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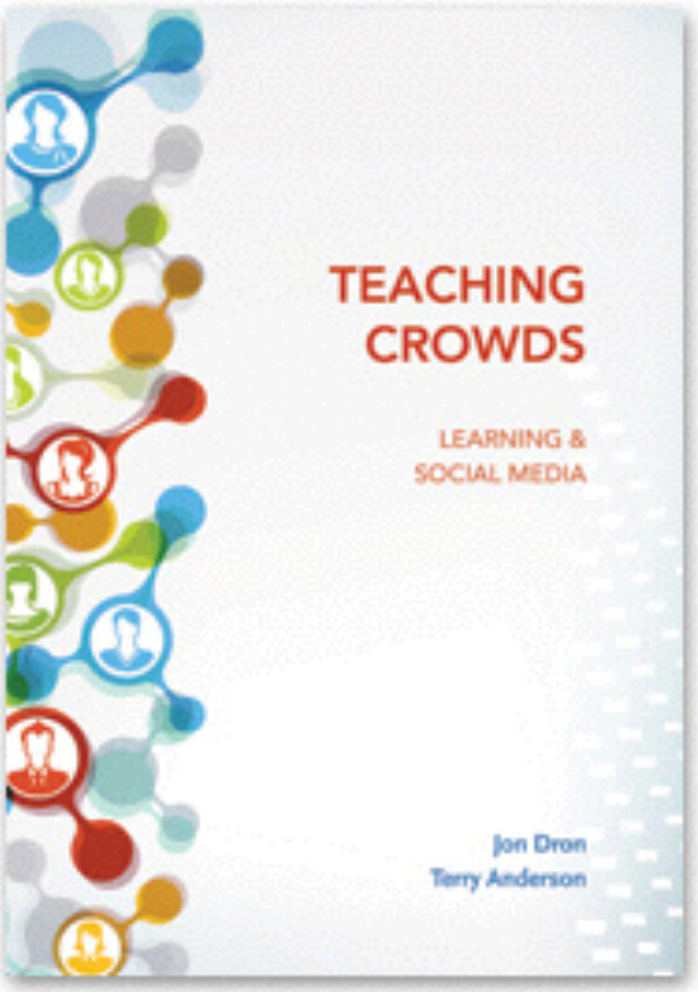

Learning with strangers

The Value of Sets in Online Learning

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Athabasca University

Athabasca University
FACULTY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
School of Computing & Information Systems

learning together

The two biggest e-learning success stories so far?

Google España

A typology of social forms

- **The group**
  Hierarchies, membership, intentionality, collaboration, boundaries
- **The net**
  Personal connections, fuzzy boundaries, emergence
- **The set**
  Publication, aggregation, anonymity, cooperation
- **The collective**
  Computational agents, algorithms, analytics, visualization, crowd wisdom/mob stupidity

First there were groups…

…and networks

There were always sets…

…but we didn't pay much attention to them

Sets

People with shared attributes and a common virtual or physical space

Curation

Cooperation

Sharing

Tagging

Co-creating

Co-editing

- Co-operation: working *independently* for the greater good
- Collaboration: working *together* for the greater good

