Festival of Learning Showcase

Facilitator: Dr Eva Dobozy, Senior Lecturer, School of Education

Strategic theme: Equipping graduates

Subject Title: Culturally responsive learning space design: simSchool virtual classroom adaptation to suit Australian context

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Brief Description:

Understanding the potency of culturally responsive learning space design, this TEDF-funded project aimed to adapt the current simSchool virtual learning environment to suit the Australian teacher education (in-service and pre-service) market. Promoting the ‘enhancement-effect’ of technology-enhanced learning is possible only if the virtual learning environment provides an immersive learning experience. This is not possible, if the player characteristics (child bots) and learning space design (3D virtual world artwork) are too far removed from what can reasonably be expected in an Australian education context. So, how does the Australian school education context differ from the the US? What changes to the current simSchool virtual learning space design was suggested by teacher educators and students? This presentation will report the findings of the case study that led to the commissioning of the development of five new child bots and the adaptation of the simSchool lexical database.

Benefits:

The benefits for teaching staff and administrators is an understanding of the importance to invest in the development of culturally responsive and context sensitive virtual learning space designs to equip teacher education graduates with intercultural interaction and communication competencies, not through a set curriculum program, but rather through pedagogical modelling.

Time/Day: Thursday 19 March 2015, 1:30 - 2:00pm

Duration: 30 mins

No. of Sessions: One

Venue: Building 300:Room 220

Special Requirements: No special requirements needed