



Blogging in Higher Education

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SUMMARY

Web 2.0 approach



Computer science students



University of Technology in Graz



Introduced by writing and communicating using a blogosphere

The Goal:

Good didactic definition by using
TU Graz LearnLand

THE STUDY

In October 2006 Graz University of Technology has launched a blogosphere for all university members, students as well as professors, called TU Graz LearnLand.

The didactical concept

- Distributed versus compact (massive)
- Self-directed versus instructed
- Community Building

The technical concept

- Installing a GADI07 administration weblog
- Installing several community weblogs, called GADI07+topic
- Installing an advanced feature called “View” to each weblog

DISCUSSION & EVALUATION RESULTS

The Point of View of the Professor

- Ease of use
- Digital natives – digital immigrants
- Amount of information
- Community feeling

The Point of View of the Students

- **Question 1:** Majority said yes because they get a great overview about my chosen topic and it is much more interesting
- **Question 2:** Majority said yes because of great advantages and the topics makes more sense through blogs.
- **Question 3:** Majority said it's a simple way to gather information
- **Question 4:** Majority said it's broad and hard to make contributions
- **Question 5:** Majority said overview of the topic and comments of other bloggers are very helpful
- **Question 6:** 27 of 34 (79%) answered the question with yes and 7 (21%) with no.

CONCLUSION

GOOD FEEDBACK

MAIN CHALLENGE: The mass of data in a very short time span.

STUDENTS:

- Blogging leads to a continuous learning process
- Students are forced for the entire semester to work on the subject
- Students blogged to a special subject for themselves
- More student-centric but still more flexible

PROFESSORS:

- Professors will observe what students think of a topic
- The professor must put more effort into interacting with students

CRITICAL EVALUATION

POSITIVES

- Great way to have students interact more with their studies
- Great learning strategy
- Interacting more with their peers

ISSUES

- Some students might prefer to write out their paper
- Some students might not like to be the center of focus

REFERENCE

Ebner, M., & Maurer, H. (2007). Blogging in Higher Education. Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education, 767-774. Retrieved from <https://www.learntechlib.org/primary/p/26424/>