## Experiences of a Blended Learning support team

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By: Dion Dresschers (VU Amsterdam)

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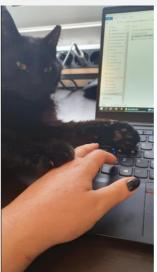
Download:

#### About Me (Dion)



#### https://www.linkedin.com/in/diondresschers/

- 1975 Birth 🕝
- 1990 Programmed 'Leren Rekenen'
- 1991 Technical College Electro **★** (failed)
- 1995 Teacher Physics **X** (failed)
- 1999 Worked in IT
- 🔹 2003 Teacher Physics 🔀
- 2003 Worked in IT
- 2013 Worked in IT (Applied University)
- 2016 Master Learning and Innovation
- 2018 Worked in IT 🖾
- 2021 Learning Technologist (University)





And what about you!?

Now about our (faculty) Task Force, Action Team and CTL (...it started around May 2021)

#### Goal:

To share good things, bad things and remarkable things.

Discuss 'fundamental' issues with a partner next to you.

You (optionally) can write stuff down if you want.

# Now about our SBE Task Force, Action Team and CTL (...it started around May 2021)



#### The Policy Document

My 'Holy Bible' written by the SBE Vice-Dean of Education (Mirella Kleijnen).

https://edu.nl/3438e



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# 1. How useful is a starting document?2. Who should write it and what should be in it?

#### Task Force and Action Team

The task force represents the different stakeholders, but also exists of a number of people relevant to actual delivering supporting the further development of blended learning:

- Director of Education
- Learn! Academy
- Program Director BSc Bedrijfskunde
- Coordinator online teaching
- Operation Analytics, teacher perspective
- Student representative
- Innovation coordinator (Teacher)
- Learning Technologist 1
- Learning Technologist 2
- Canvas & Testvision Support
- EE Faculty member, teacher perspective
- EE Support staff Blended Learning Support
- Multimedia Designer
- Student Assistant 1
- Student Assistant 2

## Different teachers (and energy levels)

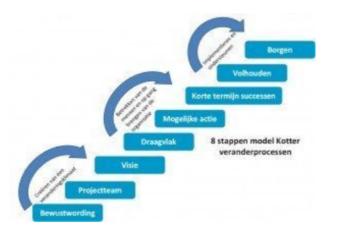
- I don't want to change too much.
- I'm too busy.
- My lessons are fine.
- It's too much work.
- It's too risky to change too much.
- It will take too much time.



#### Het veranderproces van Kotter

Het stappenplan van Kotter kan gezien worden als een richtlijn. Helaas is gebleken dat op de juiste manier de stappen aflopen en een goed verlopend veranderingsproces hebben niet het geval is. Of een manager over de juiste kennis beschikt en situationele factoren zijn twee belangrijke factoren die ook een bepalende rol spelen bij het doorvoeren van veranderingen. Deze acht stappen van Kotter kunnen dus gezien worden als een richtlijn.

Kotter heeft ondervonden dat het gedrag, de houding en de werkwijzen van mensen vaak het probleem zijn bij veranderingen. De eerste vier fasen die Kotter beschrijft zijn ervoor om de huidige situatie in beweging te laten komen. De de fasen vijf tot en met zeven worden de nieuwe methoden van aanpak geïntroduceerd en in fase acht worden de veranderingen verankerd. Om een succesvolle verandering door te voeren is het belangrijk om alle fasen te doorlopen en geen fasen over te slaan.

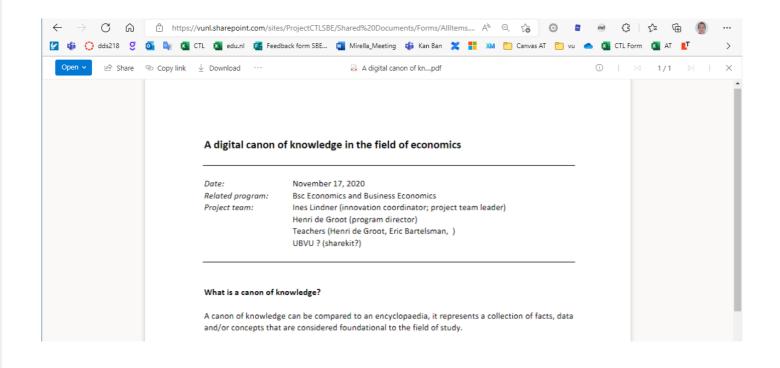


## Kotter's 8-step model of change

- 1. Create Urgency
- 2. Form a powerful coalition
- 3. Create a vision for change
- 4. Communicate the vision
- 5. Empower Action
- 6. Create quick wins
- 7. Build on change
- 8. Make it stick



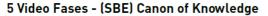
3. How would you organize a Blended Learning team? 4. What are the short term goals? ...and long term?



