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Original Citation

Tinker, Amanda, Cattermole, Christine and Byrne, Gillian (2009) Creating Learning Communities: Three Open Source Tools. In: 6th LDHEN Symposium: the challenge of learning development, 6-7 April 2009, Bournemouth University. (Unpublished)

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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

Why Delicious?

Each AST 2007

Links to existing
materials/
websites

User friendly – most well-known

Unified/
interlinked

Share
resources

Information-Skills

Academic-Writing
Conclusions
Grammar
Plagiarism
Dyslexia
Linking-Words
Paraphrasing
Punctuation
Dissertations
Essays
IT-Skills
Note-taking
Time-Management
Images
Organisations
Academic-Skills
Presentations
Quoting
Reflective-Writing
Library
Mind-Maps
Assignment-Feedback

Referencing
Literature-Reviews

Academic-Writing
Conclusions
Reflective-Writing
Academic-Skills
Introductions
Paraphrasing
Punctuation
Critical-Thinking
Mindmapping
Research-Internet
Reading-Articles
Reading
Learning-Styles
maths
Notetaking
dyslexia
Exams-Timed
Linking-Words
Presentations

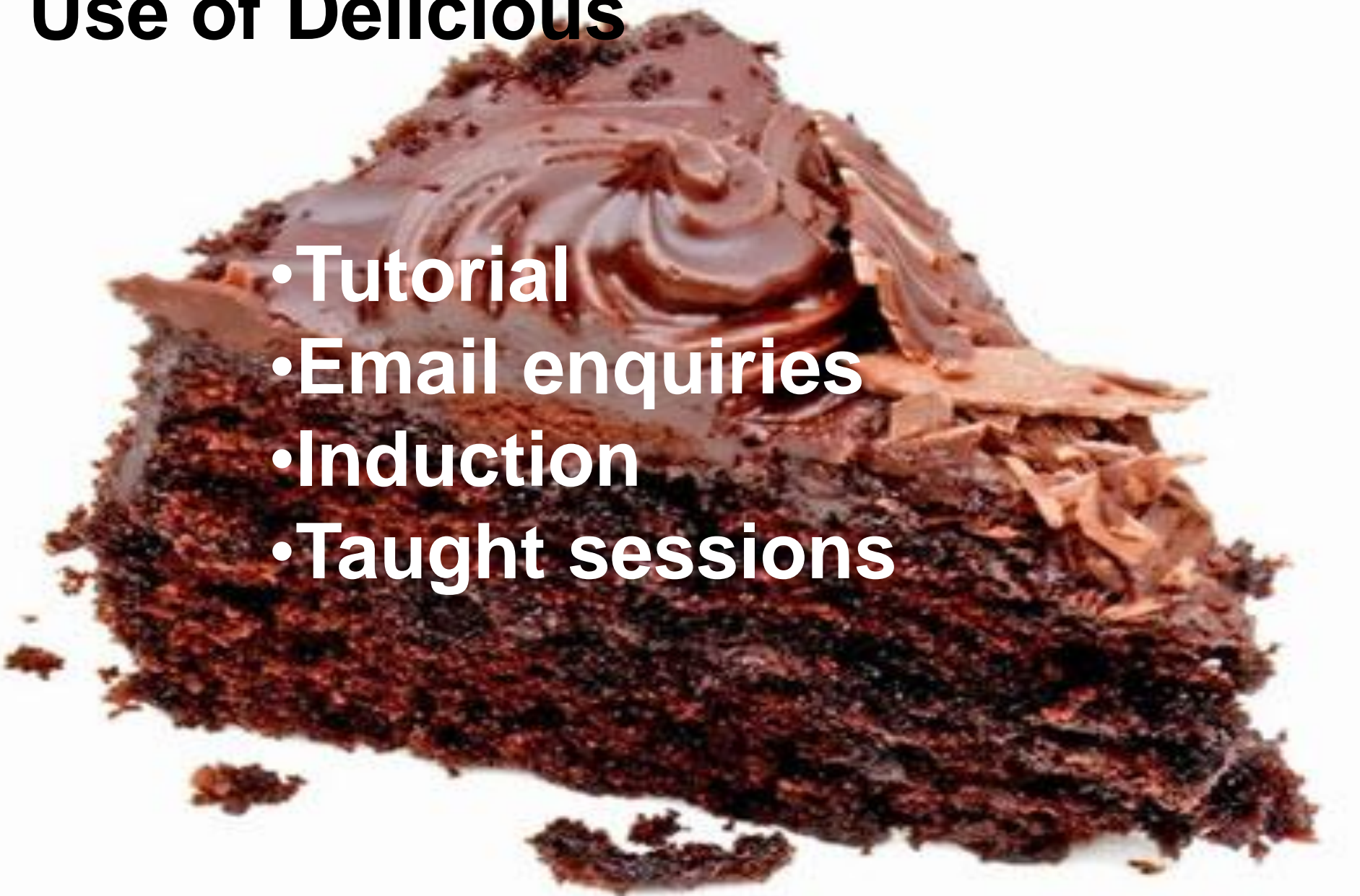
Delicious

writing
academic
presentations
paraphrasing
thinking
skills
law
referencing
critical
study
resources
and reports
conclusions
writing/study
court
teaching
note
dissertation
paragraphs
taking
interactive
introductions
argument
web
Harvard
information
wikis
Wales
digital
guide
of student
Statute
grammar
English
dyslexia
abbreviations
with
an
system
introduction
students
revision
using
social
bookmarking
evidence
every
reflective
age
report
reading
to
citing
essay
successfully
legislation
dictionaries
structure

writing
Academic
Referencing
skills
study
information
introductions
Research
Cognition
summary
Reading
Paraphrasing
Plagiarism
e-learning
support
Poetry
Literature
Reports
Pedagogy
Phrasbank
quotes
ideas/view
Notes
question/instructions
Reflection
Academic-Skills
Library
Purpose
Presentations
Page
English-Literature
Electronic
Review
annotated
students
interpersonal
Literary
improve
Management
essays
Connecting
guides
revision
LLB
LLM
LLM
LLM
LLM
Home
introducing
English-directory
Web
Feedback
Time
others
Structure
Architecture-Great-Buildings
Punctuation
Help
Paragraphs
thinking guides
Exams
Computing
paraphrase
bibliographies
extensions/revisions
interactive
English
Manufacture

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

A hand is visible in the bottom left corner, holding a wooden pole that supports a checkered flag. The flag is black and white, with a pattern of squares. The background is a clear, light blue sky. The flag is positioned diagonally across the frame, from the bottom left towards the top right.

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?

Plagiarism project

[Academic Matters](#)

Pilot

[Bridging Course](#)

Engagement
Web 2.0
technologies

Harness
enthusiasm



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