Using blended learning to develop blended teaching: Blackboard professional development at PolyU
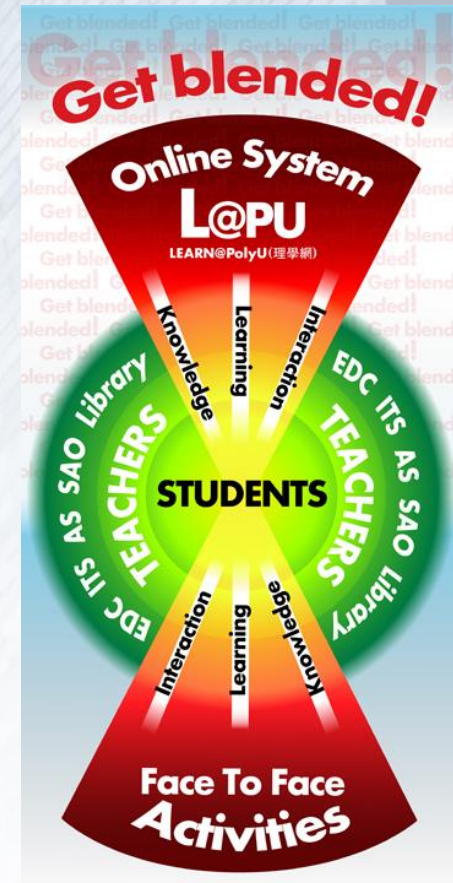
Jennifer Evans & Hennie Yip

Educational Development Centre
Hong Kong Polytechnic University

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Hong Kong PolyU

- Traditional campus-based university

- 32,540 students

- 25,549(ftes)

-   1382 full-time academic staff

-    380 part-time academic staff
(*PolyU in Figures*, 2012/13)

- Elearning = blended learning

Blackboard @PolyU

- New LMS (Blackboard 9.1) in 2011
- Impetus of 3-3-4 curriculum reform
- LMS transition plan – emphasis on staff development
- Encourage teaching staff to become competent users of the new LMS
- Embed good pedagogical practice in blended learning

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PD strategies: 2011-13

- 142 **workshops** – 1639 participants (May 11- Aug 13)

- Early Adopters nominated by all Schools/Depts

- Open-to-all basic workshops

- On request Dept/School workshops

DID **YOU KNOW?**

L@PU *is your new LMS*

L@PU *= Blackboard Learn*

L@PU *is for the PolyU community*

L@PU *is for ALL subjects*

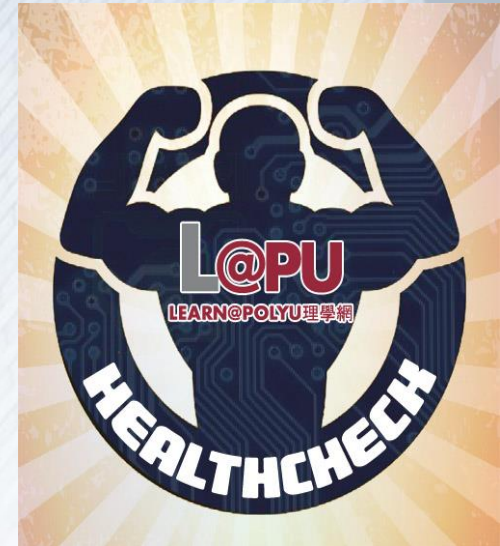**L@PU** *= training opportunities*

L@PU = Content Community Communication Collaboration

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PD strategies: 2011-13

- Drop-in Bb consultations
- Community building:
  CoPs, Critical Friends
- Public events:
  Bb T & L Forum, Excellent Teachers
- Online Blackboard Training Modules
- E-teaching website

L@PU
LEARN@PolyU (理學網)

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LEARN@PolyU (理學網)	Courses	Community	Content Collection	Library	SPECIAL ePortfolio	eTeaching

