



Architecting Self-Organizing Learning Communities

Two-way learning conversations
using Web 2.0



Motivation

- Classroom communication = broadcast communication
- One-way broadcast communication
 - No information to broadcaster
 - Partial information to audience
- Collaboration yields richer information
- Use technology & social conventions to create self-organizing learning spaces



The Tale

- A Learning Blogosphere (2004)
- How that only partially worked
- The Learning Remix (2005)
- How that improved things
- Much left to do



Online Collaboration

- Fundamentally about sharing
- Questions:
 - How do we tie this together technically?
 - Standards-based
 - Avoid lock-in
 - How do we make people feel they are in a shared space that's important?
 - How do we make them want to share?
- Have to answer all questions to succeed

A Learning Blogosphere

Welcome to BIT320: Databases and Information | MySmartChannels

http://myst-technology.com/mysmartchannels/pr... weighted pushup

Getting Started ectoize Latest Headlines digg Corante Web Hub C... Gmail - Inbox Sitemeter Google Blog Search...

MICHIGAN BUSINESS SCHOOL | The BIT320 Distributed Learning Blogosphere

Home
TypePad QuickPost
Project Space
Main Course Information
Schedule
Course Policies
Key Information
Professor Contact
Project 1
Description
Requirements
Project 2
Requirements
Weblogs
Recent Posts
Weblog SmartSpace
Dynamic Aggregation

Powered by MySmartChannels

Welcome to BIT320: Databases and Information

Announcements

December 07, 2004

Final final notes

Last note this term

A few remarks:

- Thursday is the last class, so be there or be square.
- There is time to blog until December 20, though you are not required to after this week. For those of you who may be behind, you can catch up.
- Generally, the class progress seems quite good. We focused the course on trying to understand and use web standards. You're doing that. The projects look good to me.
- I'm beginning to think the real difference between BIT and other courses is the fact that you have to actually produce something that works in BIT.

by fpgibson | ↑ top | link to this

December 05, 2004

Search

BIT320 Radar
Buzz-o-meters

Syndicated Guests
Recent Posts
Guest SmartSpace
Dynamic Aggregation
adot's notblog*
geeknewscentral
inessential.com
Information Business, Nuts & Bolts
Into the MYST
Lockername's RSS Resource
Scobleizer
Scripting News
The RSS Weblog
Think Outside the Feed

