

Curriculum innovation and interaction

Crafting Sydney's future:
Learning in the 21st century

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University of Sydney's International Contribution to Transforming Research University

- Angela Brew's keynote at a recent Canadian conference on the Integration of Teaching and Research
- Teaching performance indicators
- Scholarship of teaching index
- Teaching improvement fund
- Sustaining and promoting the cultural and infrastructure change?

Many definitions

M-Learning

Open Learning

Online Learning

Flexible Learning

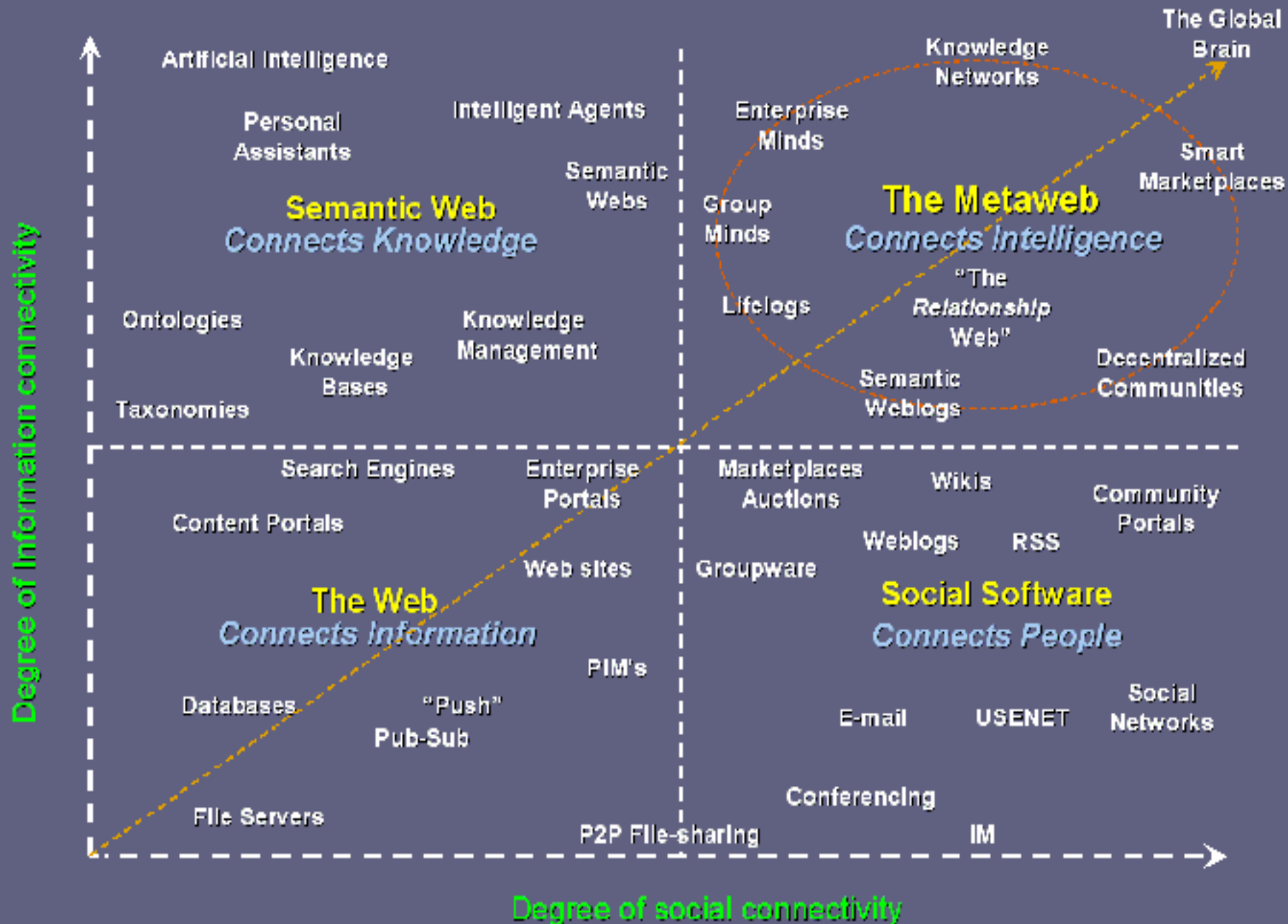
Blended Learning

P-learning