Staff Essentials

Pedagogical Principles

Workshops

Getting Started

Communication

Assessment

Grade Center

Design & Apply

Course Design

Blogs

Wikis

Journals

Discussion Forums

L@PU Case Studies

Blended Learning

E-Assessment

Groupwork

Quiz

Feedback

Blackboard Training

Getting Started   **Communication**   **Assessment**   **Grade Center**

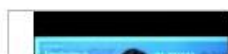Course Design   Blogs   Wikis   Journals   Discussion Forums

Blended Learning   E-Assessment   Groupwork

🎬 Blackboard Talks

L@PU - Discussion Blackboard

❓ Blackboard Help

- FAQs: www.polyu.edu.hk/elearning/faq/
- ITS Help: https://hots.polyu.edu.hk/
- ITS Hotline: 27665900

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...ses | Community | Content Collection | Library | SPECIAL ePortfolio | eTeaching

eTeaching
education, technology & you!

L@PU
LEARN@PolyU(理學網)

This site is for all PolyU staff who are engaged with using LEARN@PolyU (理學網) and other educational technology for learning and teaching. Here you will find news and information, assistance with resources, guidance for best practice and professional development and networking opportunities. Enjoy - and give us your feedback!

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recent posts

VIDEO@POLYU: WORKSHOP SERIES

Posted by admin on Feb 24, 2014

EDC, ITS and the Community of Practice in Developing, Recognizing and Rewarding Excellent Teaching are running a series of workshops on how video can be used in a variety of ways to enhance and add flexibility to learning and...
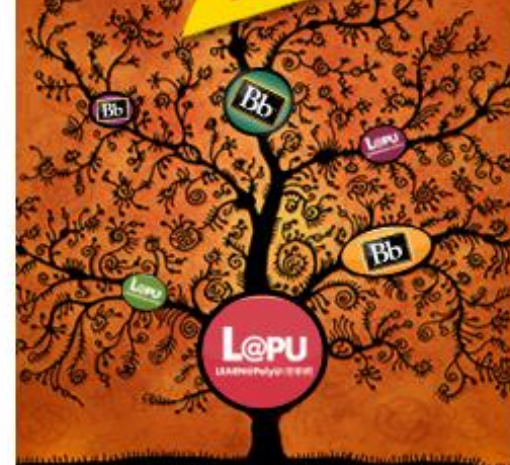
LEARN@POLYU WORKSHOPS IN MARCH

Posted by admin on Feb 24, 2014

If you have been wondering how to get started with using Mobile learning with your students then you may be interested in the "Going Mobile with Blackboard" workshop. This will run on Tuesday 11 March from 12.30 to 14.00. Want...

Certificate in Becoming an Online Teacher (BOT)

Next course offer starts 18 August 2014

Bb   Bb   L@PU

L@PU
LEARN@PolyU(理學網)

Open to all full time teaching staff at PolyU

PD Impact

- If you build it will they come?

- Impact study:
  - limited use of Bb features
  - low awareness of online resources