On This Page

Done Adblock

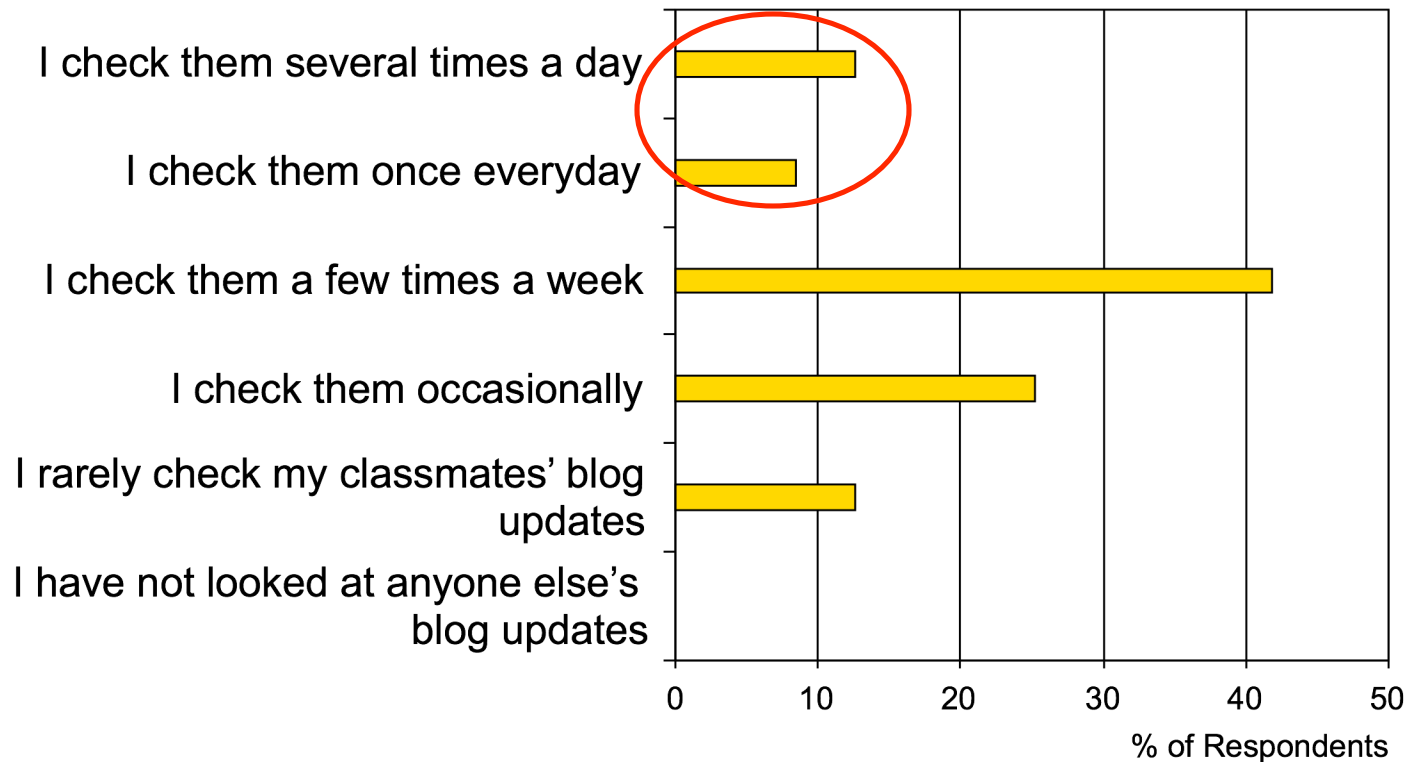
<http://myst-technology.com/bit320>



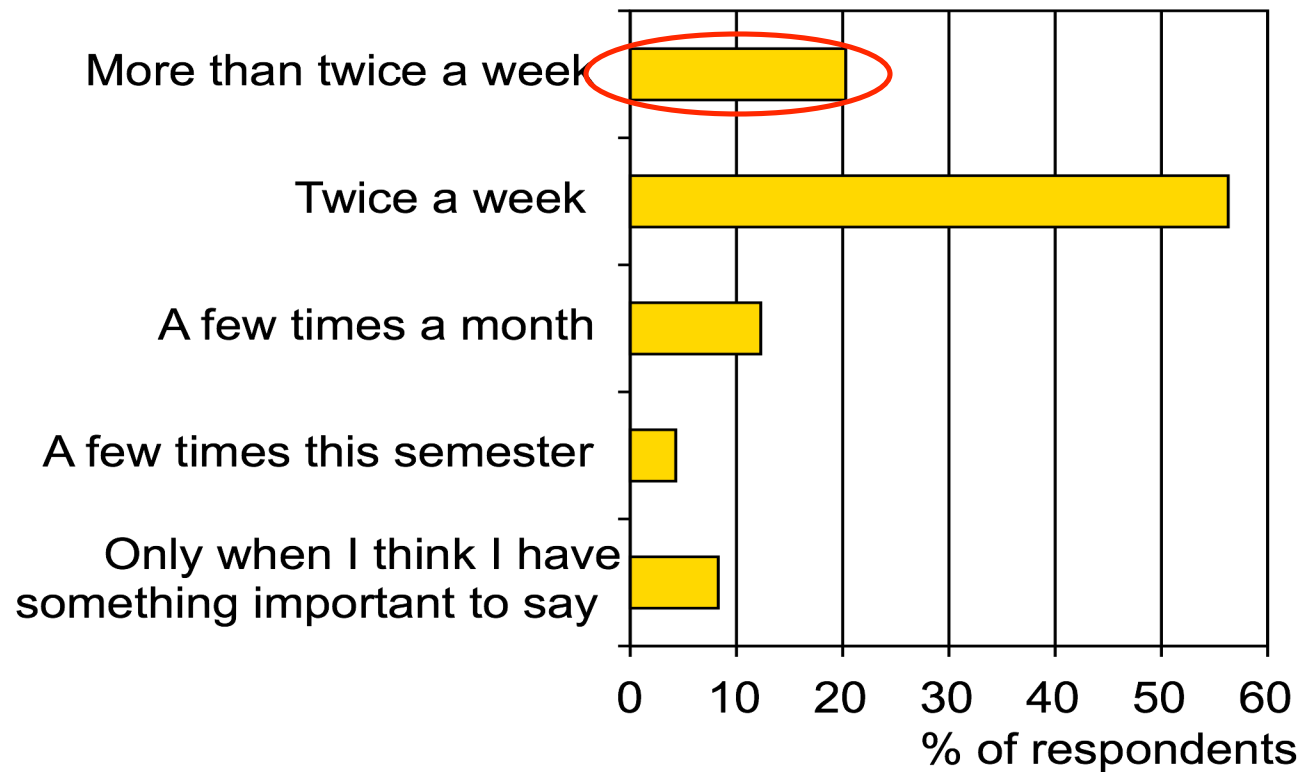
Technical Solution

- J2EE Back-end
 - Java Servlet Interface
 - Web services (SOAP) Interface
- Light-weight interfaces
 - XML over HTTP (REST)
 - RSS
 - HTML

