

Title of Session: Blogstreams Salon

Moderator: Bee Dieu and Aaron Campbell

Title of File: 20050807blogstreams

Date: August 7, 2005

Room: Blogstreams Salon Group Room

BeeD: How are things? I have just come back from the countryside...gorgeous weather!

RobertWB joined the room.

BeeD waves hi to Bob

BeeD: I heard you are having a very very hot summer

RobertWB: Marsha, I don't think I have met you, I am elderbob, mad scientist.

MarshaR: Glad to meet you and happy to be here this afternoon

Maggi: I'm in Germany

RobertWB: Glad to have you.

BeeD: How was your Open Weekend, Bob?

BeeD explains to Marsha that Bob hosts courses at Knowplace

RobertWB: Not sure yet Bee. The weekends are just teasers for longer courses that go into more detail....those will start soon.

BeeD: What was the theme this weekend?

RobertWB: There seemed to be a good general interest in Radio and Podcasting though.

RobertWB: Podcasting, videocasting and Radio Internet style.

BeeD: What are the most common questions that come up?

RobertWB: Broadcasting more or less...using RSS to move media.

RobertWB: There were problems with people signing in and it was all forum so there were not a lot of questions.

RobertWB: It's hard to present that much materials, and then have a discussion too.

RobertWB: I am trying to leave it pretty open but not sure.

RobertWB: Last time, I scheduled a Learning times session and no one came.

RobertWB: So not sure yet what works best.

RobertWB: I had folks there from Russia to Australia so finding the right time is difficult too.

BeeD: yes

RobertWB: The new Moodle has a messaging system, and I'm kind of thinking that this may be a good alternative.

LeeB joined the room.

RobertWB: Hi Lee, I just sent you an email

LeeB: Great... thanks Bob, I will go check it.

BeeD: I am multitasking here Uploading my latest flowers to Flickr

LeeB: Great Bob, I just saw that. I will appreciate that.

RobertWB: Are these regular flowers or the flowers in the round Bee.

BeeD: flowers in the round?

RobertWB: Lee if you need those resources, give me a day or two and I can get you in the moodle on my site.

BeeD: Oh..Nature in Circles you mean?

RobertWB: The ones that look like they were taken with a fish eye camera.

RobertWB: Yes.

BeeD: Just flowers

BeeD: flowers do not come out well in circles

RobertWB: I have one of those as my screen background...one with really nice purple orchids.

BeeD: The orchids may be an exception

RobertWB: You know I also blow glass and I am fascinated by glass paper weights. When I first saw those, that's what I thought they were.]

RobertWB: There is also one that is a picture of lichen on a tree that I am especially fond of.

BeeD: Yes...this one I like a lot as well

RobertWB: It's a great photo.

RobertWB: Do you watch what Andy Carvin is doing with his camera.

BeeD: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/bee/>

RobertWB: On digital Divide.

BeeD: I saw the short video he made

RobertWB: The one with the kente weavers.

BeeD: and also checked his flickr account

Maggi: great stuff

RobertWB: It really is....

RobertWB: I have invited him to speak on my portion of the convergence.

RobertWB: It will be right after the international summit on education....

RobertWB: I hope he can be there.

BJB2: did anyone view The World is Flat video?

RobertWB: Marsha, do you blog.

RobertWB: Which one is that BJ

MiguelB joined the room.

BJB2: <http://mitworld.mit.edu/video/266/>

RobertWB: On the book by Pink?

RobertWB: Thomas, I think?

BJB2: Andy Carvin's video reminded me of Tom Friedman's Flat theory

RobertWB: Sorry Friedman...

RobertWB: Well Friedman/Pink, they sound a lot alike. ahahahaha

BJB2 nods solemnly

RobertWB: Yes, it's very interesting.

BeeD: Looks interesting BJ...is it worth watching?

Maggi: yes!

BeeD welcomes Miguel

BJB2: yes, Bee...not only worth watching, it should be required watching

RobertWB: It's very much worth watching...lots of good perspective.

RobertWB: So there you have it, two thumbs up.

BeeD: Tell us a little bit about it

RobertWB: It's about how technology has transformed the world.

MiguelB: Sorry I am late...

