

Title of Session: Teachers In Training

Moderator: Dianne Allen

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Room: Teachers In Training Group

DianneA: Laura, what brings you along here today?

LauraD: I'm new to TI so I'm trying to get myself involved in some discussions.

DianneA nods

DianneA: Fine! Welcome!

LauraD: I'm a grad student in educational technology and am interested in how technology is being used in teacher ed and professional development so I thought I'd stop in here

DianneA: I notice from your profile that you are involved in masters studies ...

DianneA: you might like to check out my profile

DianneA: and so can you elaborate a bit more about what might have been your objective for joining this group today?

LauraD: as part of my work last semester I worked with some undergrads in their pre-student teaching experience

DianneA listens for some more detail

LauraD: and it seemed like they weren't really prepared for what they were expected to know as far as technology and what they might need to know

DianneA nods

LauraD: my background prior to starting this masters program is in IT

KarenBI joined the room.

DianneA: Hi Karen

LauraD: I have an mba in management and I've been trying to look at schools from that perspective

KarenBl: Hi Dianne

LauraD: as a management organization and how technology influences business versus how it influences schools

DianneA: interesting Laura, keep going

DianneA: Welcome to our Teachers-in-Training session Karen

KarenBl: thank you

DianneA: Have you come, Karen, here today with something in mind

KarenBl: I am in a class for my masters and need to sit in on some of these sessions for a paper but I am also a 2nd year teacher so it is two fold

LauraD: in what I've seen, schools are much more resistant to the change because they are looking at what the return is and I've been doing some research into what pre-service teachers are being asked to know versus what the technology standards are

LauraD: Karen I think you and I are in the same class

KarenBl: Dr Z ??

LauraD: yes

KarenBl: great, how is your paper coming?

LauraD: it's coming, it's been tough for me to get involved in a lot of the synchronous work, but I think it's coming together

LauraD: how about you?

KarenBl: yes me too but it is getting there, of course last minute !! sorry Dianne

DianneA: I was going to suggest that we join the Assessment Group for today's session

DianneA: but I see that Maryann is not yet here

DianneA: that means that I am more than happy to run with the responsive discussion that might develop here

KarenBl: that is the other group scheduled for this time, right?

DianneA: and with that in view I have been asking Laura and Karen about their current interests in teachers-in-training

DianneA: yes Karen

DianneA: are you interested in assessment issues?

KarenBl: sure I am open to any discussions, I have learned so much from seasoned teachers

LauraD: I am too, like I said I'm still really getting the hang of things so I'm learning from everyone

DianneA: Have you been to a teachers-in-training session before Karen?

KarenBl: no Dianne

KarenBl: I am new to Tapped In

DianneA: OK, let me describe what has happened here in the past

KarenBl: great

LauraD: that would be great

DianneA: usually a whole host of pre-service teachers turn up from Texas and surrounds

DianneA: and share their pre-service practicum problems

DianneA: I let it run as mostly peer mentoring

DianneA: and toss in some moderating inputs, questions, comments ... whatever

KarenBl: ok so they are student teaching?

LauraD: is tonight's turnout less than normal b/c of the time of year?

DianneA: sometimes the t-i-t session attracts other experienced teachers and they throw in their two penneth worth

DianneA: exactly Laura

DianneA: over the last month or so we noticed a clash of times with the Assessment session and assessment comes up as an issue and so one of the ideas was to have the groups together ...

DianneA: at least every now and then to focus that way

DianneA: if assessment is not an issue for either of you tonight then I suggest we not join that group but design our own discussion around your interests/concerns

KarenBl: Laura do you have a preference?

LauraD: either is fine with me

DianneA: since you are both with Dr Z and have some common ground in assignment work at present then that might be a more practice oriented option

LauraD: that works for me.

DianneA: I also work with Masters Ed students on research process

KarenBl: if this is not out of the realm could you give some examples of how teachers might use Tapped In with their students, our paper is on the educational experiences with MUVES

KarenBl: Is that ok Laura?

LauraD: that sounds good to me

DianneA: OK we have a starting topic ... right down my alley

DianneA: I also operate as Helpdesk here at Tapped in

DianneA: and Karen's issue is part of TI's justification

DianneA: and a continual question on my agenda

DianneA: let me just check first for some technology tips for tapped in

DianneA: do you have your chat space 'detached' and enlarged to keep track of more than one or two lines of chat?

BJB2: Laura and Karen, have you taken the Saturday K-12 Student Campus tour with Jeff?

LauraD: I do

LauraD: and no I haven't

DianneA: thanks Laura

BJB2: Dianne, do you want me to explain the student campus?

