: BJ has told me Dave has been using blogs

AaronPC: Are you using blogs with students Dave?

AaronPC: hi Michael.

BJB2: Dave is the person who has created the landmark-project.com webpages.

EmilyW: I looked at that website a few months ago

Maggi: Hi Aaron

DavidW: I blog about education.

BeeD: David Warlick

DavidW: Yes?

BeeD: I have just checked the info about you

Maggi bows in awe

DavidW: Stumbles backward.

BeeD: this is why I am so smart

Maggi: he does podcasting and video

BeeD: oh...so lots to share with us

AaronPC: Wow

DavidW: Nope, just podcasting.

DavidW: I'm here to learn.

RobertWB: and now that I know who he is, my entire perspective of him has changed....

Maggi: I loved your film from India

BeeD: What is the landmark project Dave?

DavidW: No, don't let that happen.

RobertWB: I promise to be more....uh....friendly.

DavidW: I'm a consultant -- means I'm trying to make a living without a job. The Landmark Project is the name of my company.

BeeD: right

EmilyW: what do you do as a consultant?

BJB2: I've asked Dave to do a Festival session and to think about being a regular presenter in Tapped In

DavidW: I write, do staff development, program, and speak at conferences.

PauloD joined the room.

BeeD . o O (I should start thinking about doing something similar when I retire so some tips would be useful)

BeeD: Oi Paulo..good to see you...welcome

BJB2: hi, Paulo. Welcome

RobertWB: No retirement Bee, just re-treading.

PauloD: Thanks

Maggi: hi Paulo

BJB2: Bee, why don't you share some of the blogging you've been doing?

PauloD: Hello all

AaronPC: Hi Paulo

BeeD: Tell us where you are from Paulo

DavidW waves from the back.

PauloD: Hi Aaron

PauloD: From Rondonópolis-Brazil

BeeD: Mato Grosso?

PauloD: in the State of Mato Grosso

DavidW: See? Exotic.

Maggi: lol

BeeD: It's nice to have another Brazilian around

PauloD: Thanks. You know I have been following you for a long time

BeeD: What do you do, Paulo?

Maggi: Aaron is in Japan

BeeD: I have read your posts in the BC forum

PauloD: through British Council ELT Online Community

PauloD: I am an ELT in Rondonópolis for over 10 years now

BeeD: Are you teaching at a private or public school Paulo? Or at university?

DavidW: What is an ELT?

BeeD: English Language Teaching

BeeD: EFL - English as a Foreign Language

PauloD: at University and Fisk, an Institute of Languages here

RobertWB: So more about blogs....

BeeD: But Dave

BeeD: tell us about your work with blogs

DavidW: Dave, me?

AaronPC listens

Maggi: yep

BeeD: the one and only

BeeD . o O (in this room for the time being)

DavidW: I don't now what to say. It's just a microphone for me. What interests me is what it is doing to the information environment.

EmilyW is back, sorry I had to be away from the computer for a few min

BeeD: Could you paste the address of your education blog here?

DavidW: Books were containers. The Web was an interconnected library. The blogosphere is a conversation.

BeeD: aha...conversations

DavidW: <http://DavidWarlick.com/blog/>

MichaelRu: It's a HUGE microphone for kids now...

PauloD: Oh, the first person I met in this room when I entered here for the first time was Maggi and I would like to say a very big HELLLLLLO to her

BeeD: merci

DavidW: I'm in the process of moving it. I wrote my original blog engines, but am switching to Wordpress.

Maggi waves to Paulo

RobertWB: and how about your website as well, David?

RobertWB: and are you still offering the Blogmeister.

DavidW: I build web tools. I have a rubric builder, a citation tool (the Citation Machine). A bookmarking system for teachers. A blogging tool for classrooms.

DavidW: Yep, blogmeister is going very strong.

BeeD: Ah...the Citation machine? I use it with my stds!!!

EmilyW: what is your bookmarking system?

RobertWB: I think this group would be very interested in all of those.

DavidW: Actually almost as much use outside the U.S. as inside.