BJB2: it's about how technology has flattened the world and made not just contacts, but also jobs and learning opportunities available to anyone anywhere anytime

RobertWB: How communication has affected all of us

BeeD: Can you watch it online?

BJB2 nods to Bee

Maggi: yes

RobertWB: I agree everyone should watch it....there are so many pearls of wisdom.

RobertWB: Streaming from MIT

BJB2: and a couple of humorous comments

BeeD: It's ok Miguel

RobertWB: I also happened to catch an interview with him on the Charlie Rose show here in the states.

BJB2: cool, Bob

RobertWB: You might find it in the PBS archives.

BeeD: Last week I tried out a new site...Rudolf wrote a short review on Dekita...it's called 43 Things...and there is also 43 Places...

BeeD: have you tried it out?

RobertWB: David Allens stuff.....I'm still trying to get around to it.

RobertWB: haha....that's what it is about...organizing ones life.

RobertWB: It's really good.

RobertWB: there is also a 43 Things mailing list.

BeeD: <http://www.43things.com/>

RobertWB: More good idea.

BeeD: <http://www.43places.com/>

RobertWB: What about OurMedia and Archive.com.

BeeD: I thought it might interest you Bob as it is all about tags

RobertWB: That was really the first place I got to thinking about tags....I had seen them before, but that site made it a bit clearer to me.

BJB2: please explain what tags are

BeeD: collaboratively organizing information in categories

BJB2: thanks, Bee

RobertWB: the common man's taxonomy....also known as Folksonomy.

BeeD: and thanks to them...social networking is possible as users connect through common "tagged" interests

LeeB: Tags are kind of like the main framework of a website...Headings as such..

RobertWB: Lee, I used to think in those terms, but I think in this case the use of tags has expanded.

LeeB: I mean a websites main links...

BeeD: the most popular tagging service is on Flickr..<http://www.flickr.com/photos/tags/>

RobertWB: Does anyone here have a flickr or del.icio.us account

BeeD: I do

MarshaR nods yes

BeeD: Dekita does

RobertWB: When you look at your collective tags and some are in bolder larger print....those are called tag clouds.

RobertWB: They represent your interest.

RobertWB: They really are a sort of simplified picture of who you are.

RobertWB: They also represent social groups.

RobertWB: In both cases, you can connect with others who are interested in the same tag.

BeeD: well...on Flickr tags represent the kind of photographs you take

BeeD: so if you click on the flower tag...you will find other people who also photographed flowers

RobertWB: Then if you find that that element of their tag cloud is similar to yours, it may be someone whose Del.icio.us or flickr account you may want to follow.

BeeD: While on Elgg, for instance, the tags concentrate around people who have the same interests/likes/ dislikes

BeeD: <http://elgg.net/bdieu>

RobertWB: You can sort of see where web page tags tie into that idea....the search engines did the job for you.

RobertWB: Vander Wal, who coined the term tag clouds worked on the original Google search engine

LeeB: I know on my delicious/webheads site, I was invited to join the forum. I am anxious to join in on that more as time allows soon. i think there is plenty to learn on tags.

RobertWB: For the Webhead convergence, I made one proposal having to do with finding our way through the mountain of information out there.

RobertWB: I will have 5 days before the convergence at Knowplace and each day will have a different subject and hopefully a different speaker.

BeeD: I am going to ask my students to tag the photos they took during their holidays ..good vocabulary work ahead

RobertWB: Networks, Folksonomy, Visual Language, Cybrarians, and ?

RobertWB: I'm forgetting something.

BeeD: Miguel and Marsha...have you been using blogs or any webpublishing tools with your students?

RobertWB: Search engines is the other day.

MiguelB: I have been out of the classroom for the last three years and am now being placed back into the classroom...so I have not done so.

BeeD: What subject do you teach?

MarshaR: Yes... I have been working with blogs for a while now...both reflectively with teachers and with students

MiguelB: I will be teaching US Hlstory for the first time at a high school and mathematics at a local community college.

MiguelB: It will be my ninth year at the college level.

MarshaR: I have also used wiki twice...once with my students last semester and right now with teachers who are writing about Interactive Notebooks

BeeD: And what do you think of it? Have you blogged about your experience ?