#### Canon of Knowledge

- 'Encyclopedia' of knowledge clips for SBE
- Taxonomy or Lexicon of topics/items
- Information Density (e.g. one concept per clip)
- Length (most sources indicate max. 6 minutes)
- Visibility of Lecturer (!?)
- Produced by SBE versus external sources
- Open Access (Goal)







Title: 5 Video Fases - (SBE) Canon of Knowledge

Date: 2021-08-30

Target audience: Projectgroep (SBE) Canon of Knowledge

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By: Dion Dresschers en Nelly Blessinga - Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

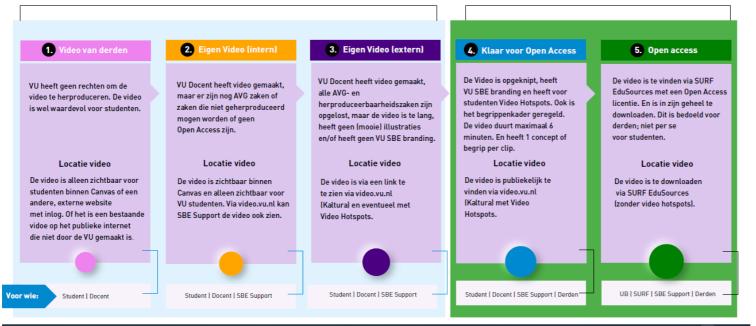
Status: Concept Version: 2021-15-11 11:00 Inhoud
Via dit document wordt in kaart
gebracht waar en wanneer
een video gebruikt mag / kan worden.

Gesloten Auteursrechten Open (access)

#### Toegang video

#### ONDERWIJSMATERIAAL

#### CANON OF KNOWLEDGE



#### Reason that Canon didn't happen (yet)

- Project was too ambitious...
- Taxonomy only is too big (and was not consistent)
- Would take more than 5 years to accomplish
- Existing selected videos were too long, had too many subjects, referred to other videos, and lacked consistency
- Key teachers didn't have enough time (hint: make use of Student Assistants)
- Faculty support were not economists (hint: make use of Student Assistants)
- Copyright and Open Access (complex)



5. What were the good parts of the Canon project?6. What could/should we have done better?

#### VU Executive board

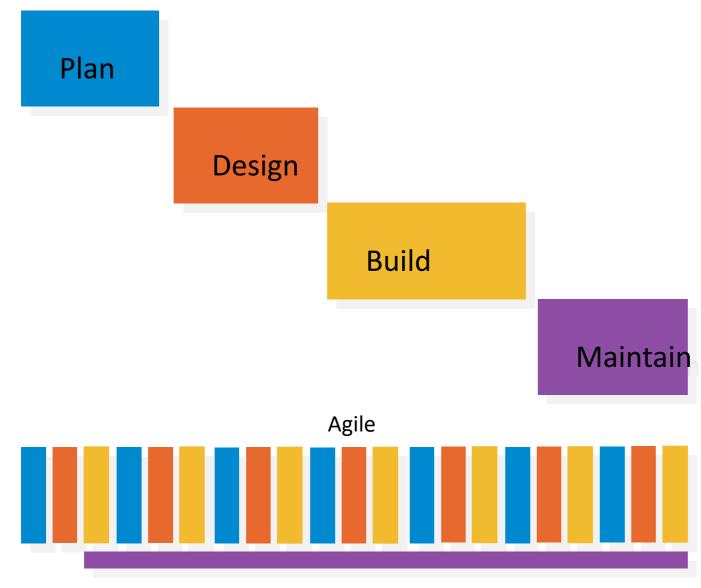
In addition, there is a larger and more complex issue: an important message of the MARS report is that our organisation does not function well in some respects and lacks decisiveness, flexibility and strength. In the session with the deans and directors, this was called "the meta-problem". This is recognisable to many and the reason for setting up the Effective & Agile Strategy Team. A recent letter from the deans identifies these problems as flaws that must be addressed urgently, especially the silo way of thinking that hinders integrated business operations, as well as the distance between services and faculties that is too often too great. The Executive Board strongly supports this, including the persistent problems mentioned in the MARS report, such as: (i) too great a distance between services and primary process in too many cases, as a result of which faculties and services do not know how to find each other as partners; (ii) an insufficiently adequate organisation to effectively realise change processes or other projects. In addition, we still have too many meetings, do not address each other properly and the responsibilities assigned are often not clear. This is a matter of both culture and structure.

