Social Networking And Education

Abstract

Social Networking is the combination of two words social and network which means the use of internet based social media to connect with worldwide. People use this for business purposes or social purposes through sites like twitter, WATS app, face book etc. Social Networking has become the most famous and powerful resource of sharing information in the society. In the past decades, it has become the most powerful communication tool. This paper focuses on the application of social networking sites in education and throws a light on its impact on the learning environment. Millions of people around the world have already been manifested by its effectiveness, which uses this in their routine. This paper highlights the challenges faced by both teachers and technology experts in delivering a innovative and effective new approach to education.

1. Introduction

Human beings are known as social animal.. In order to survive and build relationships they need to connect with the others and expand their relationships with others. Humans feel he necessity to share their views and relationships with others.

In the past decades, due to geographical distance, climate and economic concerns there was very little connection with the people .A social network connects people with one another and in this way they become interdependent on one another. Social network helps people in many ways like in sharing ideas, trades, values. Social networking makes family bonds strong by making them celebrate their moments under one roof. An online social media site connects the users with the others and in this way tones and millions of users gets connected with one another .This results in a deep relationship of love, faith and togetherness.

Online networking sites are good source for exchanging ideas, views, and garbing public opinions in one way or the other. Orkut, My space and Face book has changed the vision and views of many people worldwide. Many companies are taking help of internet to benefit the people globally. For example- Amway company uses a social networking program to benefit large scale of masses and to spread education which is used as a tool for lifelong learning. But still the question arises are these sites competent enough to solve the complex issues prevailing in the social life.

2. Social Learning

Social learning theory also called as Social cognitive theory gives an idea that actions of others make people to learn and human thought process are central to what they understand. Social learning theory stemmed out of work by N.E. Miller and J. Dollard in 1941.It suggests that men were inspired to learn particular behavior and that could be done with proper pobswervation. Social software helps in building our relationship and also builds our knowledge. Web 2.0 technologies have made the world so compact that anybody could get any sort of information

and could collaborate with others with greater ease. Internet now days have become a source to share and explore information. Now its not important to learn the facts but more stress is given on its findings. Web tools support a constructivist approach to education where students do not acquire info ration rather they use to construct and discover it..Teachers and researchers could use this in formulating new teaching methodologies and formulating it rather than just passing a mere bookish knowledge. There is a great need to construct balance between freedom and creativity of developing one's own experience and ensuring to adhere some structure so that the deadlines and goals could be met.

3.Peer Learning/Collaborative Learning

Peer Learning/Collaborative Learning is an activity in which two or more people learn or attempt to learn something together. It is easier to learn collaboratively by the means of social networking. Collaborative learning is based on the fact that k knowledge could be created within a population where all members participate actively and share their real life experiences in order to spread their information. .It has added a new phase in the life of students and made learning enjoyable and interesting. With the use of web2.0 technology sharing knowledge and information has been made easier. Now we can share anything with in a second through you tube, share it, slide share etc.

4. Social Tool for Education

Collaborations help to build to build wide variety of interest among masses. Wikipedia and blogs are used to spread learning experiences in the society .Through Wikis large number of users can collaborate, add and update resource, content and links to other web pages. . Wikipedia is the most famous encyclopedia, having more than 75,000 users and sharing wide amount of information.Wikies empowers the students to be co creators of learning content. Collaborative and team work skills are promoted with the help of Wikis as it enables students to construct and share the information. Little technical skills are required to make Wikis as it helps making the medium accessible to teachers and students from a variety of background.

5. Creative Support Network for Students

Social networking is the most beneficial tool hoping to adapt culturally to new social and cultural environments. Specially Face book and wats app are growing at much faster pace and entangled millions of users in just a few years. As the technology is growing at a rapid speed, it is but obvious that large number of people are grasping its benefits . It has given lots of advantages to the society and nation. In present times, high quality technical equipments and tools are being used for development and modification of education in which internet is unfolded as a powerful equipment. Today, Internet services are being used in education in India as well as other countries in the world. Intranet, Extranet, networking system, websites, e-schools systems etc have played a vital role in education process.

