Title of Session: Webheads In Action
Moderator: Vance Stevens
Title of File: 20051221webheads
Date: December 21, 2005

Room: Tapped In Reception

DafneG: Today is the Edublog Awards ceremony

DafneG: at Worldbridges

RitaZ: right, in 2 hs

VanceS: what time? 3am?

DafneG: 15 GMT

RitaZ: Daf...., I'm sure you'll be a winner (you are already ;-))

VanceS: pm, right

DafneG: thanks for the nomination, that was enough for me

DafneG: my students were really happy

RitaZ: you deserve it all, Daf

DafneG blushes

DafneG: this trimester was really tough for me in many senses, but my students' comments compensated for it

RitaZ: do read them if you haven't, folks, this is the best reward of our teaching profession!

ChristinLo: May I ask a question about another topic?

DafneG: go ahead

RitaZ: sure, Christin

ChristinLo: Is there anybody who has some experience with whiteboard in the classroom?

Maggi: a real one?

ChristinLo: an interactive one;:)

Maggi: kewl, the best

BruceNe: smartboard?

ChristinLo: Yes, smartboard

BruceNe: I have seen one but have not be able to use it

Maggi: love it

HasanH joined the room.

RickRo: HI Hasan!

Maggi: one company has it in a meeting room

HasanH: hi

BruceNe: you draw on the board and it appears on the computer screen?

Maggi: hi Hasan

ChristinLo: do you think there are advantages for language teaching?

Maggi: sure

VanceS: I have set them up for teachers where I was the tech coordinator

VanceS: the teachers liked them

RitaZ: practical use, Vance?

ChristinLo: Is this easy to use?

Maggi: the reverse Bruce

BruceNe: you draw on the compute and it appears on the screen?

Maggi: you type

BruceNe: but there are special pens for it

BruceNe: oh

VanceS: they found them easy to use, and you do draw on the screen and it appears on the computer

Maggi: the other is what Michael Ho has

BruceNe: could it be used as a drawing pad for online teaching in Eluminate?

VanceS: and it can figure out what you are writing and make text from it

BruceNe: instead of trying to draw with the mouse

ChristinLo: Or you simply can save the changes made during the lesson

VanceS: yes, you use pens like felt markers

VanceS: and write on the board and the writing is replicated on computer, and you can save screen states

ChristinLo: a pen isn't necessary!

ChristinLo: you can draw and write with your finger!

BruceNe: the one I have seen has four pens and an "eraser"

VanceS: yes, true, I think the pens give you the colors don't they?

BruceNe: they have problems with teachers trying to use regular markers on it!

ChristinLo: there are buttons for the colours

BruceNe: or possibly beginning to write on the walls

ChristinLo smiles

VanceS: UK schools have introduced them and they were writing a lot about them

BruceNe: isn't there a smaller product called Watcom or something like that?

VanceS: they call them Interactive Whiteboards I think

BruceNe: or can a tablet PC be used in a similar way?

BruceNe: it is a good thing this room is not monitored for advertising purposes

VanceS: I've never used a tablet pc

BruceNe: some of the textbook sales reps have them

BruceNe: by supervisor just got a Treo 650 so he can get e-mail on vacation using wireless technology

BruceNe: what will you teach next trimester, Daf?

DafneG: I will teach a graduate course on the use of technologies in language teaching

VanceS: that sounds fun

VanceS: challenging

DafneG: and maybe the second level of English for Architecture and Urban Planning

DafneG: I taught this grad course last year, and I blended with the BaW session

BruceNe: interesting

DafneG: I am planning to do so again

DafneG: the grad course I just finished was more or less on the same track

ChristinLo: Daf, I'll try to convince colleagues to participate to the BaW2006

DafneG: "Collaborative Environments on the Web"

DafneG: yes, please, do, Christine

DafneG: I had 25 participants from different fields

BruceNe: I am teaching an intro to public administration at the undergraduate level. Maybe our students might interact some online, Daf?

DafneG: it would be great, Bruce

BruceNe: let's explore that soon

DafneG: my trimester starts on Jan 9

BruceNe: ok. my class begins later than that

DafneG: but it lasts for 12 weeks

BruceNe: it is the urban planning that might be the link -- and the use of English

DafneG: ok

BruceNe: ok

DafneG: this is an undergraduate course, but they love to interact online

BruceNe: my class us undergrad also.