Open Educational Resource university

MERLOT II

mathoverflow

coursera

Google scholar

iTunes U

Quora

edX

Pinterest

learnist

KHANACADEMY

Slashdot

stackoverflow

WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Google+

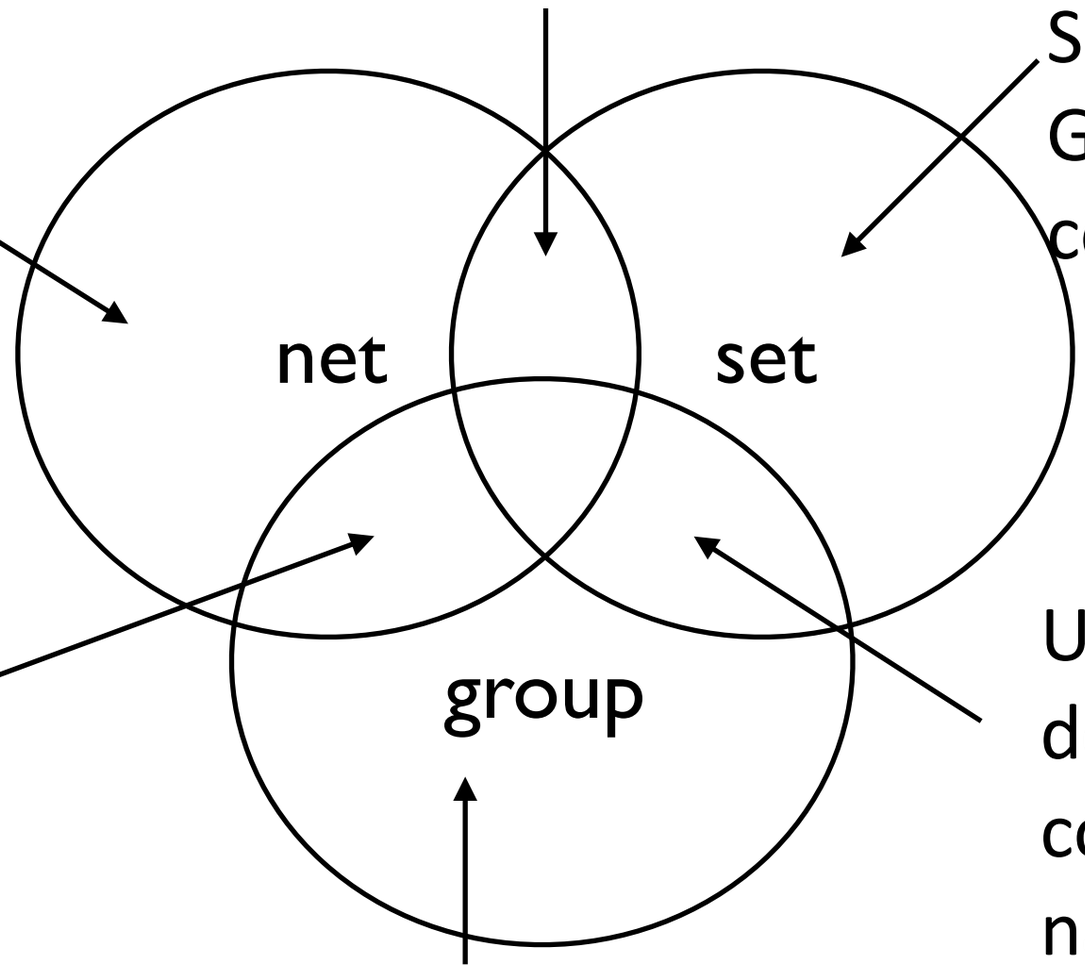
WikiEducator
free elearning content

Blends and combinations

Wikipedia editors
Subject area mailing lists
alumni networks

Social networks -
friends, work,
community

Subject areas
Geographically
collocated people



ad-hoc learning
networks
clubs & societies
Communities of
practice

Universities
departments
companies
nations
Tribes

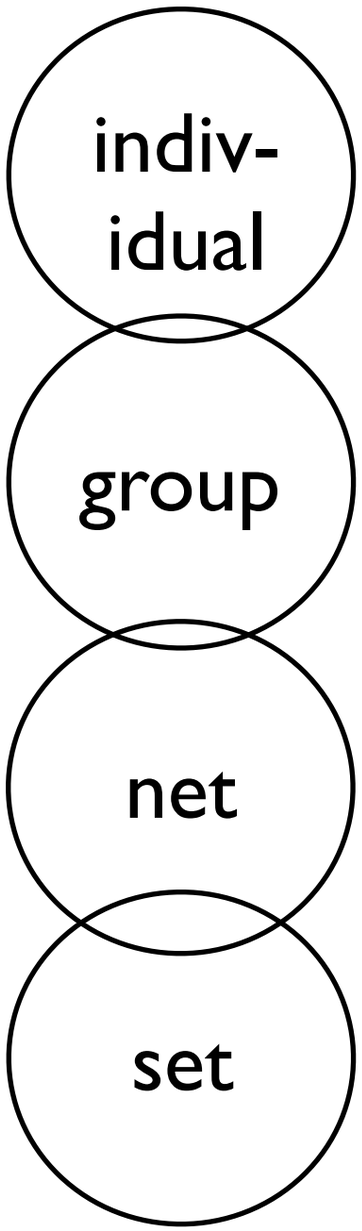
Classes
Tutorial groups
Seminars
Project teams

