

CHIFOO Meeting

“How Communities Straddle, Leap, and Land on Technology Choices”

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Life of Communities of Practice

- Longevity
 - Depends on what they're learning
 - Learning to: “DO” and “BE”
- Put the “us” in user experience
- Social media and community

CPsquare

- Related to communities
 - Design
 - Choose, buy
 - Configure, operate
 - Facilitate, manage, lead
 - Participate
- Draft of book, entitled “Digital Habitat”
 - Five years in research and writing
 - Develop a language to tie all five points together.
 - How to connect these points?

Community Orientation

- Kinds of communities (activities oriented to...)
 - Meetings
 - Projects
 - Access to expertise
 - Relationships
 - Context
 - Community cultivation
 - Individual participation
 - Content publishing
 - Open-ended conversation

Community vs. Platform

- Social
- Problem
- Learning technology
- Technology stewardship

Communities of Practice – Communities exist for a practice that relates to the real world.

Community Characteristics

- Activity oriented to ...
- Platform(s)
- Identities
- Messages
- Practices
- Participation
- Sub-communities
- Objectives(s)
- Technology steward (an actual practitioner)
- Leadership structure

Observation requires participation.

Technology Platforms and Tools

- RSS
- Blog
- Website
- Email listserve (e.g. MPD-L support)
- Flickr
- Friendfeed
- Teleconferences
- Database
- Twitter
- SNS
- Delicious
- Phone
- IRC chat

Community

Platform(s)

Feature(s)

Tool(s)

Configuration

Multiple tools may exist on a single platform.

Perspectives on Technology

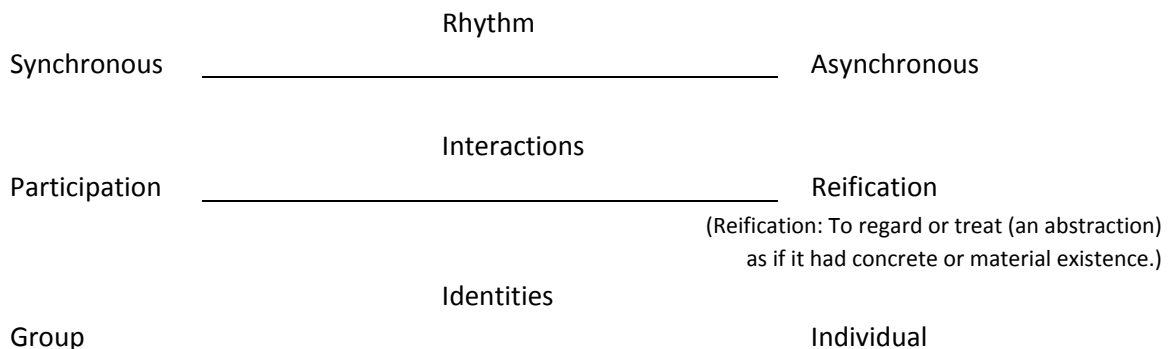
- Technology and Community
 - Layers
 - Points of view
 - Issue clusters
 - Ways of knowing
- Integration issues
- “Configuration” is experienced, like habitat
- Features create utility and livability

Technology mirrors the habitat.

Wordle.net, for creating word clouds.

Technology facilitates the practice of the community. (Notetaker’s insight: However, technology can also enable jumping between communities and cause community collisions, which may lead to community disruption or enjoiment (e.g. the parent with a child that IMs friends. The choice to disapprove or to accept. Also, what is the observation’s significance as we rewire the world with communication technology?)

Tool Polarities



Tagging (e.g. labeling) is a tool to put more of the “us” in the user experience.

Community of Practice:

“The experience of social learning that becomes expressed in social formation.”

If interested in online community building, read  “Groundswell: Winning in a World Transformed by Social Technologies,” by Charlene Li and Josh Bernoff, ISBN 1422125009.