DafneG: great!

DafneG: I am planning to use podomatic for podcasting this time

BruceNe: I don't have my syllabus yet and will be out of town next week. let's "talk" in January neubauer@cas.usf.edu

DafneG: sure, my syllabus is not ready yet, either

DafneG: I need to add some changes

BruceNe: I guess if we do this what we plan to do needs to be reflected in our syllabi

BruceNe: but perhaps it can be not too specific -- let's avoid complicated stuff that involves our becoming involved in grading each other's students

BruceNe: it can be light and fun for the students

DafneG: this is an obligatory course, and we know what the university and the students want, what I do is a diagnostic survey on their expertise in the use of technology

DafneG: when I taught this course this year, I had guests talk about bridges

DafneG: let me see if I can find the page

JeffC: do you have a url for the survey Daphne?

BruceNe: I have more flexibility. When you have time, let me know how this can fit into the design of your course

DafneG: this is the web page of the course: http://DafneGonzalez.com/id3125-05/

DafneG: and this is the guests page: http://DafneGonzalez.com/id3125-05/content/guests.html

JeffC: right... but you mentioned that you had a survey on technology use...

DafneG: just a sec

DafneG: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=871181031842

DafneG: with the survey I know who needs more coaching, and who I can pair up with

JeffC: right

ChristinLo: Daf, a little out of topic now, my school is involved in a Comeniusproject, with 5 European partners: (ICT integration) the main difficulty, in my opinion, is to keep a good communication. I hope they will learn how communication can improve the collaborative sense of a community : the major example is BaW

TapioH . o O (BaW??)

BruceNe: Daf, by podcasting do you mean actually creating the xml files for auto download or "just" the creation of the audio files for the Web?

BjB: BaW = Becoming a Webhead

Maggi: becoming a Webhead

TapioH: ty

DafneG: this year we used a WordPress blog provided by Worldbridges, with RSS

BruceNe: I see

DafneG: so we recorded in Audacity, saved as mp3 and posted the recordings to the blog, since it has RSS, it was podcasting

DafneG: students saved the recordings to iTunes or their MP3 players

DafneG: and even on CD's

BruceNe: cool!

DafneG: so, they had to learn a lot

BruceNe: it is amazing what you do

DafneG: not to mention their blogs, creating mindmaps, etc

ChristinLo: Daf, what do you mean precisely with 'saved to iTunes': on their own pc or on a web based site? I'm a newbee!

DafneG: and they even ended up doing video

DafneG: you need to download iTune, Christine

ChristinLo: Yes, I use iTunes too

BruceNe: iTunes is Apple Computer's site for buying music and video

DafneG: and then you use the RSS in the blog to download the podcasts

DafneG: very easy

DafneG: so everytime you open iTunes the new podcasts are downloaded automatically

BruceNe: you can add podcasts such as the one from Washington Week in Review (free) into iTumes and it will download automatically every week

DafneG: right

ChristinLo: I'll have to find this out

BruceNe: I thought I had to have an iPod to do this, but it is not necessary

VanceS: me too

DafneG: no of course not

ChristinLo: But you can 'register' your blog by iTunes the, if I understand

DafneG: some of my students recorded interviews, they inteviewed each other regarding the use of materials in architecture and urban planning

BruceNe: just brainsorming -- i wonder if the interviews could be done online across cultures and recorded and then podcast?

DafneG: I have RSS worldbridges sessions, and as soon as I open the program, I get all the new webcasts

DafneG: sure

DafneG: you can record using audacity while speaking in YM

ChristinLo: I'm trying to do that Daf! Stuff for BaW2006?

DafneG: well, you know we can try everything in BaW

DafneG: we will have Graham Stanley as a guest speaker

DafneG: he will be talking about podcasting

ChristinLo smiles happily

DafneG: and Jeff Lebow will be our guest too

ChristinLo smiles more than satisfied!

DafneG: lol

DafneG: we have more or less the same syllabus, but we are adding podcasting and some exploration of wikis

ChristinLo: great!

DafneG: but as usual we are open to explore what the audience wants

BruceNe: I used a pb wiki in class recently but was a little afraid that students might begin using it in unintended ways

RickRo: Daf where would you recommend teachers start with using podcasts and RSS feeds?