Generations of distance learning pedagogies

Private

Public

1. **Behaviourist/Cognitive** – *Self Paced, Individual Study,*
2. **Social constructivist** – *Groups, classes*
3. **Connectivist** – *Networks*
4. **Holist** - *Sets and Collectives*



Anderson, T., & Dron, J. (2011). Three generations of distance education pedagogy. *International Review of Research on Distance and Open Learning, 12(3), 80-97*

Why sets?

freedom

serendipity

finding answers

finding people

Sets are good for…

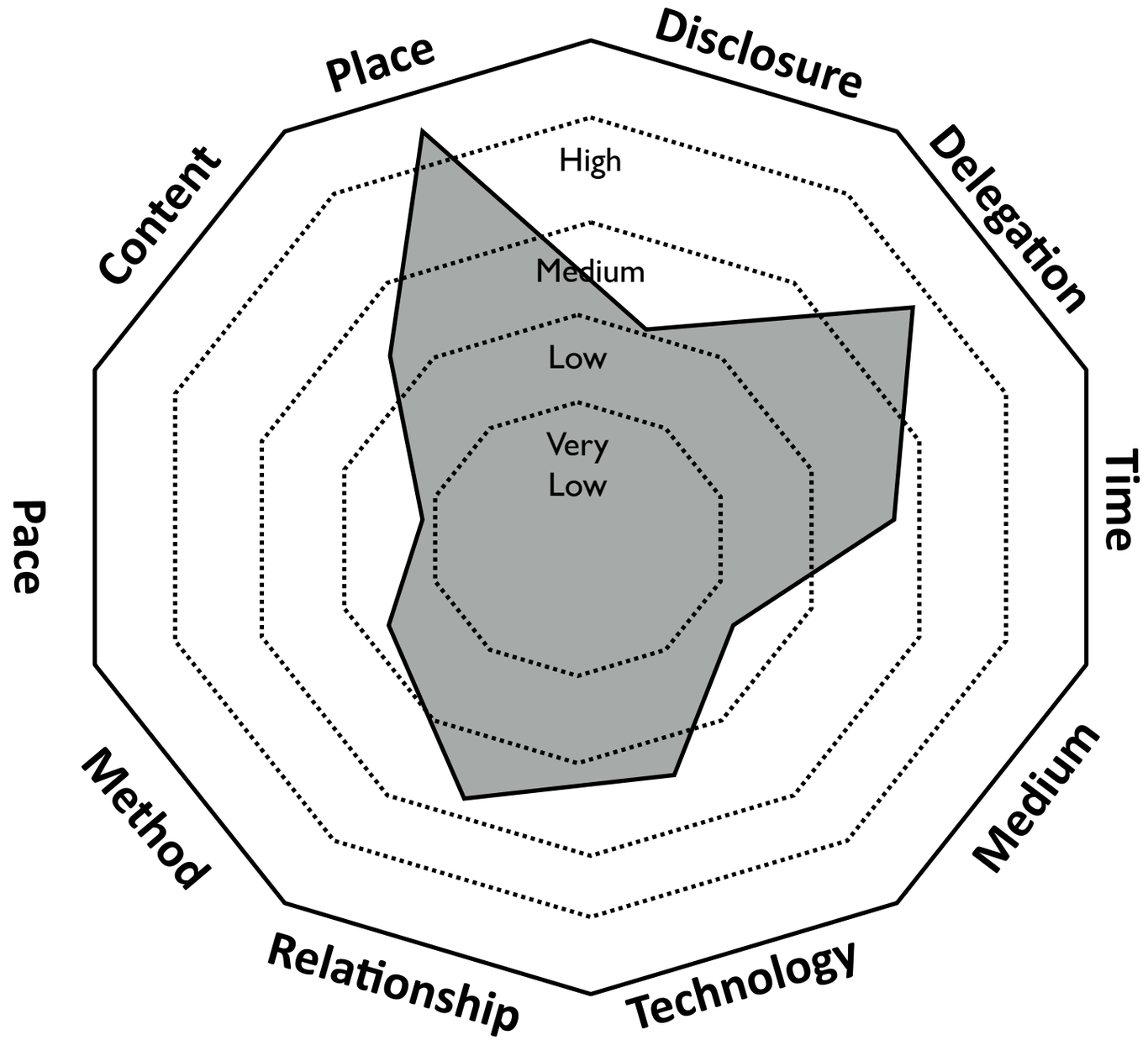
