



College of Education

**“Preparing Effective, Caring and Collaborative Educators for a Global
Society”**

Essay Contest Cover Sheet

2010

Submission Deadline: October 30, 2010

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Date October 21, 2010

Technology has revolutionized society by transcending from its former optional status to its current status as a quintessential of a twenty-first century lifestyle. With this in mind, it is imperative for educators to examine how technology can mimic this revolution inside the classroom for students who live within such a society. Once educators employ technology beyond its rudimentary time saving, organizational capabilities and permit it to amalgamate with instructional delivery and student learning, the equivalent transform can take place within the classroom.

The possibilities of technology surpass shortcuts and beckon for further utilization in order to advance instruction and learning. Technology is commonly used in the field of education as a means of communicating and recording information through database programs that take attendance, report grades, and send correspondence. As a result, educators who take advantage of technology in this fashion have more time to teach more students. However, the enrichment opportunities offered by technology such as programs that serve as a means of tutoring, self teaching, and remediation appear to be a less common (Bennett, 2002). The responsibility of allowing technology to enhance the classroom does not solely rest upon the instructor, but also the students. The best way to find out the latest information on technology is to ask those who use it most frequently, young people. Generally speaking, students tend to be younger than their instructors. Consequently, if instructors allow students the opportunity to display their technological knowhow within the constraints of the curriculum, student interest and engagement would increase. This would also lead to more enriching learning experiences for students as well as instructors.

While technology comes with an excess of opportunities that can lead to the enhancement of a classroom; there are several disadvantages that should not be ignored. The most apparent

pitfalls include the cost to acquire and maintain technology. It seems as though once the latest and greatest commodity in technology has been accepted by the general population, particularly a public school system, it becomes obsolete. Technology can also fail at any given time. With respect to education, there is a lack of evidence that supports the notion that technology improves learning. The use of spelling and grammar check eliminates the challenge of students thinking in reference to the way in which they write. Additionally, most teachers do not use computers during instruction (Noll, 2009 pp.324-40).

It is the ultimate goal of education for students to surpass their teachers. By allowing technology to have the opportunity to function at new levels in the classroom, this goal can be that much more realized. Although technological advances have not reached perfection, the pros far outweigh the cons. Therefore, technology should be embraced and embedded within the classroom in order to mirror its use in society. Just as technology has revolutionized society, it can also enhance the classroom when its status changes from an optional classroom aid to a quintessential of instructional delivery and student learning.

References:

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