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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

EAP Academic-Writing

Reading Galleries Dyslexia Copyright Referencing

Images

Organisations

Academic-Skills

Presentations

Quoting

Reflective-Writing

Library

Mind-Maps

Conclusions

Linking-Words

Grammar

Plagiarism

Time-Management

Note-taking

Essays

Paraphrasing

Introductions

Dissertations

Punctuation

Referencing Literature-Reviews

Critical-Writing

Punctuation

Critical-Thinking

Mindmapping

Research-Internet

Reading-Articles

Conclusions

Reading

grammar

Paragraphs

Methodology

Report-Writing

Academic-Writing

Reflective-Writing

Academic-Skills

Paraphrasing

Introductions

Learning-Styles

maths

Notetaking

dyslexia

Exams-Timed

Linking-Words

Presentations

Delicious

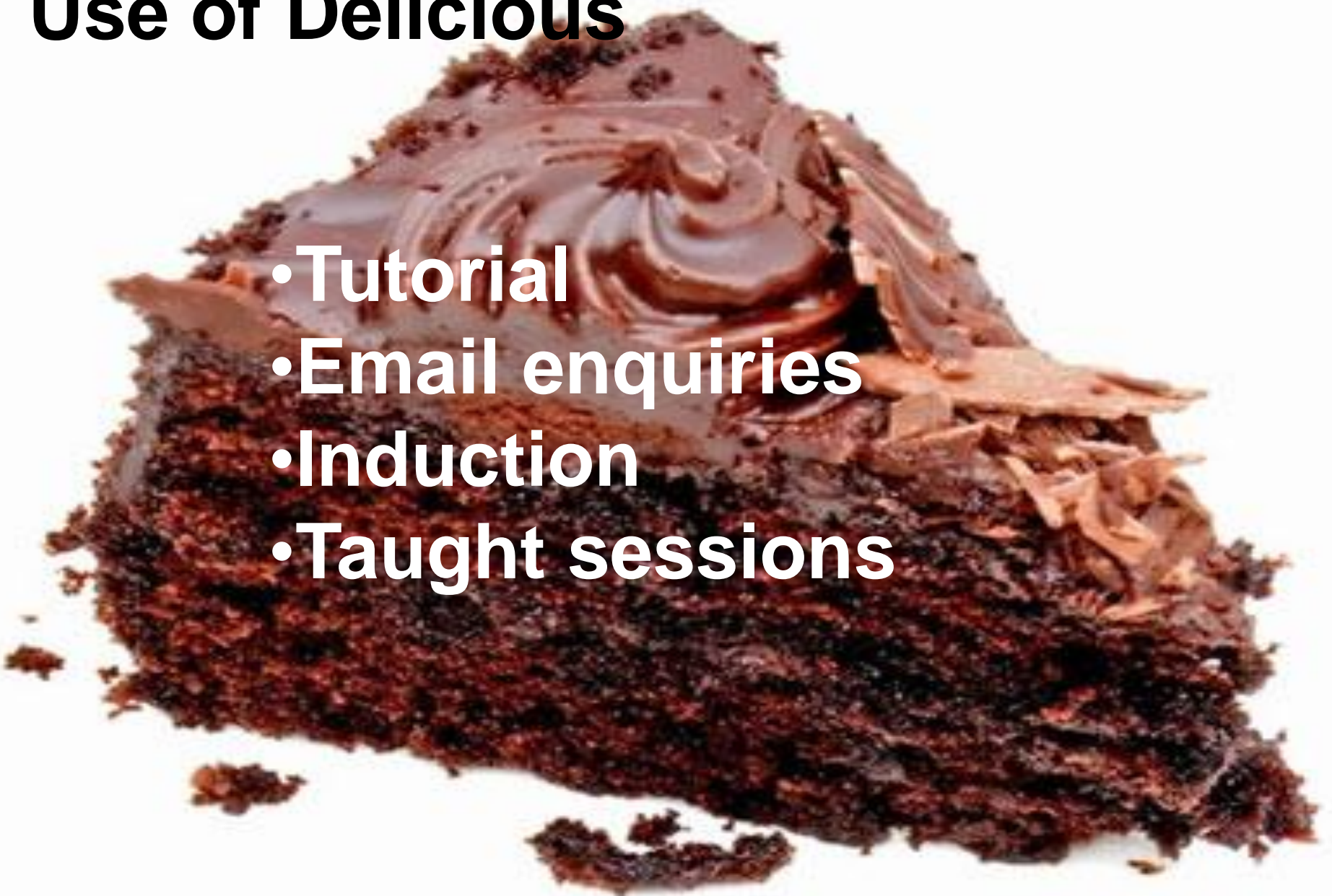
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Use of Delicious

- 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?

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.'

The background of the entire image is a close-up photograph of a honeycomb. The hexagonal cells of the honeycomb are filled with a golden-yellow substance, likely honey or wax. Numerous bees, with their characteristic yellow and black striped abdomens and translucent wings, are scattered across the honeycomb. Some bees are in motion, while others are stationary. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture of the honeycomb and the details of the bees.

Workshop Tasks

Explore

Discuss

Post