Bridging Traditional Culture with ICT Education

Gohar Grigoryan
Yerevan State University (Armenia)
gohagrigoryan@gmail.com

Abstract

To promote ICT-naïve teachers and students, to introduce the idea, develop the desire, and reduce the resistance to expansion of ICT use within an educational environment with currently limited internet connectivity and lack of computers, we developed a school connectivity program [1] through Project Harmony in Armenia. For English language acquisition, we conducted virtual connectivity sessions between Armenian and American high school students, including various projects and activities. Our ICT-experienced students then bridged familiar traditional culture with new online learning experiences and virtual connectivity in "student-to-student" discussions with ICT-naïve students and teachers, focusing on differences and similarities between American and Armenian cultures. These discussions were "hosted" by culturally traditional Armenian puppets (puppetry is a serious art form in Armenia) manipulated by our ICT-experienced students to introduce and garner support for ICT interactive teaching-learning.

References

[1] Armenian School Connectivity program website: http://ascp.ph-int.org/en/partnership.php