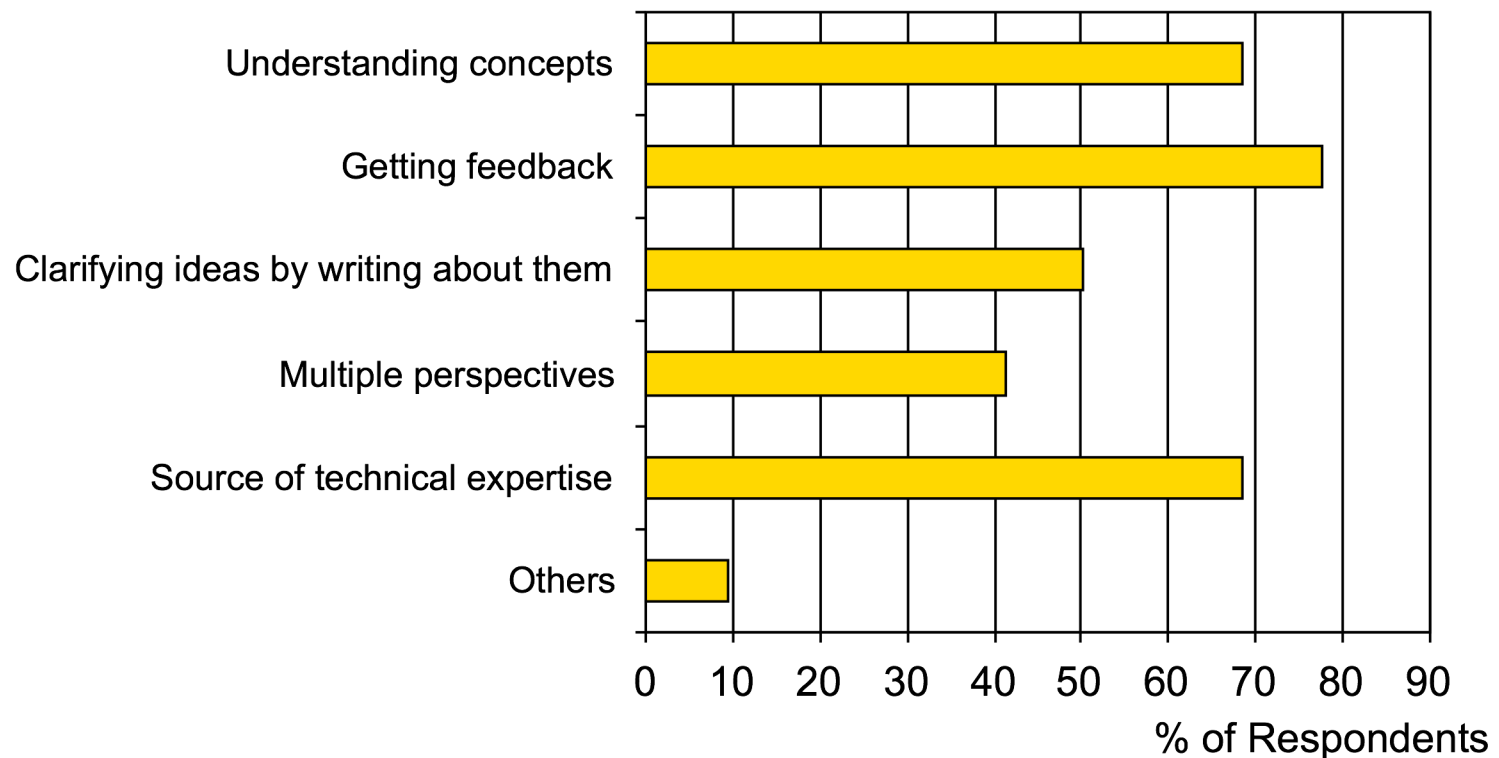
Was the space important?



Did people share?