MichaelRu: I've been keeping up with your server issues - sorry it has been such a pain in the neck for you...your tools are awesome

DavidW: I've had more problems over the weekend, and am in the process of moving my blog and podcasts to a new server.

DavidW: I might say that I am very excited with what is happening in other countries with regards to things like blogging.

DavidW: My favorite classroom blogger (blogmeister user) is a teacher in New Zealand.

BeeD: We are trying hard to get it going

BeeD: Is blogmeister open to the general public?

BeeD: or is it behind a password with restricted access?

DavidW: It's open to classroom teachers. It is designed as a classroom blog, where the teacher can set up weblog accounts for students.

DavidW: Student blogs must be read and approved by the teacher, before they go live.

RobertWB: It's a blog on training wheels....

DavidW: Yeah. That's good.

RobertWB: Learner blog.

DavidW: but it's about conversation. Teachers set up assignments where students write and then read and comment on each other's ideas.

RobertWB: It's a great protected environment, where a kid can learn about blogging and your administrator doesn't have to be so concerned about stuff going out to who knows where...I think it was a terrific creation.

DavidW: It's still evolving.

RobertWB: And its creative commons licensed?

BeeD: Yes...a little bit like the ECML project Peter Ford showed us the last special session

BeeD: And how do teachers open an account there?

DavidW: that's a good question, Robert. I should probably add a feature where teachers and students can select their CC licenses.

DavidW: Just went on my list.

RobertWB: I'm sorry, I thought it was already there.

MichaelRu: If I understand what I have read at blogmeister, once teachers approve posts, anyone who surfs to blogmeister and browses blogs can read, so caution in what students post is always necessary.

MichaelRu: from an identity standpoint

MichaelRu: no personal info, etc.

DavidW: A teach can set up a classroom password, so that only people with the class password can read any of the students' entries. There are several levels of security that can be set up by the teacher.

MichaelRu: aha...thanks

DavidW: The teach can set it up to show the students full name, first name last initial, or just initials.

BeeD: this is convenient with young students

DavidW: I have a question! What problems does blogging solve for teachers?

BJB2 . o O (similar to the student group rooms in Tapped In)

RobertWB: Not only convenient, but it provides an opportunity to discuss identity on the net, and some of the dangers that it may bring....

RobertWB: It saves a lot of trees.

BeeD: lol

RobertWB: and red pencils.

AaronPC: true

RobertWB: I think it allows for some of the more withdrawn students to express themselves.

DavidW nods his head

AaronPC: I see it as a way to give students a kind of voice that they don't usually have in classrooms

BeeD: I think that more than solve problems...it makes them realize that writing is part of expressing their identity

RitaZ joined the room.

RobertWB: Is there RSS with in the blogmeister...another words can schools with licenses, put other schools on their aggregators.

BeeD hugs Rita

RitaZ greets everybody hi

RobertWB: Hi Rita.

AaronPC waves to Rita

PauloD: Hi Rita

MichaelRu agrees with Aaron - student voices really come through

BeeD: Rita is in Argentina

DavidW: Teacher blogs can be syndicated. I haven't heard a good enough reason to syndicate student blogs yet.

BeeD smiles

RitaZ is sorry for being here so late

RobertWB: I guess my thought about RSS is that it allows similar classes around the world a chance to be more of a community.

BeeD: it shows when someone you are linked to has posted

AaronPC: So the teacher can keep track of all student posts in a feed reader.

DavidW: I suggest to teachers using blogmeister that they share their class passwords with other classes in other locations.

BeeD: keeps you updated with the stds posts

RobertWB: I guess, I am thinking about a class doing a history project....connecting with a class on the other end of that history.

RobertWB: Or a Geography project.

RobertWB: Or a language project.

AlejandraW joined the room.

EmilyW: I think there are so many ways to use blogs in education

BeeD hugs Alejandra

RobertWB: Hello Alejandra

DavidW: Will students learn more by blogging the topic at hand?

AlejandraW: hi, everyone

RitaZ hi, Ale

PauloD: Hi Alejandra

BeeD: Ale is also in Argentina

DavidW: I've got to change my name.

AaronPC: Not necessarily David.

