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The relationship between the digital identities of teacher trainers and their approaches to the use of ICT in teaching and learning: a case study at the University of the Witwatersrand

Nsele, Amanda

2014-11-13
http://hdl.handle.net/10539/15879

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Appendix A: Letter to the Head of School

112 Quartz Hill

Bruce Street

Hillbrow

2001

6 June 2011

Professor Ruksana Osman
Head of School
Wits School of Education
27 St Andrews Road
Parktown
2193

RE: REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH FOR M ED STUDIES

Dear Professor Osman

My name is Amanda Nsele, and I am currently a student at the University of the Witwatersrand completing my Master's Degree in Education. The research I wish to conduct it titled, "**The relationship between the digital identities of teacher trainers and their approaches to the use of ICT in teaching and learning: A case study at the University of the Witwatersrand**." This project will be conducted under Professor Ian Moll's supervision.

I request your permission to conduct my research at your institution. I also request access to the data collected by The University of the Witwatersrand School of Education ICT Committee early in 2011, about individual lecturers' use of ICTs in their teaching. The information obtained from the data base will be solely used for research purposes. I guarantee that anonymity and confidentiality will be practised, by the use of pseudonyms or other appropriate devices. The information will enable me to probe preliminary claims and form focus groups with SoE academics to ensure that I have interpreted exactly what the participants had described in previous data collected. If your require further information and assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me on, 072 141 1422 or khanyijam@hotmail.com

Thank you for your time regarding this matter. I trust that you will grant me the consent to conduct my research.

Yours in Education

Amanda Nsele (Miss) Student no: 0115368k

Appendix B: Information Sheet

RESEARCH INFORMATION SHEET

Title of research project

The relationship between the digital identities of teacher trainers and their approaches to the use of ICT in teaching and learning: A case study at the University of the Witwatersrand

Information about the project

This research project will reflect on individual lecturer's use and integration of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in their teaching. It will also reflect on the academics current practices regarding the effective and appropriate use of technology. The findings will be used to identify the emerging technological possibilities and make recommendations for future research. This research process will be supervised by Prof Ian Moll. With your permission I intend to use data collected by The University of the Witwatersrand School of Education ICT Committee on individual lecturers' use of ICTs in their teaching.

Participation and Confidentiality

There are no risks associated with taking part on this project. Your identity will be kept anonymous, and your participation in this study is completely voluntary and you have the right to withdraw at any time. Please note that data collected up to the point of withdrawal will be used within the study. Any information collected from this project will remain confidential and will be stored safely and destroyed after two to three years.

Further questions and contact details

If you have any questions or would like further details regarding the project you will be asked to undertake, please contact me:

Amanda Nsele

Email: khanyijam@hotmail.com

University email account: Amanda.nsele@students.wits.ac.za

Contact number: 072 141 1422

If you have further questions or would prefer to contact a member of staff at the University, please contact my project supervisor:

Name: Ian Moll

Supervisor email: Ian.moll@wits.ac.za

Telephone: 011 717 3194

I,_____(full name and surname) have read the above information about the research study and had a chance to ask questions concerning any areas that I did not understand. I agree/ disagree (delete whichever is not applicable) to participate in this study and I understand that my identity will be kept anonymous. I also understand that I can withdraw from the study at any stage.

Participant signature: _____

Date:_____

Appendix C: Participation Consent form

RESEARCH PARTICIPATION CONSENT FORM

Dear Staff Member

My name is Amanda Nsele. This letter serves to give you information in the hope that you will participate in a study for a project as part of my M Ed Studies in Educational Technology at the University of the Witwatersrand. My topic of interest is, "The relationship between the digital identities of teacher trainers and their approaches to the use of ICT in teaching and learnig: a case study at the University of the Witwatersrand"

If you decide to participate in this research study, you will be asked to participate on one-on-one interview. Your participation is voluntary. You may decide to withdraw from this study at any time by advising me using the email address provided below. The information gathered will be solely used for research purposes and anonymity is guaranteed.

I may ask for further assistance but please note that you are not obliged in any way to clarify or participate any further than you wish. Your privacy will be protected, by the use of pseudonyms or other appropriate devices. Any information obtained in connection with this study will remain anonymous and will be used to fulfil an educational requirement as it will give an insight to the research question. I may be contacted on my email address khanyijam@hotmail.com

Thank you for your assistance in this project.

Amanda Nsele

Student no: 0115368k

Cell No: 072 141 1422

I, (full name and surname) hereby agree to participate in an interview related to the research conducted by Amanda Nsele.

I am aware that excerpts from the interview may be included in the course project paper to come from this research.

