

Title of Session: Invitational Education
Moderator: Lynne Wolters and Patsy Paxton
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Room: After School Online Room

LynneW joined the room.

LynneW: Hello!

PatsyP: Hi Lynne!

LynneW: How are you today?

PatsyP: I'm great! All raring to go!

PatsyP: How are you doing?

LynneW: I am well. The sun is shining, the trees are blooming...sigh

PatsyP: Over here in New Zealand we are starting to feel the effects of winter creeping up! But, the sun is still shining

LynneW: Jackie and Elle...hello!

PatsyP: It's Good Friday here so no one's around. Very quiet!

LynneW: Good Friday for us tomorrow. I'll be working from home.

LynneW: I hope you have a lovely holiday.

PatsyP: Did you manage to have a look at the Invit Ed site?

JackieB: I looked at it for a second, but I'm working on another project right now so I didn't thoroughly look at it.

LynneW: I see you two have had a short chance to chat...that's great!

PatsyP: Sorry, I'm still getting used to the protocol of chatrooms

PatsyP: Yes, we are really passing time until the official start in about 15 mins - is this okay?

JackieB: Last time I was on here we all chatted for about 30 minutes prior to the session.

LynneW: Absolutely it is alright.

PatsyP: Really nice warm up

LynneW: One of the nicest aspects of TI is the people connections and conversations.

JackieB: It's nice to get to talk to new people

PatsyP: I know exactly what you mean! In the little while I have been a member, I have met such great people!

LynneW: Jackie, do you attend sessions in Tapped In often?

PatsyP: Elle are you still there?

ElleD: yes

LynneW: Hi Elle

JackieB: This is my second one. I did the Tips and Tricks session last week. I'm taking a class and this is part of the class. It's interesting and we learn with others, which is cool

PatsyP: Elle, I take it that you are also a newcomer to the concept of Invitational Ed - is this a correct assumption?

ElleD: Hi Lynne

ElleD: yes, this is my first time.

PatsyP: great!

LynneW: Jackie and Elle, what was it about the session description that made you want to attend?

LynneW: What are you hoping to take with you from this session?

PatsyP: Lynne, I will wait for you to give the word for us to start our chat on Invid Ed - okay?

PatsyP: Okay, I must admit I never dreamed this chatroom stuff would be such fun!!

LynneW: We need to wait just a few more minutes before we get started.

ElleD: Sounds good!

KarinaE joined the room.

PatsyP: Hi Karina

LynneW: Hello Karina!

PatsyP: We have a couple of minutes before the session starts

KarinaE: Hello Patsy, Hello Lynne! Great, I thought I was late.

LynneW: Not at all. Thank you for choosing to join us.

KarinaE smiles

PatsyP -)

LynneW: So, I'm still curious. Why did any of you choose this session today? What do you hope to take with you from this session.

JackieB: I think it will be interesting to see different people's opinions on how to have a supportive environment for our students.

AlannaGst1 joined the room.

LynneW: Welcome Alanna

PatsyP: Hi Alanna

AndreenL joined the room.

LynneW: Hi Andreen!

PatsyP: Hi Andreen!

AndreenL: Hi Lynne!

LynneW: We may have a few more folks dropping in. However, I would like to get us started with this session.

AlitaF joined the room.

JackieB: ok

LynneW: Hi Alita.

AndreenL: ok

LynneW: Let's begin with introductions.

LynneW: I am a professor of educational technology at Concordia University Portland, OR

JackieB: Okay, well I go to University of Houston and am in the PUMA program right now. I graduate in December in elementary education.

AlannaGst1: Hello

JoleneB joined the room.

PatsyP: And I am the Academic Director at the Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand

KarinaE: Hi, my name is Karina and I attend the University of Houston and I graduate this May in bilingual education.

LynneW: Hi Jolene!

AndreenL: I am a pre-service teacher at the University of Houston. My major is elementary education.

JoleneB: Hi I am a McNeese student

AlitaF: Hi. I attend the University of Houston and in the PUMA program also. Specializing in math 4-8

ElleD: I'm a pre-service teacher, I do not have any experience with classroom or how to deal with students. I take view session to gain some experience.

LynneW: Jolene, can you explain?

JoleneB: Louisiana

JackieB: ok

JoleneB: Dr. Hunt has asked us to attend a Tapped in Discussion

LynneW: Welcome.

