

Two Teaching Fellowship projects in particular, DIT Get Smart (Mary O'Rawe) which aims to develop academic skills in the first year; and Peer Assisted Learning (Maria-Jose Gonzalez, Odette Gabaudan), a student mentoring programme have introduced social networking tools to enhance support and communication with students. Both projects have established Facebook groups and through this



disseminate information relating to workshops to students. The Facebook wall offers a space for students to pose questions and the Facebook group area also offers useful guides for the students on the subject of the projects.

A Twitter stream for the Get Smart project was also established. Initial evidence indicates the use of the Facebook group being more successful, as the Twitter stream with students has been less popular.

Sustainability for the future

All Teaching Fellowship projects wish to research, learn and improve from this initial first phase of the Teaching Fellowship project. The projects will be evaluated and along with the support provided by the Blogs, Wikis and Social Networking tools. The findings will help shape the Teaching Fellowship projects in the future and inform the DIT and wider HE community in Ireland of the suitability of Web 2.0 tools for enhancement of collaboration and participation.



References

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Image references

- All images available from DIT Teaching Fellowship projects (with one exception of Web 2.0 image). Web 2.0 image (licensed by Wikimedia Commons) from
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a7/Web_2.0_Map.svg Retrieved 6 Nov 2009.

Contact author: Muireann O'Keeffe, Learning Teaching & Technology Centre, Dublin Institute of Technology. Email: muireann.okeeffe@dit.ie

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