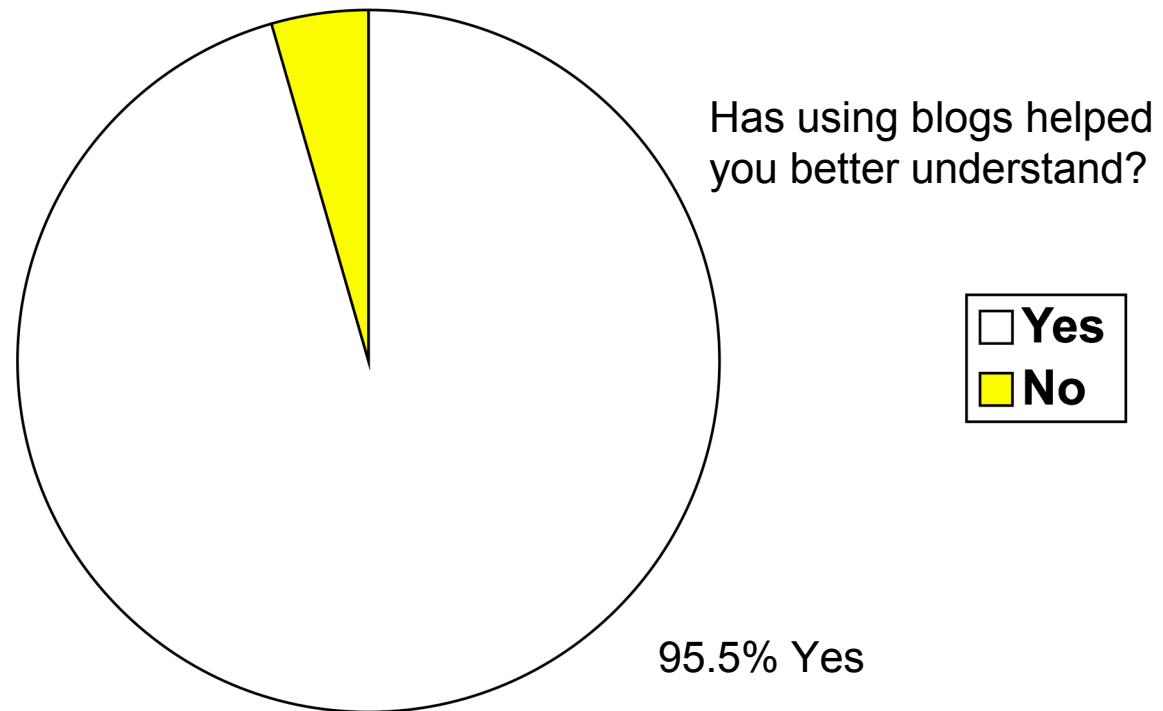
Reasons for participating



People want information and feedback



Knowledge Transfer Impact





Observations

- “... More encouraging than standard message boards, ...
Usually, more postings meant more substantive content.”
- “... When one person understands they can **share** their
knowledge with the rest of the class.”
- “... Since many people hit the same difficulties along the way,
blogs are a great interactive, real time trouble shooting tool.”
- Some noted a drawback in having to learn a new way of interacting.



What went wrong?

- Impossible to track conversations
 - Distributed across blogs
 - Lost in aggregation
- Too much top-down organization
 - A lot of work
 - Imposes a world view
 - How do participants view things?
- Poor long-term archiving

A learning remix

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "The Community Engine". The main content area has a red header with the text "SQL, XML, & Ice Cream" and a sub-header "A remixable web learning project at Michigan's Ross School of Business". Below this is a navigation menu with links for "Class Remix", "Announcements", "Syllabus", "Assignments", "Texts", and "Guests". The main content area is titled "BIT320 Remix" and has sub-links for "Blogs", "Bookmarks", and "Everything". The article is dated "December 20, 2005" and is titled "take me to the mall". The article text discusses online shopping and mentions Walmart, Amazon, Apple, and eBay. There are also links for "Topics: News Opinionslug Technology apple internet". On the right side of the article, there is a section titled "OF SPECIAL NOTE" with several links: "The Curve — Why Blogger gets it", "Project 1 Synthesis", "Many questions regarding the project", "Editing Issues", "We want links in those posts!", "Tigerlily takes charge", "Making WordPress Categories Stick", "Remix Site", "Writing Conference Today & Tomorrow", and "A Guide to Leaving Comments on Blogs".