JoleneB: I am also a teacher of Technology enrichment

JackieB: thanks

AlannaGst1: Hello, I'm just checking out the scene. Wow, this is exciting.

LynneW: Is anyone here brand new to Tapped In?

AlannaGst1: Yes, I am.

JoleneB: I am

AndreenL: I've only done Tips and Tricks.

JackieB: this is my second time on here

KarinaE: This is my first actual online discussion.

LynneW: OK, before I ask Patsy to begin this session, let me share a few tips and tricks.

AlitaF: I have only attended the tips and tricks session

LynneW: First, you will probably want to detach the text portion of the user interface. Look at the text box that says ACTIONS. Select DETACH

JackieB: ok

LynneW: This will give you more physical space to read the rolling text as our conversation unfolds.

ElleD: ok

JoleneB: Thanks

AlannaGst1: Cool

JackieB: cool

LynneW: Patsy, is it okay with you if folks ask a question when it occurs to them?

ElleD: neat

PatsyP: absolutely!

LynneW: Don't think you have a dumb question. If you don't understand something...please ask.

LynneW: We want this to be as interactive a session as possible.

JackieB: ok

LynneW: Patsy will begin with information sharing about invitational learning and then will share a link to a web site.

KarinaE: ok

LynneW: When you go visit the web site, don't forget to keep checking in with us.

JackieB: ok

AndreenL: ok

JoleneB: ok

LynneW: You may get so involved in the web site you forget about time.

ElleD: ok

LynneW: Patsy, please share with us!

PatsyP: I became interested in Invitational Education (IE) about 15 years ago and spent the fall semester of 1992 working with William Purkey (IE is his brainchild)

JackieB: What are your responsibilities with the organization?

PatsyP: yes, the website is: www.invitationaleducation.net

PatsyP: Here at the Auckland Uni of Technology (New Zealand) I am the Academic Director - responsible for all academic quality matters

LynneW: You can click on this web address and new browser window will open to the web site.

JackieB: thanks

PatsyP: But let's get onto what exactly IS Invit Ed (IE)?

LynneW: ok, what is it?

PatsyP: IE is more than a philosophy - it is a theory of educ practice based on trust, respect, a belief in cooperation, empathetic understanding and genuineness

JackieB: I see. How do you go about implementing this philosophy with your organization?

PatsyP: It focuses on all the forces that contribute to human achievement in an educ institution, including the places, policies, programs, process and the people who create these forces (the 5 s)

PatsyP: It's a matter of sensitizing people to all the aspects of the 5 ps in and around the institution

LynneW: Patsy, can you give us some concrete examples?

LynneW: Like a what a class or school looks like before and after a change.

PatsyP: Whenever one of these 5 ps evokes positive feelings in a person, that person is said to be invited or given a blue card

JackieB: Does that mean that person with the blue card does a project?

AndreenL: I'm sorry what is a blue card?

PatsyP: And whenever one of these 5 ps evokes negative feelings in a person they are said to be disinvited or given an orange card

JoleneB: What happens with the cards

JackieB: Is this a behavior color card system?

PatsyP: the blue / orange card is the metaphor used to describe inviting (Blue) and disinviting (orange)

JoleneB: So it just reinforces the teaching

ElleD: oh, I got it now.

PatsyP: Everything in and around an ed instit can be broken down into the people, processes they use places, policies and programs

LynneW: This is interesting.

KarinaE: can you give us an example of a positive feeling or negative feeling?

JackieB: Is the color system for the classroom? Like a classroom management system for the students to develop these 5 principals.

PatsyP: So the classroom environments we create can be blue or orange (invit or disinviting)

PatsyP: No the colors are just metaphorical]

AndreenL: I'm a little confused about the color system.

JoleneB: Do you state something when the card is given?

PatsyP: When I asked Purkey why he chose those 2 colors, he said he got a class to nominate their best and worst - blue & orange as it turned out!

PatsyP: Let's take an example]

PatsyP: When a teacher uses sarcasm that will be an orange card

PatsyP: because it puts the student down

JackieB: so it's a rating system

PatsyP: ie invokes negative feelings..

JackieB: ok

PatsyP: no, not a rating system

LynneW: Or an awareness system, Jackie.

PatsyP: it's a way of addressing humankind

PatsyP: teachers can choose to create classrooms that are inviting

PatsyP: eg bright, happy places

JoleneB: Do the kids give the teacher an orange card?