AlejandraW: yes, a bit further south than Rita

DavidW: If students blog regularly in my history class, will they learn more?

AaronPC: But if they are choosing the topics themselves....??

BeeD: Ale and Rita...David Warlick has been showing us the tools he has for blogging and podcasting

MichaelRu: I think blogs give the teacher much more insight into the thoughts of their students - blogs tend to make kids "think out loud" more.

RitaZ: thanks, Bee

AlejandraW: sorry I am late, any links to go to?

BeeD: <http://dw.citationmachine.net/2cents/?p=6>

DavidW: blogmeister is at: <http://classblogmeister.com/>

BeeD: <http://classblogmeister.com/>

AlejandraW: thanks Bee

AaronPC: If the blogging leads to conversation and dialogue, then I think the learning experience will be of higher quality and enjoyment.

DavidW: You can get a school passcode by going to <http://classblogmeister.com/?blog=rethink>

DavidW: So it's writing and reading?

AaronPC: Thinking, sharing, reflecting, communicating.

BeeD: My students are very slowly moving from topics set in class...to reading other people's posts and commenting on them and also bringing the topic to their blogs and writing a reflection on them

BJB2: Dave, keep in mind that most of the people here are ESL teachers...so the emphasis is on using language to communicate

DavidW: Gotcha.

BJB2 hopes she hasn't spoken out of turn

BeeD: Is it possible to search for projects in Blogmeister?

BeeD: and see who the wider community is?

BeeD: Is there a meeting plaza somewhere?

DavidW: No, but a search tool is on my list of things to do over the summer. I also want to add a feature that allows teachers to make assignment through blogmeister, and manage them with a rubric, etc.

GrahamS joined the room.

RobertWB: Hello Graham.

BeeD: Buenas Noches Graham

AaronPC: Hi Graham

DavidW: From the front page, you can drop down a menu and select from a list of states and countries. Then you can chose from the teachers who have accounts from those locations.

BeeD: by topic/age/ subject?

DavidW: My struggle is making it valuable without making blogmeister to complex. It needs to be simple, probably simpler than it is now.

BeeD: right

RitaZ: looks like a good option, will study it later; David, have bookmarked it, thanks

DavidW: From a foreign language point of view, what is the difference between using a blog and a message board?

BeeD: You were saying your best blogger was a teacher from New Zealand...what is good blogging in your opinion, David?

AlejandraW: I have registered, but want to know if I understand what this is all about

AlejandraW: does it work like a compilation of teachers' blogs?

AaronPC: Well...blogs tend to be a lot more personal.

BeeD: and students can personalize them

BeeD: creating their own page online

DavidW: Hmmm. The teacher sets up a blogging account, and can write weblogs for students and the community. The teacher can then add student accounts that all exist with the teachers, or classroom blog. That's why I call it class blogging. Go to this URL:

BeeD: and maintaining archives of posts and comments they can track later

DavidW: http://classblogmeister.com/blog.php?blogger_id=9

RitaZ: message boards are already framed environments, less personal

DavidW: this is my blog account on blogmeister. The names on the right are my make believe students.

AlejandraW: I see, thanks

DavidW: if you click Clovis, you can read his blogs...the ones I have approved.

DavidW: Pardon the Latin.

PauloD: So, David, I wonder if you, yourself, could explain the difference between using a blog and a message board from a foreign language point of view

DavidW: Blogs are about publishing, in my opinion. You have an idea, you frame it, compose it, polish it, and publish it. You are trying to communicate an idea. Then you converse about it with your readers.

DavidW: A message board is about idea building. You share insights, and then build your knowledge by adding to other peoples ideas.

PauloD: Thanks, David

RobertWB: That's a very great answer...

RobertWB: A message board is more "behind the scenes" than a blog....a blog is more of a finished product.

RobertWB: It think they both have definite places in the learning world.

DavidW: Absolutely. I think that a blog asks students to refine their ideas more. and they become more fluent with what they are learning.

BeeD agrees

DavidW: Such as a second language...

BeeD: How many teachers are participating in Blogmeister David?