e-learning

One reality

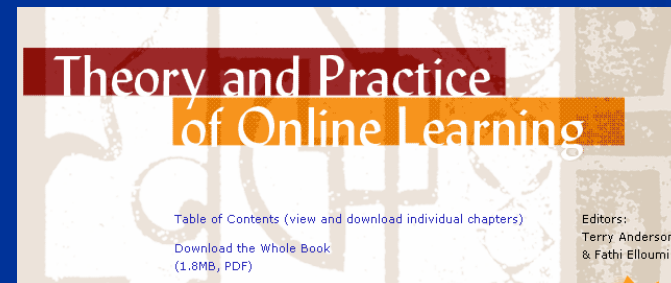
- A net-infused learning, teaching and research culture has emerged.
- Is the University of Sydney a Net native or a recent immigrant?



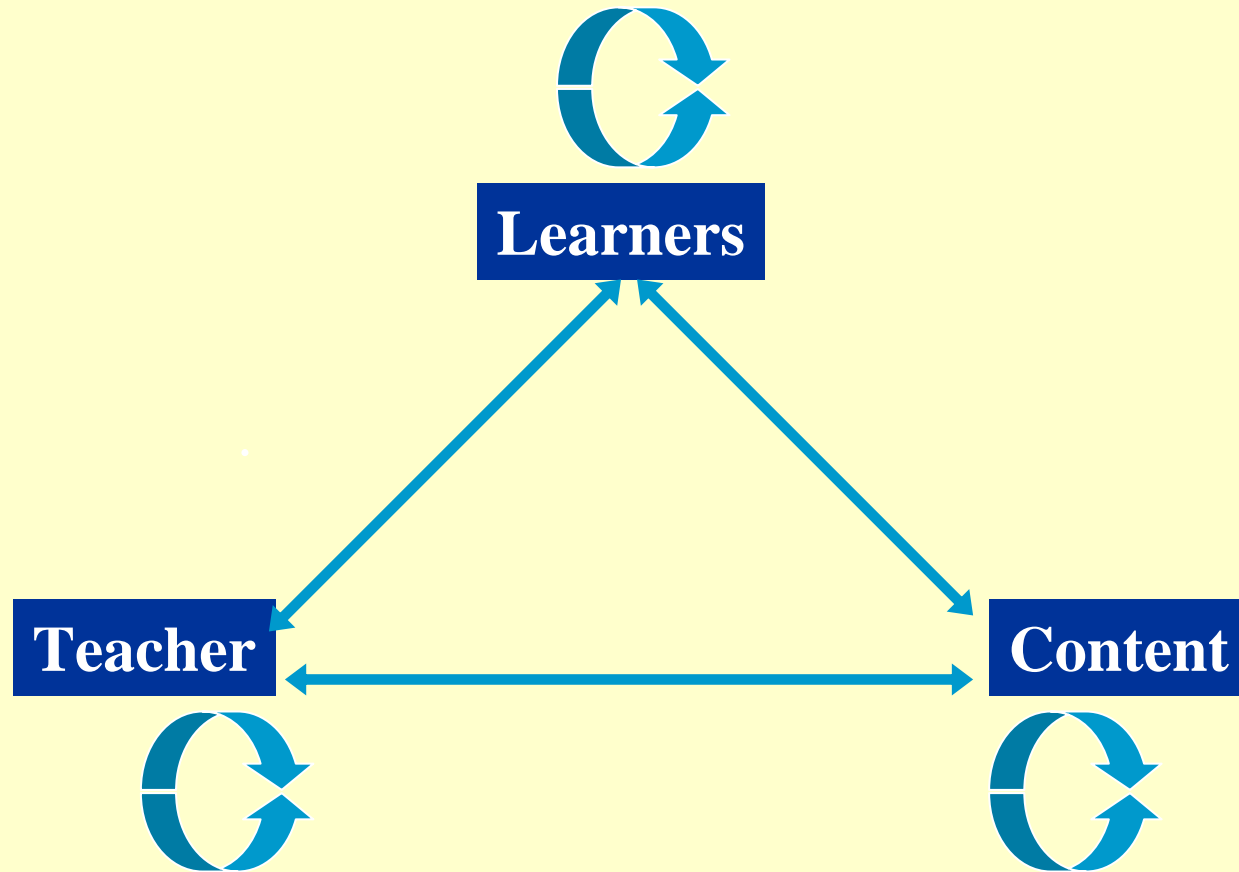
- Gibbons (1994,1998) move from Mode 1 disciplinary knowledge to Mode 2 knowledge produced:
 - produced in a context of application
 - transdisciplinary
 - more socially accountable and reflexive
 - involves a much-expanded system of quality control.\
 - produced in a context of application
- Universities need to be able to both share and consume knowledge not under their control for both research and teaching