PatsyP: they can also use blue card processes (methods) such as inclusiveness and cooperation / teamwork

PatsyP: Yes, kids can and do give teachers orange cards

JoleneB: I think they would like that.

PatsyP: and that's where a teacher's professionalism comes into play - to be inviting when others are disinventing

JackieB: So, it's basically a way to become aware and make positive changes in your teaching.

PatsyP: The whole point of IE is to create total learning environments where students want to be

PatsyP: Jackie - exactly!

JackieB: ok I understand now thanks

KarinaE: wow, that is great. I have realized that sometimes we tend to say things without much thought.

PatsyP: The research has shown conclusively that students learn best when they feel safe and involved in their own learning

PatsyP: when they are invited

JackieB: I think this is very positive for growing professionally and personally.

PatsyP: let's look at some orange card statements

KarinaE: ok

PatsyP: eg Trouble with you is..

AndreenL: ok

JackieB: ok

PatsyP: You always...

PatsyP: you never...

PatsyP: someone else have eggs?

KarinaE: how about...I told you...?

LynneW: don't be stupid

JackieB: Generalizing negatively about students. For example, You'll never understand

PatsyP: Yep, you've got it! Also - What's your excuse this time?

PatsyP: okay let's now look at some blue card statements
JeffC joined the room.
PatsyP: eg I think you can do it
PatsyP: How can I help you?
JackieB: These are positive statements....I like the way you...
AlannaGst1: How about ... that's it. Let's try again.
AndreenL: Good job
PatsyP: Great! I also think one of the most invitational responses is: "forget it / it doesn't matter"
JackieB: That's true, we need to have faith in our students!
LynneW: What a loving gift that comment can be to anyone!
PatsyP: And it's not that some things don't matter, it's just that often we get our knickers in a knot over the small stuff
JoleneB: true
JackieB: I agree
JoleneB: Sometime we just need to tell ourselves that
PatsyP: okay let's look at some orange card behaviours, shall we?
LynneW: Patsy, do the children begin treating each other in invitational ways as well?
KarinaE: yes
JackieB: ok
FernandaI joined the room.
PatsyP: yes, it's amazing how in classrooms where the teacher insists on a policy of mutual respect, it catches on really quickly
PatsyP: disinverting practices are just not tolerated
LynneW: Hello Jeff and Fernanda. Welcome to our session.
AndreenL: Kind of like teacher modeling
PatsyP: Orange card (disinverting behaviours) eg being habitually late
JeffC waves
PatsyP: Yes Andreen' it IS modeling in a sense
JackieB: My mentor teacher made a Mayflower Compact for his class. It's really neat, because all of the students signed it and felt like part of the implementation.
PatsyP: Hi Jeff
PatsyP: Jackie your mentor sounds like an Invit educator all right!
JackieB: He is...He's very positive and always giving good feedback to the students.
PatsyP: any more eggs of disinverting behaviors?
PatsyP: IE is actually not about being warm and fuzzy
JoleneB: Do you use a contract system?
PatsyP: it's about having high standards and expecting the best of students
JackieB: Just being respectful
PatsyP: Invi teachers are constantly being challenged
PatsyP: Yes Jackie, even when others are being disrespectful!
PatsyP: A contract system could form part but is not essential for a teacher to be invitational
PatsyP: IE is a theory of PRACTICE - and that's the operative word
KarinaE: how can we approach a student who constantly makes rude comments to peers, without scolding the child?

JackieB: It's basically about the aura as well

PatsyP: The child would have to be challenged, but an Invi teacher would do this in a one - on one

AndreenL: When a negative or positive statement is said by the teacher, will students tell the teacher that is a orange or blue card statement?

PatsyP: praise in public, discipline in private

PatsyP: yes students quickly pick up on the blue - orange card behaviours, words etc

JoleneB: Can you give an example of discipline in private, it is inviting

JackieB: So, if there's a problem then teachers need to bring a student aside to talk to them about a problem.

JoleneB: It should say, is it inviting?

PatsyP: Jolene, taking a student on one side and explaining that certain behaviours are not acceptable, means that you are not humiliating them in front of their peers

PatsyP: which is a definite no-no

PatsyP: sorry about the typos

ElleD joined the room.