DafneG: you can always delete things, Bruce

BruceNe: I would like to be able to moderate posts before they appear, I think

DafneG: there is a site I discovered recently, Rick which is very easy, you record in the same site

DafneG: let me give you the link, Rick, just a sec

RickRo: Sounds good, thanks.

DafneG: http://www.podomatic.com/

DafneG: if I had found this site before, I would have used it in my class

DafneG: it is the easiest I have found, Rick

RickRo: Thanks, Daf. It looks really user/teacher friendly. I already have it bookmarked. {:-{>}

DafneG: you register and you can start recording immediately

VanceS: right when it was interesting

RickRo: That is really convenient

DafneG: you can send audio by mail, and also receive them

DafneG: and if you want to add one of the messages to the blog you can also do it

RickRo: Daf, you have to be part of the group to add to the blog, no?

DavidWe: I'm at one of my favorite internet-coffee houses and the women working is from Taiwan

DafneG: I guess so

ChristinLo: Daf, I have a quick question!

DafneG: shoot

ChristinLo: How do you add http://www.e-poche.net/conversations/ to iTunes, for example?

DavidWe . o O (make it a favorite?)

ChristinLo: to have the podcast automatically

DafneG: copy the feed: feed:http://e-poche.net/conversations/?feed=rss2

ChristinLo: yes, but where in iTunes?

DafneG: and go to iTunes, to the podcast section and add the contact or whatever they call it

ChristinLo: Ok, I'll try, thanks, I'm back in a minute!

DavidWe: Under "Advanced" (menu), Christine

BruceNe: under Advanced -- Add to Podcast

ChristinLo: YES! I got it!

ChristinLo: Thanks a lot Daf! and Dave and Bruce!

DafneG: advanced: subscribe to podcast

BruceNe

ChristinLo smiles happily again

DafneG is happy to see Christine happy

BruceNe: will Audacity make the xml file needed for others to subscribe to your students' work, Daf?

DafneG: no, Bruce that should be part of the blog where you post your mp3 recordings

BruceNe: ok

DafneG: Audacity can save as mp3

DafneG: if you download the Lame codec

DafneG: brb

TapioH . o O (this Podomatic looks interesting...)

TapioH: So, basically one needs Audacity to edit, Podomatic to store and iTunes to get the feed and play?

DafneG: back

DafneG: no Tapio, with podomatic you don't need Audacity

DafneG: you record right at the podomatic site

TapioH: Ok

RickRo: AS a new user, I am very happy with the program. {:-{>}

DafneG: and you have 250 MB of storing space

RickRo: Already send my first messages.

BruceNe: and the recording is on their server?

DafneG: good!!!

RickRo: Recorded messages.

DafneG: yes, Bruce

BruceNe: kind of like wimba -- a audio board?

DafneG: you have your own blog once you register

DafneG: with RSS

DafneG: so you just need to record your messages and post to the blog

BruceNe: can you erase your recordings to manage available space on their server?

DafneG: people can write comments or send you recordings that you can post to the blog

DafneG: yes

VanceS: which blog is this?

DafneG: podomatic

VanceS: what's the url?

TapioH: http://www.podomatic.com/

BruceNe: do we have one we can experiment with now?

DafneG: I have one, but have just started it, just a sec

TapioH . o O (I've got iTunes here...)

VanceS: do I need to download iTunes?

DafneG: http://dyg.podomatic.com/

DafneG: they have a kind of itunes of their own

DafneG: called podamigo : http://www.podomatic.com/download/podAmigo

VanceS: and you have to install this to just download? or to set up your own b/casts

VanceS: or is it the aggregator?

VanceS: I see, subscribe with PodAmigo

DafneG: you just need to register to podomatic, record there, and instantly post to your podomatica blog

DafneG: but if you have itunes you don't need to use the podAmigo

DafneG: because your blog will have an RSS feed

VanceS: as does yours

ChristinLo: daf, I added your podomatic podcast into iTunes

DafneG: thanks, Christine

DafneG: I found that application too late, since I was finishing my arch. course

DafneG: but I will use it next trimester for sure

DafneG: Christine, did you check the podcasting blog I used with my students this trimester?

ChristinLo: Daf, can you record to podomatic without installing the podamigo?

DafneG: yes, Christine

DafneG: just register and you can start recording

DafneG: I am not using podamigo since I have itunes

ChristinLo: Let's try!

DafneG: go for it!