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Creating Learning Communities: Three Open Source Tools

Dr Amanda Tinker, Christine Cattermole and Gillian Byrne

LDHEN Symposium

6-7 April 2009

Introduction

- Trends
- Overview of the technology
  - Del.icio.us, PBwiki,
  - Ning
  - Pedagogic issues
  - Evaluation

Exploring the technology

Group discussion

Great expectations of ICT

75%

Recognised value for enhanced learning

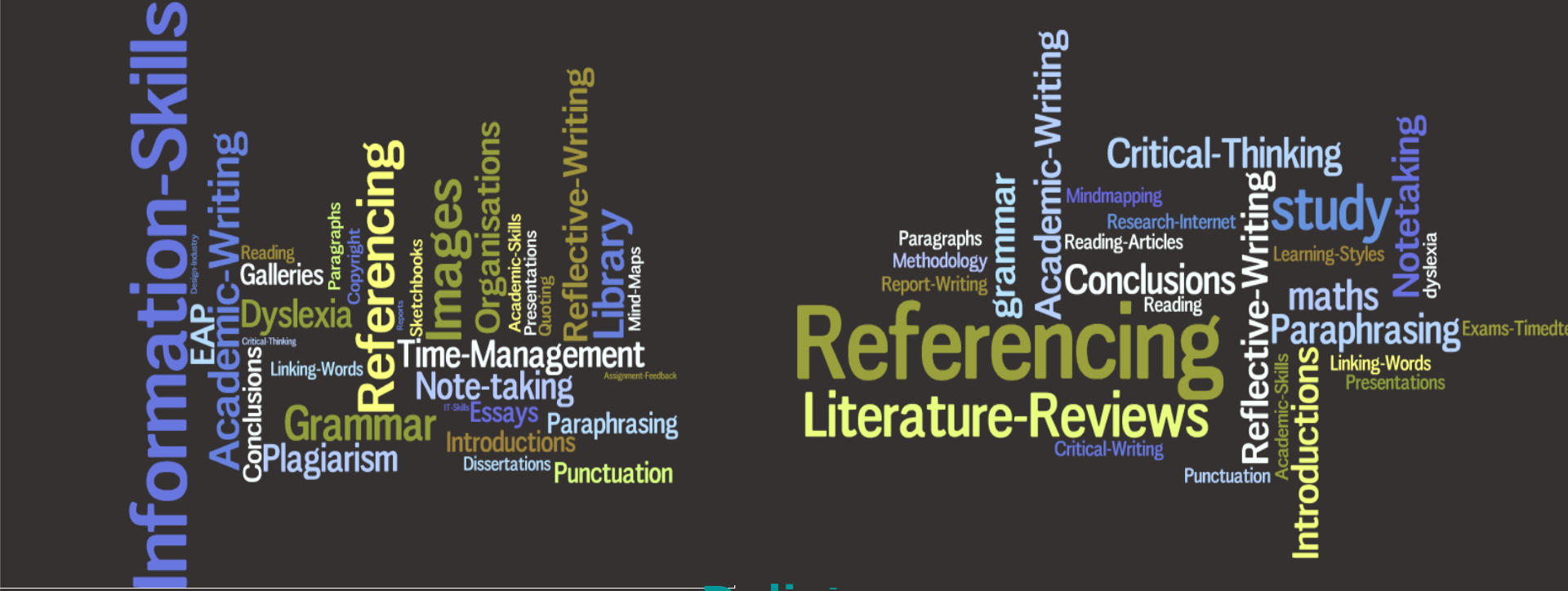
25%

Encouraged by academics

Social networking tools

Ipsos MORI on behalf of JISC (2007) *Great expectations of ICT: How Higher Education institutions are measuring up* [online]. Available at: < http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/ studentexpectations.aspx> [Accessed 20th February 2009]

