Getting Started with Wikis: Learning from Faculty Experience

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Accessing Our Session Wiki

• During this session, you will have access to a wiki:
  • https://groups.us.udel.edu/portal
  • Log in using your UDelNet ID and password
  • Click on the 08J:SFI tab
A Quick Poll

1. How many of you have used a wiki?
   - I have used a wiki in the past.
   - I have never used a wiki.

2. How many of you have used a wiki with your students?
   - I have used a wiki with my students.
   - I never used a wiki with my students.

Activity 1

In teams, try to come up with a definition of what a wiki is. Write it down on your team’s wiki space.
A Wiki Demonstration Video


A Web Page

Reference: Grenier (2007)
A Wiki Page

A (Purist) Wiki Definition

### Beyond A Purist Definition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PURE WIKI</th>
<th>HYBRID WIKI</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anonymous</td>
<td>Users and changes are tracked</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content is public domain</td>
<td>Copyright and Creative Commons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simplified wiki markup language</td>
<td>WYSIWYG editor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textual content only</td>
<td>Embedded images/videos/applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unstructured</td>
<td>Template-driven/Workflow-driven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consensus of its community</td>
<td>Moderated by experts/Peer reviewed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anyone can read and edit any page</td>
<td>Permissions for users and pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collective workspaces</td>
<td>Private/Team workspaces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never finished</td>
<td>Deadline-driven</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Using the Wiki Markup Language

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HTML</th>
<th>Wiki Markup</th>
<th>Final Output</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;b&gt;Bold&lt;/b&gt;</code></td>
<td><strong>Bold</strong></td>
<td>Bold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;ul&gt;</code></td>
<td>* Item 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;li&gt;</code></td>
<td>* Item 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;li&gt;</code></td>
<td>Item 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><code>&lt;li&gt;</code></td>
<td>Item 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Wiki Markup Language is a Simplified HTML**
Adding Resources

**Resources**

Location: My Workspace Resources

Copy | Remove | Move | Access

- **My Workspace**
- Sakal_5_Timeline_08.xl
- Test page

**Upload Files**
- Create Folders
- Add Web Links (URLs)
- Add Citation List
- Create HTML Page
- Create Text Document

Setting Permissions

**Availability and Access**

Choose who can see this item.

- **Only members of this site can see this file**
- **This file is publicly viewable**

Resources can be scheduled to be visible between certain dates only. Site administrators will always be able to show this item.

- **From:**
  - Date: JAN, 17, 2008
  - Time: 2:00 PM

- **Until:**
  - Date: JAN, 31, 2012
  - Time: 2:00 PM

- **Hide this item even from administrators**
Activity 2

On your team’s wiki page, try to come up with as much differences and similarities between wikis and other tools. Add tools to the list if necessary.

Wikis Vs. Other Tools

• What are wikis good for?

- Make Lists
- Brainstorming
- Meeting Support
- Collection of Links
- Collaborative Notebook
- Writing a Collective Letter/Position/Statement/Web Content
- Group Portfolio
- Group Projects

Brainstorming
Meeting Support
Collection of Links
Collaborative Notebook
Make Lists
Writing a Collective Letter/Position/Statement/Web Content
Group Portfolio
Group Projects
The Value of Information

• What value does the information in a wiki has?
  • High value ![green square]
  • Low value ![red square]
• What about Wikipedia?
  • High value ![green square]
  • Low value ![red square]

Some Examples and Job Aids

• My Wiki Report web page:
  • Some faculty experiences
  • Wikis in Higher Education Report
  • [http://udel.edu/~mathieu/wiki/](http://udel.edu/~mathieu/wiki/)
• The STOLEN Principle
  • [http://www.a6training.co.uk/resources_Social_Software.php](http://www.a6training.co.uk/resources_Social_Software.php)
Some Recommendations

- Instructional Strategy
- Define Control and Ownership
- Define Individual and Group Work
- Use Templates
- Get Familiar with the Markup Language
- Use a Wiki Charter
- A Wiki is Not the End
- Define Your Grading Strategy

Wiki Gardening

- By nature, a wiki is messy.
- Usability issues may occur.
Why use wikis?

• They promote ACTIVE LEARNING!
  • Increased motivation
  • Deeper and longer lasting learning
• They help develop 21st century skills:
  • Read/Write web
  • Collaboration/Teamwork

Questions, Comments, Story to Share?

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• Up Next: John Hall on Wikis in Sakai