learner choice

reducing loneliness

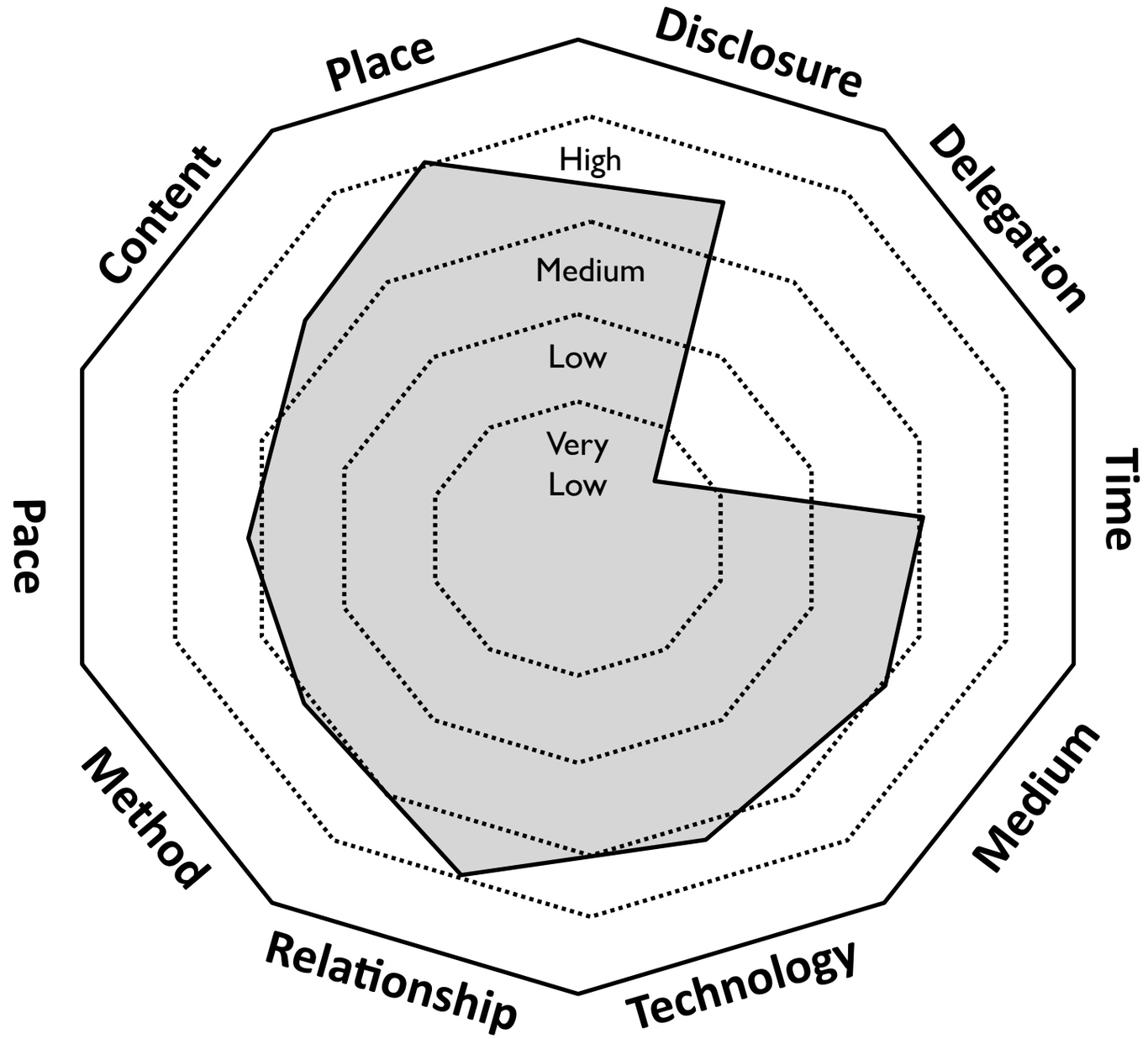
diverse perspectives

starting groups and networks

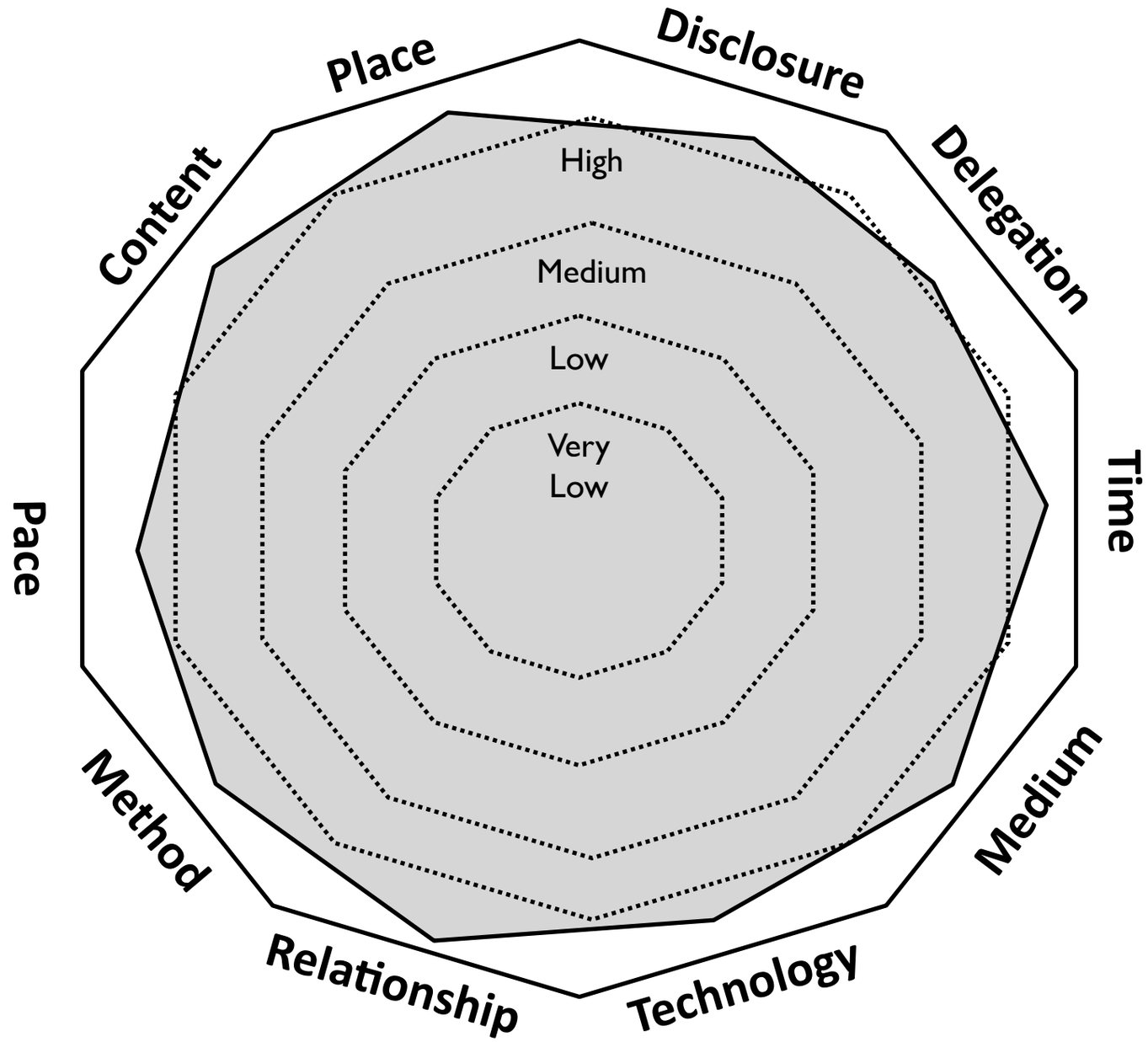
Paced group freedoms



Network freedoms



Set freedoms



but…

Why contribute to a set?