BROWSE BY TOPIC

Recent Alpha Freq

weblogs blog
culture social
Opinionslug
Uncategorized
internet News
Technology browsers
Firefox Microsoft
mozilla amazon apple
eBay ecommerce walmart
control medicine research
advertising aol
business google
holiday money people
shopping bby coding
design development
web websites IE
communication
email future piracy
NewInventions
power ajax XML
blogging RSS
security software

<http://thecomcommunityengine.com/bit320>

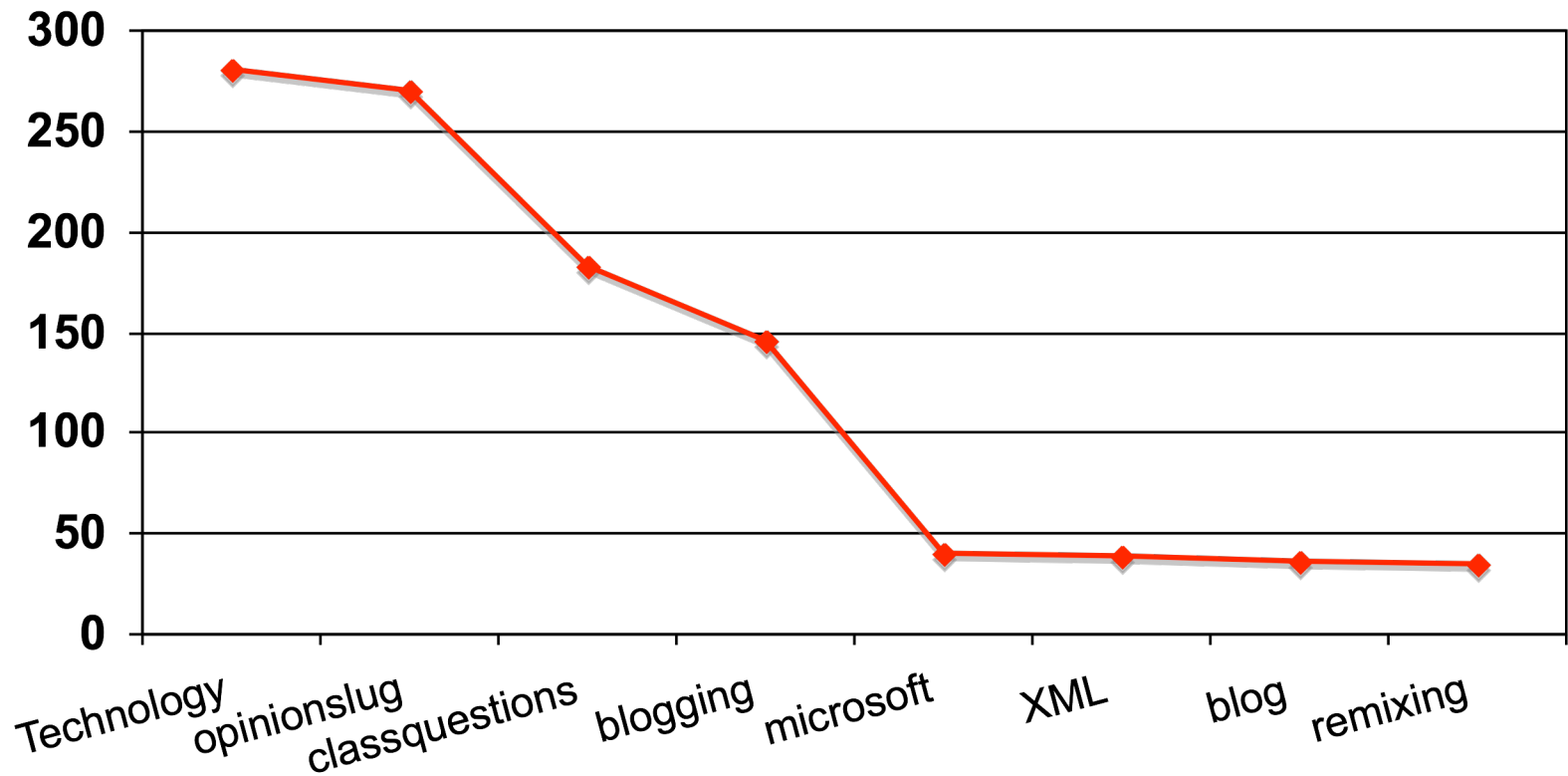


Key Features

- Self-Organizing Categories
 - Technical: Novel Aggregation Mechanism
 - Social: Follow the leader tagging
- Light weight infrastructure
 - Based on open standards
 - Use open source or low cost software
- Adopted by a significant web publisher

A longish tail

754 Total Posts
142 Distinct Tags





Going forward

- Analyze spread of memes
 - Individual originators
 - Group adoption
- Tags used
 - Social cues
 - Content cues
- Many usability issues for participants