

An Information Systems perspective on Personal Learning Environments

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When discussing Web 2.0-based PLEs, it is clear that most of the components of the learning environment are internet or web-based applications and services, which means that the IT element is present in all of them. PLEs are supported by information systems; it follows that some of the theories and models used in the Information Systems field may be applied to PLEs, in order to help learners understand and make sensible decisions when developing a PLE or helping others in this process.

We propose to look at the following:

- The Delone and Maclean model of User satisfaction
- The Theories of Human Needs
- The TAM and UTAUT models of technology adoption

The application and analysis of these theories and models in the context of PLEs could help users and learners understand them better and in turn gain more benefits from building and using PLEs.

During this session, we propose to carry out a brainstorming activity in order to outline an approach that, using the core elements of these theories and models, could be used to help learners and teachers understand how to take advantage of both PLEs and the development process. The theories and models will be presented along with some of the associated metrics and measurement instruments, with an emphasis on their relation to the PLE concept. We would like to listen to the participants' opinion, their experience and any insights they might have regarding the connection between the IS and PLE concepts, in order to expand this idea on a position paper. We plan to follow a collaborative approach, so co-authors are welcome.

We are open to adapt the format of the presentation to fit any other presentations that will happen during the same session.