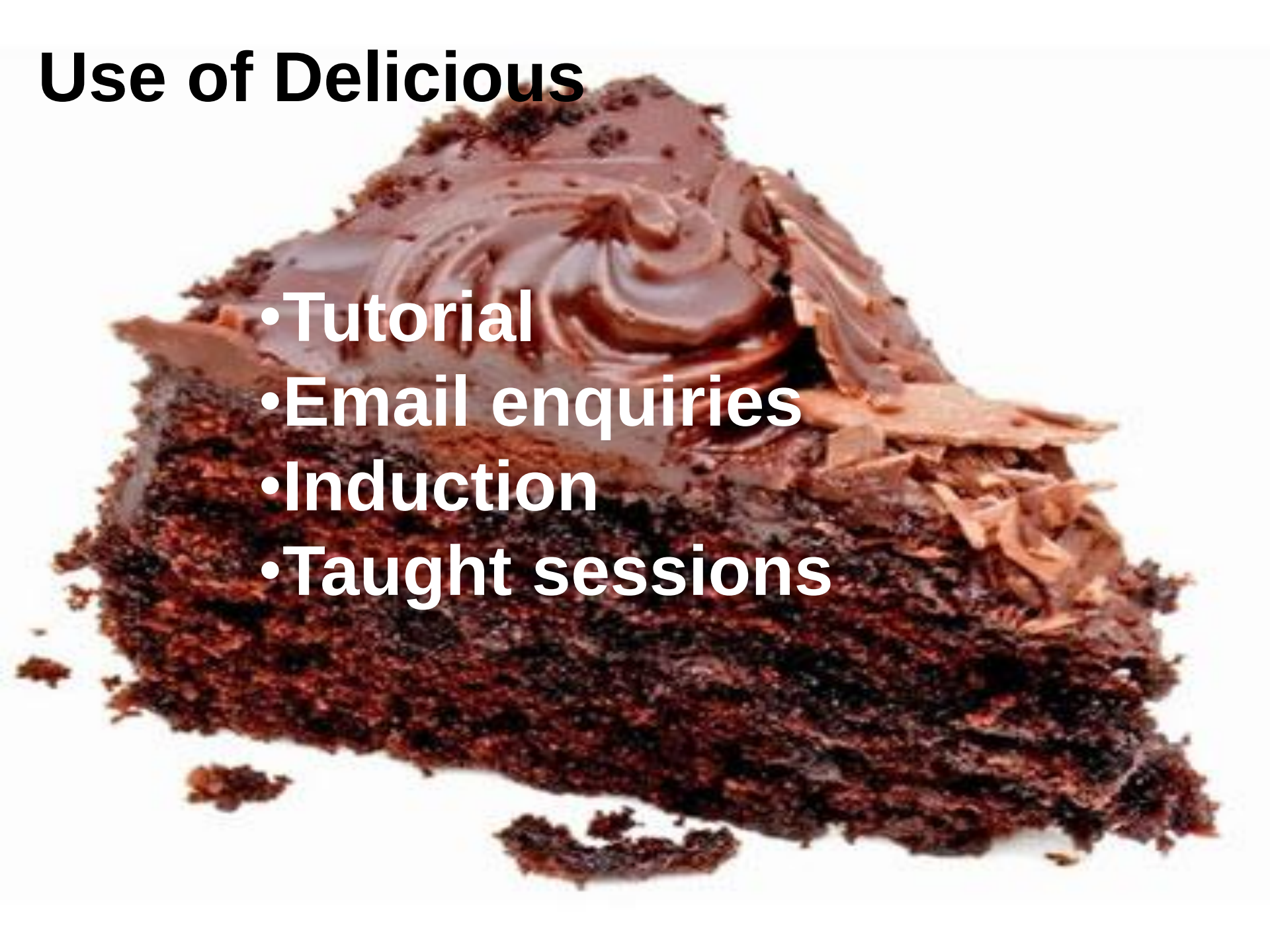
Why Delicious?
Each AST 2007
Links to existing materials/ websites
User friendly – most well-known
Unified/ interlinked
Share resources



Delicious

www.wordle.com

Use of Delicious



- Tutorial
- Email enquiries
- Induction
- Taught sessions

Why (and which) Wiki?

Collaborative Writing/Research

Teamwork

Learning 'Need'

PBwiki (www.pbwiki.com)

"As Easy as a Peanut Butter Sandwich"!

Multimedia

Structured

Password protected

Integrated

Link from VLE

Example

Art and Design

Wiki – Concluding Thoughts

Appeal

Collaborative research

*"The wiki was a very useful tool **to consolidate** our group work "*

Learning curve

Communication - email/text

Peer Learning

Monitor team performance

Organisational skills

Social Networking

Why Ning?

Harness enthusiasm

Plagiarism project

Academic Matters

Pilot

Bridging Course

Engagement Web 2.0 technologies

Ning: Student Evaluation

'It was good and different trying out the new technology; it broke the day up well.'

'It was attracting my attention to keep working and not to be bored.'

Workshop Tasks
Explore
Discuss
Post