Focus

Depth and engagement

Trust

The problem of evil

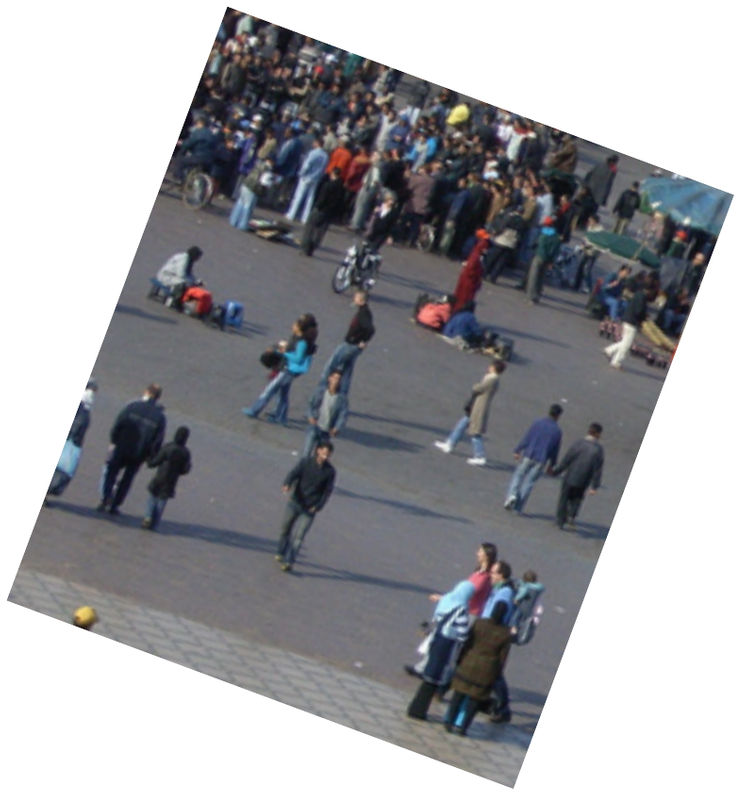
The problem (?) of diversity

The problem of stupidity

closed	open
private	disclosed
hidden	exposed
protected	unprotected
safe	insecure

Collectives

Hot tags
In the last 24 hours
readingfestival2006, geotagging, leedsfestival, bankholiday, nottinghillcarnival2006, nottinghillcarnival nottinghill, geotag, notting, lbg, slayer, readingfestival, monday, carling, ixus, cbdflickr, hurricanekatrina, bluetagged, pax, ernesto
Over the last week
foocamp06, readingfestival, ultmarkt, exposure082506, barcampvancouver, brickfest copop, nottinghillcarnival, barcampsearch, foocamp, minnesotastatefair, pax06, livestrong, gamesconvention, bokehsonicaaugust28, sunsetjunction, buskerfest, bankholiday, bershon, utatafun
Jump to:
GO
All time most popular tags
06 amsterdam animal animals april architecture art august australia baby barcelona beach berlin birthday black blackandwhite blue boston bw california cameraphone camping canada canon car cat cats chicago china christmas church city clouds color concert day dc dog dogs england europe family festival film florida flower flowers food france friends fun garden geotagged germany girl graduation graffiti green halloween hawaii hiking holiday home honeymoon hongkong house india ireland island italy japan july june kids lake landscape light london losangeles macro march may me mexico mountain mountains museum music nature new newyork newyorkcity newzealand night nikon nyc ocean paris park party people portrait red river roadtrip rock rome san sanfrancisco school scotland sea seattle show sky snow spain spring street



Google
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stigmergy
Search: the web pages from the UK
Web
Stigmergy - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
Stigmergy is a method of indirect communication in a self-organizing emergent system where its individual parts communicate with one another by modifying ...
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stigmergy - 21k - Cached - Similar pages - Note this
Definitions of stigmergy
stigmergic systems,agent technology,complexity,evolution,emergence.
www.stigmergicsystems.com/stig_v1/stigrefs/article1.html - 8k -
Cached - Similar pages - Note this
What is stigmergy?
self-organization,self-organizing,strategy,agents,evolutionary strategy,kempelen agents.
www.stigmergicsystems.com/stig_v1/whatisstigmergy.html - 6k -
Cached - Similar pages - Note this
[More results from www.stigmergicsystems.com]
Joe Gregorio | BitWorking | Stigmergy and the World-Wide Web
File Format: Unrecognized - View as HTML
Ants are the premier example of organisms that use stigmergy. Did you ever drop a bit of food on the ground outside and return to later find it swarming ...
bitworking.org/news/Stigmergy - Similar pages - Note this
Stigmergy and the World-Wide Web [BitWorking]
Why is Google's PageRank algorithm so successful? Why do Neighborhoods form communicating through a weblog work at all? What is stigmergy? ...