Open Content

- Need for research universities to make as much of their teaching, research and service contribution open and public.
 - MIT's Open Courseware
 - My Own Theory and Practice of Online Learning 60,000 + downloads, translation and sales of paper copies
 - Dspace “digital repository system captures, stores, indexes, preserves, and distributes digital research material.”



Interaction - Getting the Mix Right



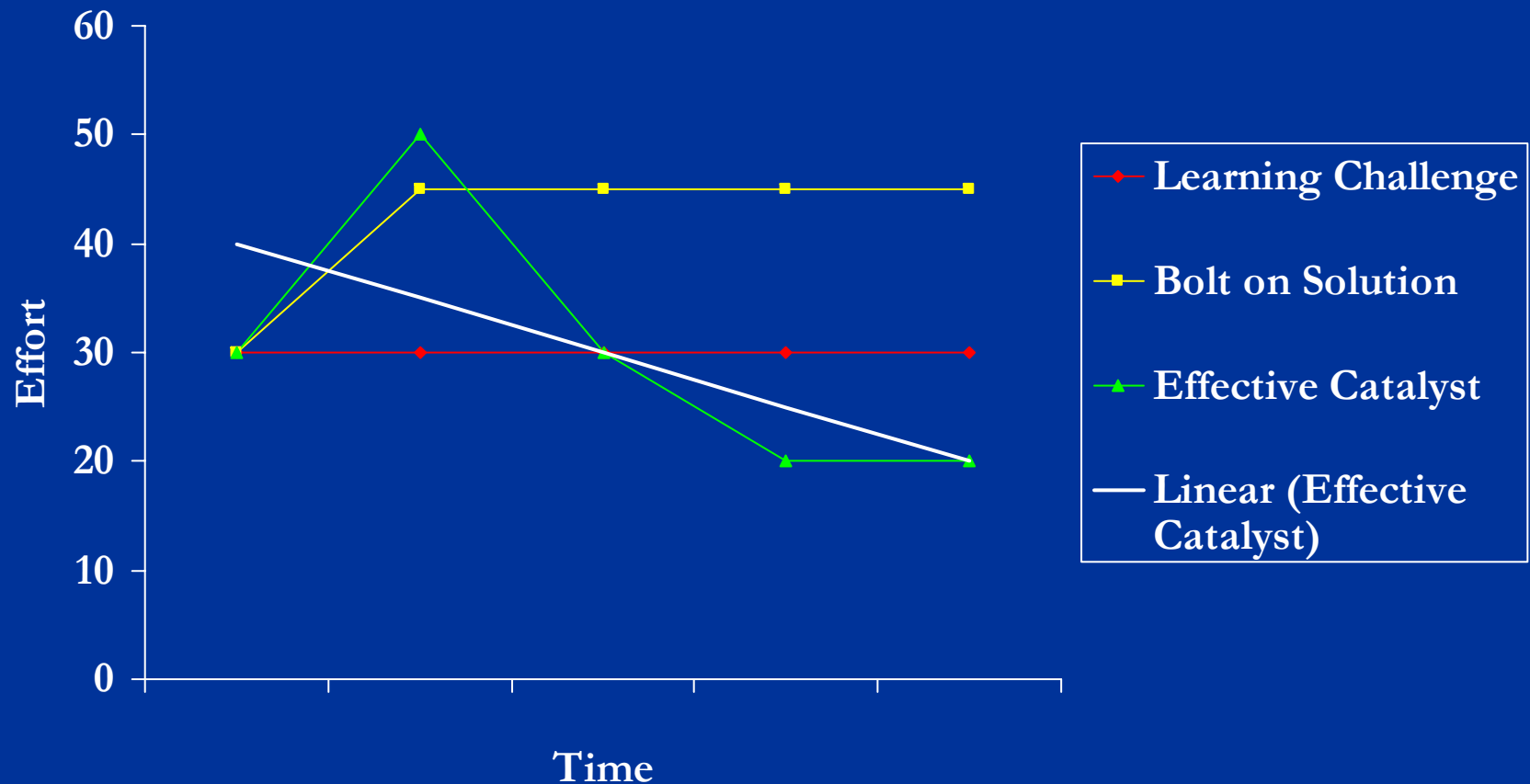
- Teacher interaction is expensive
 - The 500 seat lecture theatre versus the 30 students max. in most cohort based e-learning programs
 - Carol Twigg's pew sponsored projects
 - Reducing cost while improving learning
 - Substituting capital for labour
 - Technology enhanced infrastructure and culture
 - 5 models enhancement, replacement, emporium, fully online, individual buffet
 - See http://www.thencat.org/PCR/Proj_Model.htm