DavidW: is anyone podcasting. Is that a topic that is up for discussion?

BeeD: well...a little bit

RobertWB: Id love to hear your views on podcasting an how that can interact wth blogging.

BeeD: Graham Stanley has been doing some

BeeD: but apparently he is having pbs with his connection today

AaronPC: I've toyed with the idea.

BeeD: Tell us a little bit more about the podcasting portal that has just been launched, David

DavidW: Podcasting usually resided inside of a blog, so you have the text and graphics to support the audio. But the beauty of it is the rich expression that is possible. Students work the delivery to make it compelling, not just coherent.

PauloD: yeah, I would like to know more

DavidW: I have a new web site called The Education Podcast Network (<http://epnweb.org>). It is a directory of education-related podcast programs.

PauloD: Cool, I guess it will help a lot.

RitaZ joined the room.

DavidW: My favorite student podcast is Room 208. The URL is <http://bobsprinkle.com/>

PauloD: I will read further about it later

DavidW: They are elementary children, and do a great job.

DavidW: But as has been said, it's all about conversation, interacting with people and with ideas.

DavidW passes the pointer over to someone else.

BeeD: Graham has linked to you : <http://blog.360.yahoo.com/blog-9nEJmZUzeKF30HVFXNqJonZo>

AaronPC: EPN - it's a great idea David.

BeeD: I have not yet had time to read it carefully David...

PauloD: David, I am very sorry, I am going to ask a question which I guess has already been answered and I missed it, I mean, is it possible to put pictures and things like that in this kind of thing

BeeD: but can we upload podcasts to the EPN?

BeeD: like in Ourmedia

DavidW: No, EPN is only a directory. You give me (paste into a form) your RSS feed, and it orients itself to your existing podcasts.

BeeD: or is it an index?

BeeD: right

DavidW: I upload my podcasts to archive.org

BeeD: does it work well?

RobertWB: IF funding were available to do low frequency broadcasting on radio, would you prefer to see students using radio or podcasting.

DavidW: Archive, with one small glitch a few weeks ago (the change the URL of one of my programs) has been great. Very fast and reliable.

BeeD: Can it be used by everyone or just inside the USA?

DavidW: I believe that it is global. They have servers in Europe, I know.

BJB2 looks at the clock on the wall

RobertWB: elderbob hurriedly sets the hands of the clock backwards, 15 minutes.

BeeD: I think Ourmedia uses it as well if I am not mistaken

AaronPC: lol

DavidW: I know that they did originally, but don't know about now.

DavidW: The only problem with archive is that once you upload the file, you have to wait several hours for them to process and approve it.

BeeD: yes..I have had some trouble with that

BJB2: Bob, as the consummate showman you should know that it's always best to leave em wanting more

RobertWB: Ok, then...ask him to come back again...

BeeD: I will I will Bob

RobertWB: Lol

BeeD: You go too quick for me

BeeD: David...would you accept to present your blogmeister and ESPN at one of our special sessions?

DavidW: Perhaps. e-mail me some dates. I'm on the road most of the summer. My e-mail address is david@landmark-project.com ...

BeeD: thanks

RobertWB: Well, I for one, have truly enjoyed David's presentation....how about a rousing round of handclaps. David, I hope you would feel free to come back and join us anytime you like.

AaronPC: thanks for sharing your ideas with us David.

DavidW: I just heard dinner hit the table. Found a possim on the side of the road this morning. Um Um!

DavidW:

RobertWB: Tastes just like chicken.

AlejandraW: Thank you too David, I now need time to browse

DavidW: Very very nice to meet every one.

BeeD: It was very nice to have joined us

MichaelRu: thank you very much!

BeeD: today

BJB2 waves bye. Enjoy the road kill cafe food

BeeD: thank you very much and hope to see you around again

PauloD: David, that my first time in this meeting and I really enjoyed it.. Congratulations on that and thanks a lot.

RobertWB: Awesome session today, folks...

DavidW: Better get up there before he scampers off.

AaronPC: Bye all....see you next week.

RobertWB: Paulo, join us again.

BeeD: Bon appétit

RobertWB: Great to see you all.