Messages per month
0 (81651)
1 - 9 (9582)
10 - 99 (6181)
100 - 999 (1242)
1000 - 9999 (101)
10000 - 99999 (1)
Members
0 (1218)
1 - 9 (48909)
10 - 99 (37103)
100 - 999 (9490)
1000 - 9999 (1829)
10000 - 99999 (275)
100000 - 999999 (17)

Capture information and actions of the crowd

Process

Feedback processed information to the crowd

capture **process** **feedback**

Collective concerns

Matthew Effect

path dependencies

filter bubbles

missing pedagogical models

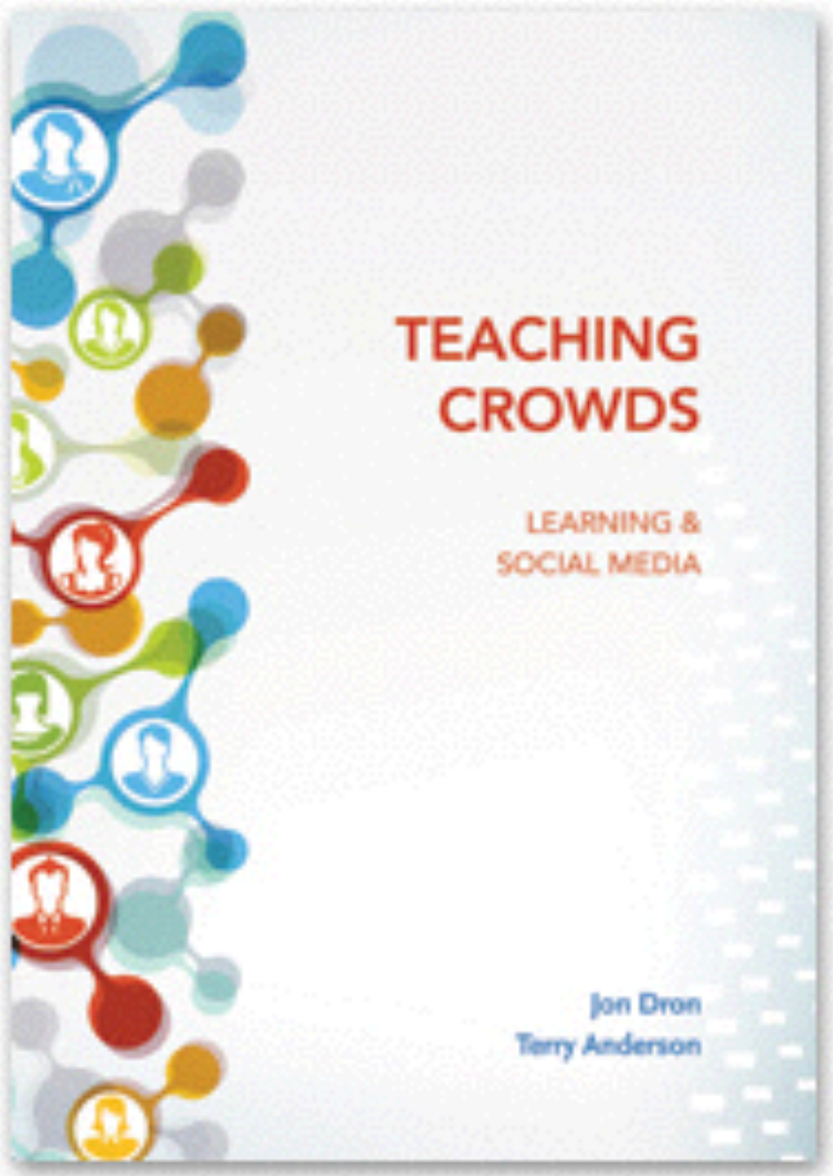
intentional abuse

selection bias

Coming soon (June 2014)….

Teaching Crowds: Learning and Social Media

http://www.aupress.ca/index.php/books/120235



gracias

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