I was informed that I may withdraw my consent at any time by advising the student researcher.

Participant's name:

Participant signature:

Date: _____

Appendix D: Research Request to access data

RESEARCH REQUEST TO ACCESS DATA

Dear Staff Member

My name is Amanda Nsele. I am currently doing study for a project as part of my M Ed Studies in Educational Technology at the University of the Witwatersrand. My topic of interest is, **"The relationship between the digital identities of teacher trainers and their approaches to the use of ICT for teaching and learning: A case study at the University of the Witwatersrand"**

This letter serves to request your permission to access and use the information collected by the Wits School of Education ICT Committee on your individual use of ICTs in your teaching. Allowing me to access the information is voluntary. You may decide to withdraw from this study at any time by advising me using the email address provided below. The information gathered will be solely used for research purposes and anonymity is guaranteed.

I may ask for further assistance but please note that you are not obliged in any way to clarify or participate any further than you wish. Your privacy will be protected. Any information obtained in connection with this study will remain anonymous and will be used to fulfil an educational requirement as it will give an insight to the research question. I may be contacted on my email address khanyijam@hotmail.com

Thank you for your assistance in this project.

Amanda Nsele

Student no: 0115368k

Cell No: 072 141 1422

I,_____(full name and surname) give permission to Amanda Nsele to access and use data collected by the School of Education ICT Committee on individual lecturers' use of ICTs in their teaching

I am aware that excerpts from Wits School of Education data may be included in the course project paper to come from this research.

I was informed that I may withdraw my consent at any time by advising the student researcher.

Participant's name:_____

Participant signature:_____

Date: _____

Appendix E: Educator Questionnaire

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR EDUCATORS AT ALL LEVELS

We would like to showcase interesting and innovative uses of ICT in pedagogy by lecturers in the School of Education, Wits University. One of the ways we will do this is through an ICT Good Pedagogic Practice event (to be arranged in 2011). In order to showcase different pedagogic uses of ICT, we need to know who is doing what (with respect to pedagogy) with ICT in the School of Education. Our particular interest is in the way you use ICT to enhance your pedagogical practice.
For the purposes of this survey, we include the use of PowerPoint, smartboards, etc for teaching; we also include the use of blogs, WebCT, Moodle, email etc.; we also include the use of specific educational software eg GeoGebra, language programs, and so on. In short, we are interested in the way you use ICT or technological tools to enhance your teaching and/or the learning of your students. At this point we are not concerned with how you may use ICT for administration or research purposes.

Instructions

Please email the filled in form to Margot.Berger@wits.ac.za.

Please feel free to extend the length of your response beyond the given answer box. You may also want to give several examples of your work.

If you want to include hardcopy, you may put this into Margot Berger's pigeon-hole in foyer of staff lounge.

Your name:_____

Email address:_____

Telephone number:_____

1. Do you use ICT in any courses that you teach in School of Education (exclude its use for mark lists or registers)?
2. If yes, which courses? _____
3. Do you have access to your own personal computer (at home or at work)?

Yes _____ No _____

4. Do you have access to your own laptop computer (at home or at work)??

Yes _____ No _____

5. About how many hours per week do you use ICT for teaching purposes?

Questions 6 – 13: If the question is not relevant, please write NA.

6. Describe how you use ICT in your in-class teaching (what you teach, how you teach it, etc.).

7. Describe any impact that ICT has had on your evaluation methods (how you evaluate your students).

8. Describe any impact that ICT has had on communication between yourself as an educator and your students (do you encourage questions asked via email, do use use WebCT or Moodle, etc?)

9. Describe any impact that ICT has had on your lesson planning (how you prepare for classes).

10. Please attach a copy of a lesson planning document you have produced using ICT.
(If you prefer, please put hard copy in Margot Berger's pigeonhole in foyer of staff lounge.)

11. Do you think that ICT helps you reflect on your teaching? (what you teach, how you teach) – if so, explain briefly with examples.

12. Explain briefly how ICT may have improved your own access to knowledge (information), as an educator.

13. Explain briefly how ICT has helped you in producing teaching material. Attach examples of material if possible.

Thank you for your time and effort in filling in this questionnaire.

Appendix F: Interview Schedule: Teacher trainers

Interview Schedule

For: Teacher trainers

The relationship between the digital identities of teacher trainers and their approaches to the use of ICT in teaching and learning: A case study at the University of the Witwatersrand

Biographical details

1. What age bracket do you fall under?

Under 25	25-30	31-40	41- 50	50 ›

2.

GENDER:	Male	Female	**Race:**	European	Indian	Coloured	African	Other
Years of experience in HEI			**Division**					

3. What is the name of the division you represent?
4. How many years of teaching do you have in a higher learning institution?