DianneA: and BJ

KarenBl: no I haven't either

DianneA: if it is convenient BJ

DianneA: otherwise I can run with the overview and call you in for some details later

KarenBl: I do now

BJB2: go ahead with the overview, please, Dianne

DianneA: OK so Karen is asking how teachers might use Tapped In with their students

DianneA: the answer is that there is a K-12 campus set up the same as the main Tapped In portal

DianneA: where students can be joined as a class group

DianneA: with their own room

DianneA: and can use the sorts of things we can use in these sessions

DianneA: so let me check with you about your general knowledge of Tapped In

LauraD: so it's a more secure environment?

DianneA: yes Laura

DianneA: do you know how to access the calendar?

LauraD: yes

KarenBl: I go to the main map and click calendar, is that right

DianneA: Yes. Good. Next question: have you been to other sessions here at Tapped In?

KarenBl: yes the tips and tricks with BJ

DianneA nods to Karen

KarenBl: how do you do that Dianne A nods again?

DianneA: the command is the colon with the action

KarenBl says thanks

DianneA: OK so my next description is of what happens at a usual session

LauraD: I was about to say that I've been hopping in and out of other sessions and have been reading transcripts on aso

DianneA: we gather, we introduce ourselves, ...

DianneA: and the leader of a session usually has some content about using the web in the teaching situation

DianneA: frequently it is sharing good web resources

DianneA: a bit like a film review

DianneA: so, if you have your room view window available let me show you how the group room, the office, the class room is set up

DianneA: on the left hand side of the room view are menus like NOTES, FILES, LINKS, DISCUSSION

DianneA: for instance if you open LINKS here you will see three links two of which are to transcripts of sessions

DianneA: clicking on a link opens another web page

DianneA: are you with me?

KarenBl: yes I am

LauraD: me too

DianneA: OK so in your class room you can set up links to recommended sites

DianneA: does that trigger any suggestions for how to use TI with students

KarenBl: as an assignment students could click on a link and post comments?

DianneA . o O (perhaps I need another couple of sentences ...)

DianneA: yes Karen

LauraD: you could direct the students to areas that tie in to an in class assignment

DianneA: and if you open the discussion tab you will see some discussion posts here

LauraD: for example if you're reading a book

LauraD: set in a particular era you could have them do research or give them links to historical information to give them a better context

DianneA: so the 'virtual classroom' that you set up in Tapped In, at the secure K-12 campus, can become a site of this kind of activity ...

DianneA: access to approved and relevant on-task sites

KarenBl: oh ok so would you mostly use it for a homework assignment?

DianneA: and a feature for something similar to blogging to record the work done

DianneA: it can be used for synchronous class work

DianneA: or for offline any hours asynchronous work

KarenBl: I am embarrassed to admit I have never used a blog

BJB2: . o O (webquests? jigsaw activites? research?)

DianneA: what you then need to know is (1) how to set up a class room, and (2) how to join your students

LauraD: do most of the participants in the k12 environment have the technology/computers in the schools to use TI during the day

DianneA: yes BJ exactly

DianneA: over to you Bj for Laura's question

BJB2: Laura, some do and some don't...

BJB2: and some schools have firewalls that don't allow chat. There is information in the FAQ about poking a small hole in the firewall

DianneA: now the question in my mind is how much further into detail do we go with this now?

BJB2: you can use Tapped In in a lab or as a station

LauraD: that's what I've seen with a lot of schools, firewalls or webfilters that slow them down

KarenBl: I guess I am thinking if students are all sitting together in class would you use the chat feature?

DianneA: as Bj mentioned earlier, JeffC runs a session on setting up in K-12 campus

DianneA: Karen, probably not unless in a computer lab where the computer work was part of the lesson

DianneA: in that event to offline homework option might be what you set up a virtual classroom for

KarenBl: oh ok thanks but I think they could also do this in class and post discussion responses like doing a paper

DianneA: indeed

LauraD: I can definitely see a benefit to the secure environment, getting everyone into one area to work makes it more manageable for the teacher

DianneA: and the TI produces transcripts of the K-12 sessions for the teacher, so that there is that control as well

KarenBl: yes, and I just think using a computer in school to work on an assignment instead of with book, pencil and paper at the desk will spark their interest

DianneA: have you both seen the transcripts of your sessions here after you log off?

DianneA nods to Karen

LauraD: that's great, so valuable, I've seen other sites that don't do that and it lets things get off track

DianneA: Laura's concerns about access and firewalls is the on-the-ground hazard

KarenBl: I think they were emailed to me right, haven't had time to check or do you mean on the site

DianneA: I meant your own transcripts Karen

DianneA: the other transcripts are of the public sessions held here and give some of the tips offered in such sessions

KarenBl: ok so you do mean the emailed ones?

