Interactive White Boards in teacher education: didactical and technical implications

In January 2008 the department for teacher education of the Hogeschool Utrecht will move to a new building. In this building all chalkboards, whiteboards, overhead projectors, television sets and video equipment will be replaced by interactive white boards.

The result will be an "interactive white board only" department. This has consequences for teachers and students and will probably have a big influence on teaching in primary and secondary education in The Netherlands.

All five hundred university teachers have been trained in using the interactive whiteboards, both technically and didactical. Depending on the use of media in the ‘old’ situation, most teachers are changing their lessons one way or the other.

We distinguish four user profiles:

- The chalkboard user
- The overhead sheet user
- The video user
- The multimedia user

Often a teacher is a combination of these profiles.

All users have adapted their teaching to the use of interactive whiteboards, but what has changed in their teaching.

In this meeting I will discuss our implementation approach and share the results of the research on best practice, the ‘do’s and don’ts’ in the use of interactive white boards and the consequences for the various user profiles.