PatsyP: we are just scratching the surface of IE - there is so much more to it

PatsyP: and if you go to the site www.invitationaleduaction.net you can expand on all of this

JackieB: ok

LynneW: Patsy, our brains are working to construct a model of what IE is...do you have a particular place on the web site that would help us construct this model?

JackieB: that would be quite helpful

PatsyP: for eg, there are 4 levels of operating, one of then being the unintentionally disinverting level

LynneW: Perhaps a diagram or story/narrative perhaps?

PatsyP: Lynne, the site itself leads one from the basics to more detail - just go there and see

JoleneB: The websites is very detailed

LynneW: Tell us more about the four levels of operating.

PatsyP: Level 4: intentionally disinverting

AlannaGst1: Excuse me. I need to sign out. This was an interesting chat.

JackieB: ok

PatsyP: Level 3: unintentionally disinverting

PatsyP: bye

LynneW: Bye Alana!

AlannaGst1 left the room (signed off).

PatsyP: Level 2: unintentionally inviting

PatsyP: and Level 1: intentionally inviting

LynneW: We are coming close to the end of our session. Would folks like to go spend time on the web site and then come back to ask Patsy last questions?

PatsyP: The aim is to get to level 1, altho we all operate at all 4 levels

KarinaE: ok

JackieB: ok

JoleneB: The Starfish Analogy is interesting

PatsyP: But it is the level you typically operate at that defines your basic philosophy - from the Invited model anyway

PatsyP: Yes, the starfish analogy shows how when one of the 5Ps is missing, the others start to disintegrate as well

KarinaE: so intentionally inviting would be like praising a child in front of the class for following directions?

PatsyP: So we can speak inviting words, but if we use disinviting teaching methods, then it won't work!

JoleneB: I also think it means how we react to things

JackieB: I agree

PatsyP: absolutely!

JoleneB: Do our students want to be with us??

PatsyP: It is the teachers reactions that will always determine whether a crisis is escalated or not

JackieB: Yes, because the students should want to come to school because it's fun and engaging

PatsyP: Yes, the aim of IE is to create environments where students WANT to be

PatsyP: and where they WANT to learn

PatsyP: It is the teacher's mood that creates the "vibe" in the classroom

JackieB: Definitely

PatsyP: so as teachers we are actually enormously powerful

PatsyP: Invited teachers never forget what it's like to be a student

JoleneB: A very nice statement

PatsyP -)

JoleneB: I need to remember that

KarinaE: yes, we are powerful and our students look up to us. We shouldn't forget that we are models to them.

PatsyP: Agreed!

LynneW: By your comments, I can tell you folks have a real heart for teaching. It is so nice to see/hear.

PatsyP: Yesss! so should we look at ways we can make our teaching more inviting?

JackieB: I think that would be interesting!

JoleneB: Very much so A Big Yes

LynneW: Please.

PatsyP: What methods would fit into the Invited paradigm?

YvonneMa joined the room.

PatsyP: Rote Learning / memorisation?

JoleneB: NO

PatsyP: Obviously not

DaveGst7 joined the room.

PatsyP: so how can you involve students in their own learning?

LynneW: Hello Yvonne and Dave!

MarianneH joined the room.

JackieB: Using guided reading in the classroom. I observed this the other day in the classroom and the teacher chose books that the students were interested in. The different groups rotate and some discuss with the teacher, some journal, and some read for pleasure.

JoleneB: Experience, group work,

PatsyP: great!

JackieB: Giving choices is a good way to get the students involved.

KarinaE: allowing students to work on activities that are of interest to them and meaningful!

PatsyP: Drawing on students' own experiences -

LynneW: We are going to have to conclude our session. Another one is about to begin in this space.

JoleneB: Enjoyed it

JoleneB: Thanks

JackieB: thanks

KarinaE: ok, thanks for all the info! I will sure use it!

LynneW: Patsy, thank you for bringing Invitational Learning to TI

PatsyP: Hey, I don't think I'm needed here! You are obviously all onto it!

AndreenL: Thank you for the information you've provided us with.

ElleD: thank you Patsy

PatsyP: Thanks for inviting me Lynne

JackieB: You are, thanks

LynneW: You are most welcome...any time.

LynneW: Patsy has an office in Tapped In. If you want to contact her...go there for her contact information.

PatsyP: Bye everyone please e-mail me if you wish:

patsy.paxton@aut.ac.nz

JoleneB: Thank you