Media Tablets in Educational Practice: Guiding Participatory Action Research within a Community of Practice

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Abstract: Communities of Practice are a useful construct for understanding the dynamics of groups seeking to develop competence around a common domain of interest (Wenger 2008), and Participatory Action Research provides a means for individual and collaborative knowledge creation as an iterative process of internalization and externalization through socialization (VonKrogh et al., 2000; McIntyre, 2008). These concepts informed a research design for guiding stakeholders’ exploration of the impact of media tablets on their learning and educational practice. This poster session reviews the concept of personalizing virtual space to build community, and provides an overview of the course of action taken in building the infrastructure to support its activities.

Keywords
Media tablets, personalized virtual learning spaces [pVLS], technology integration, community of practice, participatory action research, guided discovery, reflective practice, knowledge construction