- Success of initial adoption

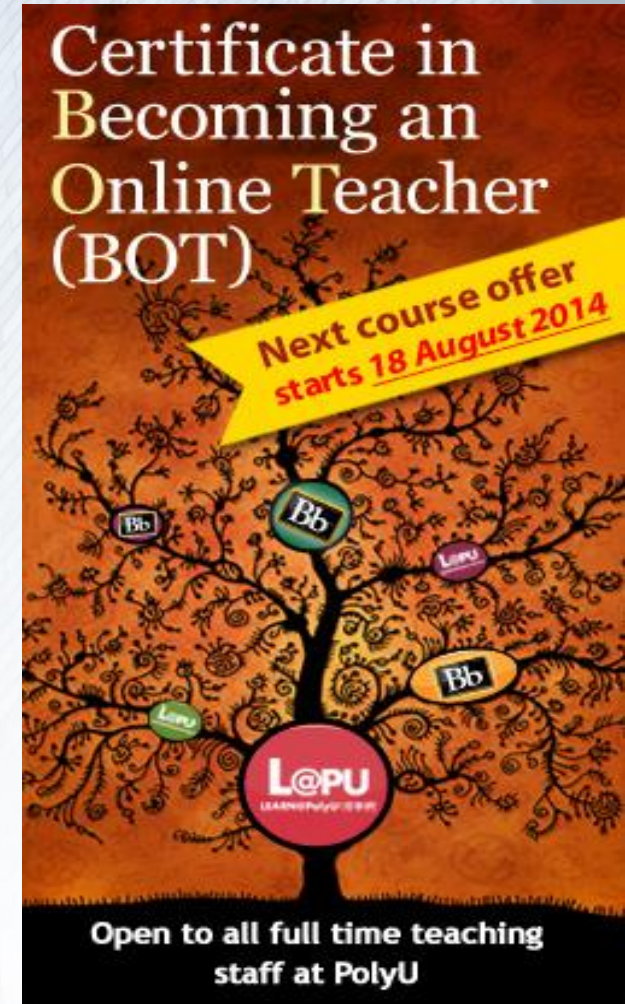- Pedagogical engagement and change still a challenge

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PD approaches 2013-14

- Applied – be actively teaching with Bb – apply learning directly with own students

- Blended – experiential be an online/blended learner

- Collaborative – be part of a cohort of peers, build a community of learners over extended period

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Certificate in Becoming an Online Teacher

- Blended staff development

- 3 Modules
  - Being an online learner
  - Designing e-tivities
  - Teaching with e-tivities

- 32 hrs over 16 weeks
- Compulsory elements to the course
  - (f2f sessions, must do activities)
- Readings, resources and online activities

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Course learning outcomes

- Develop and apply innovative blended learning approaches aligned to your teaching and subject

- Have a real experience of being an online learner, and be part of learning community

- Critique and evaluate your own blended teaching practice as part of being a reflective practitioner

- Develop knowledge and understand the issues of embedding blended learning approaches in your discipline

Ethos of the course

- Collaborative, cooperative and community
- Share experiences and be supportive
- Change and develop
- Action learning
- Reflective practitioner

Module 1 – Becoming an Online Learner

- Blackboard elements include

  - Resources and readings (content)
  - E-administration (announcements, sign up)
  - Personal reflection (learning journals)
  - Peer to peer discussion (forums)
  - Group collaboration (wiki)

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Module 2 & 3 – Designing & Implementing an e-tivity

Blackboard elements include:

- Module 2
  - Resources and readings (content)
  - E-administration (announcements, forum, wiki)
  - Personal reflection (learning journals)
  - Sharing resources (Class blog)
  - Design an e-tivity
  - Peer reviews (Individual blog and comments)

- Module 3
  - Implement & evaluate their e-tivity with their students
  - Supported and facilitated by EDO (4hrs each)

"I hear and I forget;
I see and I remember;
I do and I understand"

Some initial feedback…

It's good to have a chance to experience online learning. It helps me to understand the challenges in online learning and this will definitely make me think over again when I try to construct my own online course

The sharing of experiences and ideas from course-mates. They are inspiring!

The experience of being an online learner make me understand more the pros and cons of a online course and its impact on learning. Time management is very important to participate with the discussion group where learning happens.

The discussions were good - hearing about the experiences from others in the course.

Clear instructions and just-in-time encouragement

In fact, this course motivates me to make modification to my course immediately

Learning that educators are just as difficult to organize as students.

So far...

- Module 1 – 61 (55) staff started
- Module 2 – 30 staff have developed an e-tivity
- Module 3 – 30 staff will implement their e-tivity in 2 weeks

- Initial impression of how staff learn and teach in Blackboard
- Workload and scheduling
- Balance between individual and group activities
- Staff can behave like "students" too ☺

Thank you!

- Jenny Evans

  jenny.evans@polyu.edu.hk

- Hennie Yip

  hennie.yip@polyu.edu.hk