Student Content Interaction

- Increasing use of simulations, virtual labs, external resources, online supplemental and remedial tutorials
- Learning objects including books!
- Student production of objects
 - Clickcast
 - My student's portals on emerging technologies at <http://cider.athabascau.ca/Members/terrya/mde663portals>
- Even teachers can produce for the net as easily as they do on their own word processors

E-Learning as ‘bolt on’ or catalyst?



Student-Student Interaction: The promise of Social Software

- Students connecting
 - Anywhere
 - Anytime
 - Any media
 - Any topic
 - Any relationship
 - While protecting privacy
 - With a strong set of collaborative production tools

Are Learners ready for social software?

- Some 57% of American online teens create content for the internet. That amounts to half of all teens
- These Content Creators report having done one or more of the following activities:
 - create a blog; create or work on a personal webpage;
 - create or work on a webpage for school, a friend, or an organization;
 - share original content such as artwork, photos, stories, or videos online; or
 - remix content found online into a new creation.
- Pew Internet Nov. 2005
http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/PIP_Teens_Content_Creation.pdf

Student-Student Interaction: The promise of Social Software

- **Very easy publishing** (BLOGs)
- **Collaborative construction** (Wiki's)
- **Multi-channel communication** especially those that support presence (IM, Skype etc) and
- **Syndication** (RSS)
- **Profiles**
- **Recommender and Friends referrals**

Conclusion:

Cost effective steps towards a net centric research university

- Students hired, induced and assigned to be co creators, social and technical supporters, guides and interpreters
- Open access, open standards, and open source
- Reduced infrastructure demands through blended learning
- Diversification through fully online courses especially for professionals

- “A time of turbulence is a dangerous time but its greatest danger is the temptation to deny reality.” Peter Drueker