#### 'the meta-problem'

- 'Encyclopedia' of knowledge clips for SBE
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#### Waterfall

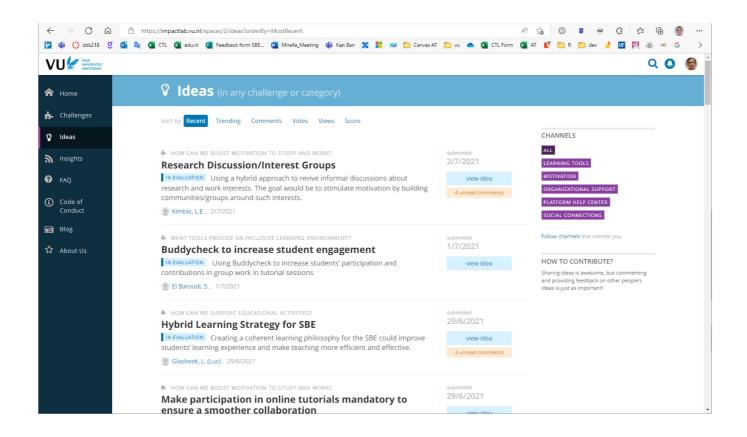


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7. Would you prefer Agile or Waterfall method? 8. How big is the gap between service and workfloor?



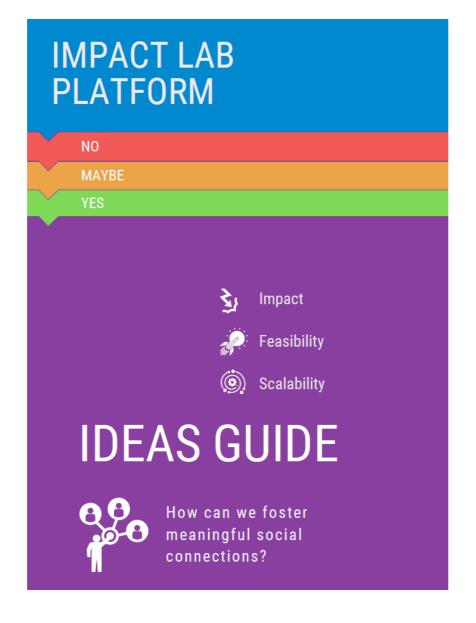
#### ImpactLab (grassroots)

"A **grassroots** movement is one that uses the people in a given district, region or community as the basis for a political or economic movement."

- By the people (bottom-up)
- All SBE
- All Students, Teachers, Staff, VU
- Idea selection
- Support team

Wikipedia (2022-10-22)





https://impactlab.vu.nl

https://edu.nl/7hbwa

Some 'winning' (supported) ideas

- Canvas LMS SBE Template
- Student Advisory Board
- Illustrating Economic Models
- Onboarding New Teachers
- Knowledge Clips



# 9. How would you get bottom-up ideas 10. How can you support this top-down

# Top down (management makes decision) Bottom up SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS (work floor initiates changes)

Is there policy and decision making, is this needed?

Who makes the decisions?

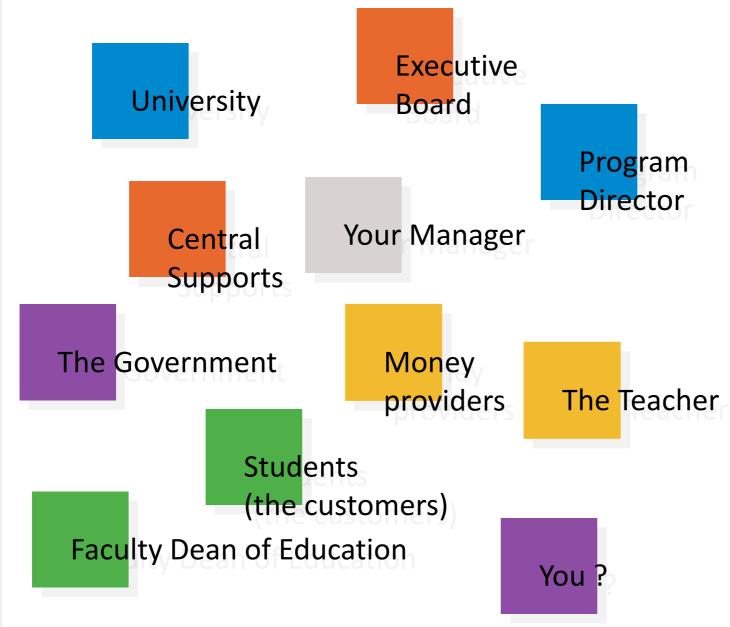
It it the management?

It is the people at the work floor?

Or is it both!?

Who makes policy?