DianneA: they are available for when you cannot manage to come

DianneA: the emailed transcripts record what you have been involved in

DianneA: the session transcripts have some editing done to them

KarenBl: oh ok

DianneA: the K-12 campus transcripts are of the transactions of all class members

DianneA: so you as teacher can check their TI behaviour and perhaps give some lessons on that

LauraD: which is greatly needed in some cases

KarenBl: yes I remember BJ telling us that in the tips and tricks

DianneA nods

DianneA: so if you are interested in using TI in the class you probably need to come to a few tips and tricks sessions and the advanced ones and to find out about how to set a room up for using it for this kind of work

DianneA: you can also store selected files in a room and they become available for your students

DianneA: there is also a whiteboard function for notices

KarenBl: yes I would for sure if I were going to use it

DianneA: and on the K-12 campus there are some public rooms set up with resources for particular assignment topics

DianneA: do you have time to check those out?

KarenBl: oh that is good

LauraD: I would love to

KarenBl: I would love to also

DianneA: OK this is a case of do what I tell you ...

KarenBl nods

DianneA: click on the Tapped In tab at the top of your room view window

DianneA: reattach your chat space

KarenBl: ok

DianneA: click on the K-12 campus link on the campus map

DianneA: click on the Student Activity Centre building and then wait until I catch up with you

KarenBl left the room.

LauraD left the room.

DianneA left the room.

BJB2 left the room.

Room: SAC_Reception

BJB2 joined the room.

DianneA: and here you see the featured passageways to the public rooms with things set up for assignments

DianneA: let's try the Moonwalk Room

DianneA: click on the open door to that room and wait for me to join you

BJB2 . o O (I recommend the hip hop room)

KarenBl: ah yes I remember being here with BJ we went to the NASA room

DianneA: thanks BJ that's next!!!

BJB2: hip hop has some folders for students

DianneA nods

DianneA: as no one has moved let's try the Hip Hop room first

KarenBl: ok

DianneA: click on the open door to the Hip Hop room

KarenBl left the room.

LauraD: ok

LauraD left the room.

DianneA left the room.

BJB2 left the room.

Room: HipHop

BJB2 joined the room.

DianneA: well done

DianneA: now check out the LINKS tab

DianneA: ooh ohhh

DianneA: rather click on one of the Featured Folders!

KarenBl: anyone?

DianneA: BJ?

DianneA: I work with Tapped In on an experimental basis Karen

DianneA: I try anyone

DianneA: sometimes I end up with oopsses

BJB2: not sure what's happening...

KarenBl: ok

BJB2: did you have a question?

DianneA: we are trying any folder BJ

DianneA: there were no LINKS

DianneA: or FILES

BJB2: try the folders in Featured Items

BJB2 . o O (what's hot in music?)

BJB2: Games or electronic gadgets is another

DianneA: excuse me for a minute while I check Moonwalk

LauraD: looks like a lot of these are not very robust

DianneA left the room.

BJB2: they're just waiting for the right teacher to bring in kids to robustify these folders, Laura!

KarenBl: so these are posts between all students in any class?

LauraD: is the student center where the k12 students can go to check their peers? and they have a separate area for their coursework

BJB2: yes. The teacher has to set permissions for their students to be able to enter this room

DianneA joined the room.

DianneA: Hullo

DianneA: back again

DianneA: Laura, one of the 'issues' of how well Tapped In is used is about how much teachers learn to use it

BJB2: Laura, the students would use their group room for classwork

DianneA: and what time is involved in setting up a work space

LauraD: always the way with technology

DianneA: It is like any other tool or resource

DianneA: you get what you pay for

DianneA: The NASA room is set up with some links to other web pages ...

BJB2 . o O (although you get a LOT more with Tapped In since it's free ;-)
)

DianneA: we would need to access other spaces for some indication of class work

DianneA: and the security of the K-12 campus is that we cannot access those unless invited

DianneA: ie you need to arrange with a teacher

LauraD: makes sense

KarenBl: well that is good

BJB2: teachers can also collaborate with other teachers to share their group rooms and resources

DianneA: we could go back to the main campus and check a good resource room

DianneA: depends on how you two are going for time

KarenBl: I would like to do that real quick and then I will have to sign off

DianneA: or you could join the Write Group for that discussion

LauraD: I would love to do more, but I actually have to go talk to my mechanic...car troubles

DianneA: or yes, best leave it for another session

DianneA nods

DianneA: thanks for your company then

LauraD: thank you so much

KarenBl: ok sure, good luck Laura with your paper

DianneA: come again and check us out for more

LauraD: this was so helpful & informative!

KarenBl: thanks so much Dianne and BJ as always

LauraD: you too Karen

DianneA: as I said practice-relevant is one of my mantras

KarenBl: have a good night all

BJB2 waves

LauraD: you too!