MarshaR: <http://teachingtechie.typepad.com/learning/> is where I've been keeping my reflective thinking

MarshaR: <http://interactivenotebook.jot.com/WikiHome> is where the group of us are getting our thoughts down on Interactive notebooks

BeeD: Wonderful! I see my friend Claude's tile picture from Flickr

MarshaR: Actually that IAN group has just begun to meet here on Wednesday nights

RobertWB: Very interesting blog.

MarshaR -} what an awesome picture that will serve as inspiration for my 6th graders who don't see how digital photo is connected to math

MarshaR: Thanks for the tip

RobertWB: Marsha do you see a convergence of Wiki, Pod and Videocasting on the horizon.

MarshaR: ha...that I would be such a deep thinker

MarshaR: I'm just struggling with trying to get Audacity to work...

MarshaR: like I want it to

RobertWB: The newer Wiki entries are starting to include video and audio in their posts.

MarshaR: But if what interests my students are any gauge...I'd say "yes"

MarshaR: I'd believe that...but most of these efforts are really also designed to stretch the thinking of teachers

RobertWB: Oh, your students are probably going to want to hook it all to their cell phones.

MarshaR: So you can't do all of it at once or they'll freak

MarshaR . o O (cell phones will surely morph into the all inclusive device very soon)

MarshaR: I think with wiki it is also a huge issue of management...delegating things so everyone feels responsible and ownership

RobertWB: A cell phone with a snap on keyboard and mouse, and 20G storage with headset and access to I tunes.....

MarshaR: Now if we can just get access at affordable prices...akin to the \$100 computer project!!!!

BeeD: Yes...technology is evolving so quickly...much more quickly than people's minds

RobertWB: They are coming down....unfortunately, the utilities have way to much influence.

BeeD: so the challenge for us is how to use it in the classroom so as not to reinforce traditional practices and control

RobertWB: That may be the answer Bee.

MarshaR: I think it's hard to find others in person that are interested in that kind of thinking

BeeD: Many teachers feel forced to use all the paraphernalia, jump on the bandwagon because they think it is "cool", but very often do not reflect on how these technologies can help them create a new environment, a new way of working and foster change

MarshaR: so you get to use TI instead...but f2f talking would be great sometimes

MarshaR: I agree....I was just thinking about how to use my blog in the beginning of the year to better advantage

MarshaR: And I thought that maybe to view it as a conversation...maybe generate a discussion on how to assess different kinds of work...let them try and figure it out

MarshaR: rather than me posting something and them reacting...doesn't seem very 2-way to me

RobertWB: I like it.

BeeD: I think it takes some experimenting...feeling your way

SusanR joined the room.

BeeD waves hi to Susan

SusanR: Hi Bee

SusanR: sorry for the late arrival

MarshaR: Well thanks for the time...I must return to my remodeling project. I only have a week to finish before school starts back up

BeeD: Good luck Marsha and thanks for joining us

MarshaR: I hope to remember to come each week...

MarshaR: bye

RobertWB: Come back again Marsha and give progress reports on your blog efforts

MiguelB: We start school on Monday...boo hoo!!!

BeeD: and what you are doing

BJB2 waves bye to Marsha. Make sure you don't miss next week

SusanR will have to catch the transcript

BeeD: I started last week

BJB2: there will be a special guest

SusanR: special guest???

BeeD: next week...yes..thanks for reminding me BJ

BJB2: look at the calendar

RobertWB: You too Miguel. I am very interested in the idea of history blogging....lots of creative opportunities.

BeeD: Natalie d' Arbeloff

BeeD: is our special guest next week

BeeD: she will be talking about

BeeD: her blog

MarshaR: Very cool. I definitely will try to make it. Thanks again.

MarshaR: bye

MarshaR left the room (signed off).

BeeD: <http://www.nataliedarbeloff.com/blaugustine.html>

RobertWB: Is this the lady you had scheduled earlier in the year.

BeeD: It is her birthday today

RobertWB: yes....

RobertWB: very good, I'll do my best to be here. I really like her blog.

BJB2: I hope she will talk about her art also

RobertWB: See you all next Sunday then.

RobertWB: bye.

MiguelB: Hago Robert

BeeD: See you Bob...great to have you here