



Creating a Community of Practice Comprising a Teaching Team in a Bachelor of Business Program: Motivation Factors and Evaluation of Supporting Technology Infrastructure

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Abstract

RMIT Vietnam is the Asian hub of RMIT University, headquartered in Melbourne, Australia. RMIT Vietnam offers courses at both Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City campuses. The teaching team for some courses with large number of students can range from 10 to 14 teachers across both locations.

This paper describes steps taken to increase collaboration and knowledge sharing among local and geographically dispersed teaching team for such large courses. Using a framework underpinned by Communities of Practice (CoP) theory, the authors have surveyed members of the team to identify motivational factors and barriers to knowledge sharing and participation within a CoP. The respondents were also asked to rank a range of available technologies that facilitate teaching reflection and communication amongst the team.

The results indicated a preference for increased involvement by individual members of the team for course development task. These aspirations appeared to be hampered however, by lack of time for such contributions and the need for targeted professional development. The need for formal recognition and reward for such activities was also rated highly. These and other findings are discussed in some detail and the study makes recommendations to improve the management of such course teams.