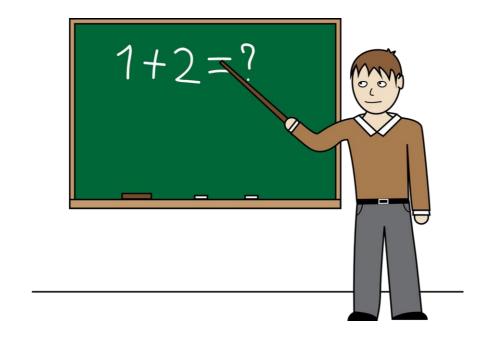
#### **Decision Making**

Who is in charge!?

And will people listen to the person in charge!?



11. Who has the authority to create policy at your place? 12. When does policy help, and when not?

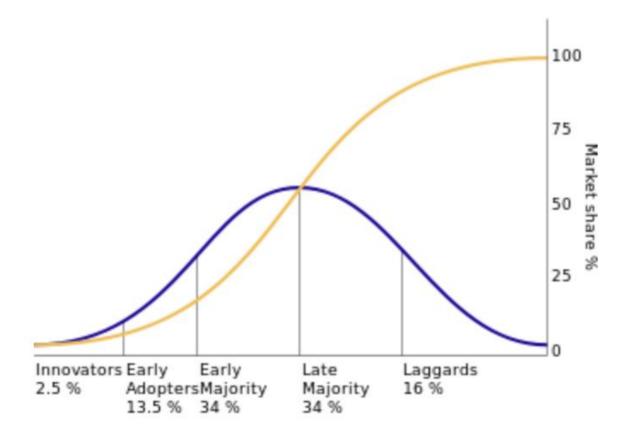


## Different teachers (and energy levels)

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#### Rogers innovation curve



# Different types of teachers (and energy levels)

Some teachers are innovators.

Some teachers are open for (good) change.

Some teachers are too busy (or tired).

Some teachers don't want to change.



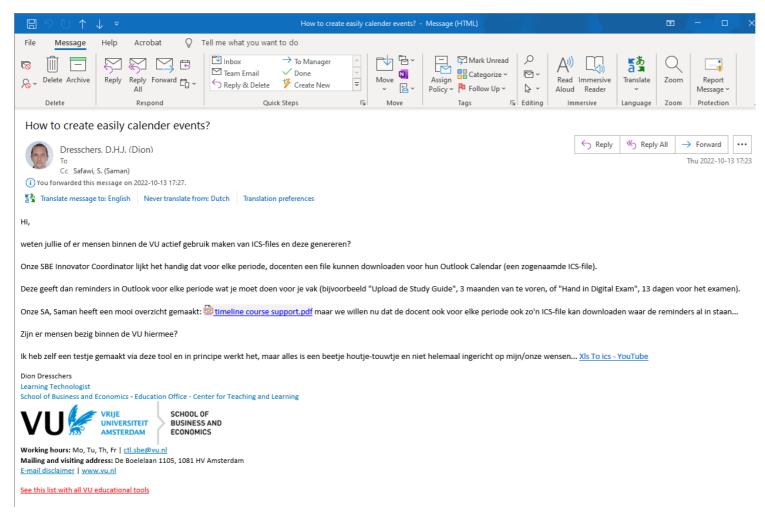
13. On which group of people would you focus? 14. How would you deal with innovators and laggards?

#### Central: VU NT&L

Network for Teaching & Learning.

- Helpdesk
- Program Manager (innovator)
- Pop-Up Studio (video studio)
- Audio & Video guy
- Can connect innovators at faculties





#### They were very good!!!

- Quick useful replies...
- Or forwarded mail to people that could help



15. What central support can you expect?
16. How to work together with central and faculties?

#### Tools

- Zoom (video calls)
- Canvas (LMS)
- TestVision (Exams)
- R-Exams (randomized questions)
- FeedbackFruits
- Kaltura (interactive video's)
- Microsoft Teams (collaborative)
- Annotate Pro (one-click feedback)
- Mentimeter (interactive polls)





#### **Didactics**

- Flipped Classroom
- Team Based Learning
- Direct Feedback
- Gamification
- Peer Feedback
- Group work
- Discussion
- Peer tutoring (experts)



17. Why are Didactics more important than Tools? 18. When are Tools more important than Didactics?

The Smell of a Place...

- Professor Sumantra Ghoshal

#### Tools

- How you place looks, says something about the culture...
- And the way if it's open to innovate











19. How does your work(place) smell? 20. Should/could you change something about your place?

### My conclusion:

We learn as we go.

Making mistakes is part of the learning process.

We (all) try our best.

We make mistakes.

We improve as we go.

Celebrate successes! (also for exposure)



## Thank you!



# Questions!?