Abstract

Blogs have been recognized as one of the most important tools for socializing and networking. However, in recent years it has also become an important tool in e-learning. Malaysia as an education hub regularly draws large numbers of foreign students who seek to pursue transfer degree programs whereby they transfer to western universities after a few semesters in the country. It is observed that there are interaction problems among the transfer students due to the differences in culture and the lack of real-life opportunities for them to blend into the social environment. This paper examines the efficacy of blog in improving multi level interactions among transfer students in a college based in Malaysia. A case study was conducted in an e-learning environment using academic blog, in cooperating collaborative learning methodology for a programming course. Fourteen students from a transfer program were involved in the
present study. Results of the research demonstrated a positive improvement in the multilevel interactions among peers and lecturer. However, the vertical interaction showed a better improvement compared to the horizontal interaction. Students seem to interact better with the lecturer using the blog rather than with their peers. The findings suggest that blogs improve the multilevel interactions among the transfer students in Malaysia.

References


Index Terms

Computer Science

Wireless Information

Networking

Keywords

Blog  E-learning  Multilevel Interactions