Institution profile

5. Can you describe the culture of this institution in terms of Information and Communication Technology use for teaching and learning purposes?
6. Does the culture of the institution support the implementation and utilisation of Information and Communication Technologies?
7. Do you think the institution increase technology exploration which allows you as the teacher trainer and students to better collaborate?

Teacher trainers' digital identities

8. What is you are of research/ expertise/ interest/ field of study?

9. How many hours per week do you use Information and Communication Technologies for teaching?

Never | Less than once a month | Once a month | 2-3 times a month | Once a week | 2-3 times a week | Daily

10. What type of technological resources do you use in your teaching?
11. How do you integrate digital technologies in your teaching?
12. Do you use Information and Communication Technologies as the subject of learning or as the means to learning?
13. What are your personal uses of the internet?
14. Professionally, how and what do you use the internet for?
15. How long have you been a teacher trainer?
16. How do you develop and manage your digital identity?
17. How do you perceive yourself in an online environment?
18. Do you think Communication Technologies help you reflect on your teaching? (What you teach and how you teach it?) If so, how?
19. How Information and Communication Technologies may have improved your own access to knowledge (information) as a teacher trainer?
20. What are your perceptions of Information and Communication Technologies usage for teaching and learning?
21. How does this relationship reflect on your teaching?

Understanding and practices of Information and Communication Technologies

(Adapted from PanAf)

22. What learning principles would guide teaching in Information and Communication Technology integrated learning environment?
23. In an ICT integrated learning environment, how can you ensure that learning is truly an interaction between the student, the learning task, the context, and the learning processes?

24. How can you with the use of Information and Communication Technologies ensure that students focus on learning rather than on the learning task?

The relationship of ICTs and reflection of teacher trainers' teaching

25. Does the technology you have or use engage students on a deeper level? How so?
26. Do you think the demand for personalised learning is adequately supported by current technologies or practices?
27. "technology can and should support individual choices and access to materials and expertise, amount and type of educational content, and methods of teaching." What is your view on this statement?
28. What are barriers or challenges you are currently faced with emerging technologies?

The impact of digital technologies in teaching and learning

29. What technological or social impact if any, do the new technologies have on you as a teacher trainer?
30. Describe any impact that Information and Communication Technologies has had on your lesson planning. (How you prepare for your lessons.)
31. How relevant are digital technologies for teaching, learning or creative inquiry?
32. What impact has Information and Communication Technologies had on communication between you as a teacher trainer and students? (Assignment submission, feedback, etc.)
33. Increasingly, students want to use their own technologies for learning, how do you collaborate that with technology available at the institution?

Appendix G: A letter of thanks

112 Quartz Hill

Bruce Street

Hillbrow

2001

30 June 2012

Letter of thanks

Dear staff member

It was a pleasure speaking with you on an interview regarding my research work. Thank you for taking the time from your busy schedule to answer my questions. Your answers were helpful and very informative, in furthering my understanding of digital identities of teacher trainers in the School of Education.

I appreciate the interest you have shown and your perspective in helping me with my research.

Sincerely,

Amanda Nsele

Wits School of Education

27 St Andrews Road, Parktown, Johannesburg, 2193 • Private Bag 3, Wits 2050, South Africa
Tel: +27 11 717-3007 • Fax: +27 11 717-3009 • E-mail: enquiries@educ.wits.ac.za • Website: www.wits.ac.za

STUDENT NUMBER0115368K
2011ECE090C

11 November 2011

Miss Amanda Nsele
112 Quartz Hill
Bruce Hill
HILLBROW
2001

Dear Ms. Nsele

Application for Ethics Clearance: Master of Education

Thank you very much for your ethics application. The Ethics Committee in Education of the Faculty of Humanities, acting on behalf of the Senate has considered your application for ethics clearance for your proposal entitled:

"The relationship between the digital identities of the teacher trainers and their approaches to the use of ICT in teaching and learning: A case study at the University of the Witwatersrand"

The committee recently met and I am pleased to inform you that clearance was granted. The committee was delighted about the ways in which you have taken care of and given consideration to the ethical dimensions of your research project. Congratulations to you and your supervisor!

Please use the above protocol number in all correspondence to the relevant research parties (schools, parents, learners etc.) and include it in your research report or project on the title page.

The Protocol Number above should be submitted to the Graduate Studies in Education Committee upon submission of your final research report.

All the best with your research project.

Yours sincerely

M Mabeta

Matsie Mabeta
Wits School of Education
(011)7173416

Cc Supervisor: Prof I. Moll (via email)