6. Helps in Building Communities

As this world is made up of people of different religions and beliefs, therefore social media helps every community to gather information of their own particular community or belief. Now people

from different communities can connect to discuss and share related stuffs. For eg. Food lovers can join food related communities; car lovers can join car related communities and so on. These are the advantages of social media for the society.

Role of Social networking sites in Education: Social media are related to web based technologies that allow us to be social among the peers and others in the network. It is quite helpful in making new friends and relations and to meet many famous personalities according to their interest.. Information can be transmitted easily through the use of web technology. This technology allows people to share information easily to each other through different techniques. University establishes communication with students, staff and wide educational community by using these equipments. This technology may be an effective way to establish communication with students and research colleagues. In the present era, the education is made more intense and pure by the widespread use of internet. In today's computer era, distance education is establishing its new dimensions at one side while on the other side, technologies that are running it smoothly are making their place in the education system.

How is It Beneficial for the Students?

Social networking sites are services that are web based that helps to prepare a learning environment which mediates and support resources of instructional domain associated with computer's hyperlink by getting connect to internet and intranet. Instructions are designed in such a way that computer displays a lesson while replying the conversation of a learner or a user. Web based which is emerging sector of education is a part of Internet which is increasing rapidly. Following are the reasons of its development.

- It promotes economic development of distance education
- It empowers computer based training, live broadcasts, video tapes etc.
- Increased technological skills
- Enhancement of Communication skills.
- Increased talent to work on group projects.

Many students already use this form of technology, so they may be more engaged in learning if they utilize it. They also get chance to share their ideas which they have learned in their subject.

How is it beneficial for the teaching community?

- Access to resources has been increased
- Formation of partnership in lectures with other states and countries.
- Lesson planning and information can be exchanged.
- Convenient, cheap and effective way to convey details to students.
- Innovative and easy way to deliver lessons in class with proper resources.
- Organized structure of class will help them to plan accordingly and to cover syllabus in particular period of time
- Creation of forums helps students to clear their doubts.

How is it beneficial in staff recruitment?

As every education institution needs to recruit experts in various subjects for preparing and running a new education institute. Social networking plays a major role in selecting experts from

various areas. LinkedIn is a major professional site which contains profiles of millions of experts which allow the recruiter to choose the effective and suitable person for each subject. LinkedIn proves to be first social networking site with lots of profiles with experiences in all areas. It paves way for searching experts for all subjects.

How social networking is overall beneficial?

The benefits of social networking in our system are as follows:

- Cheap and effective ways of communication for different level of users like students, lecturers and so on.
- It helps to improve socialization among students as well as other users of the system.
- It tends to increase the understanding skills of students by enhancing and enabling them knowledge sharing.
- It is the fastest method to convey message among masses.
- It improvises the standards and ranking of students in a country and worldwide.
- It helps to create awareness about new technology and innovations in the field of education.
- Anytime and anywhere any one can get quick access to resources.
- Maintenance of records for teachers and lecturers and education community became easy.
- It also helps to reduce the cost of communication to colleges and Universities.
- It helps to improve the grades and ranks of students by providing them material which suites for the students of all levels.

Conclusion

Social network has played a vital role in education system. It has given new wings to the student’s. Now exposure to knowledge and innovative ideas are just at any ones door step. Social networking has totally changed the face of Today’s era. In education sector every phase of the course is communicated through this. With the help of this, open universities have been developing very rapidly. Students get opportunities to learn different courses on the websites of different universities. It helps to bring more organized material to the classrooms and libraries for the teachers and students It has given ample of opportunities to learners to explore their their talents in the best possible way. It has broken the monotony and provided a variety in teaching learning situation. The user can get opportunity to work on any live project with the experts of other countries. The super highway or cyber space also helps in qualitative improvement of teaching -learning process. It provides flexibility to a learner which is denied by the traditional process and method. So, it has given great contribution to the education sector not only for the students but for the teachers as well.

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