Strengthening the student learning experience in the Post PC era

Edinburgh Napier UNIVERSITY

Development of Internet, online information - development, demand and consumption increases.

Emerging and transformative learning technologies: **Web 2,** collaborative and interactive tools – blogs, wikis, online word processing tools etc.
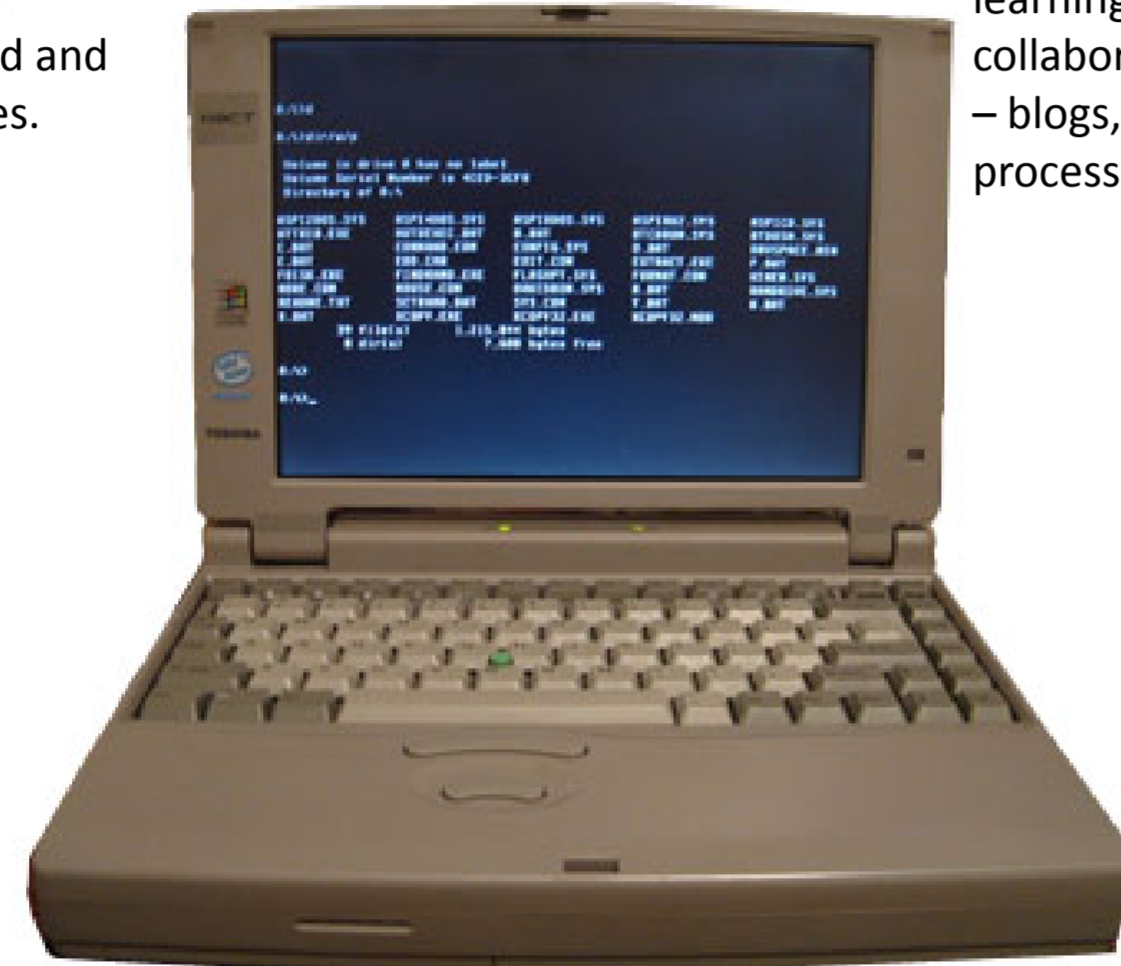
Smartphones and tablets drive new smaller/powerful applications: Apple App Store, Google Drive, Amazon Kindle, Windows Store.

Cloud-based and synchronised information and content across devices.

Emerging Technology in Education
Desktop computers – IBM, Commodore, Amiga, Apple, BBC – introduction of Windows PC becoming mainstream as computing tool. Desktops are 'fixed' to desks, tables, computing labs. Networking allows for 'movement' between computers using individual login details but students 'tethered' to workstations.

Emerging Mobile Technology in Education
Although bulky, heavy and large, early laptop computers offered limited freedom from constraints of tethering. Poor battery life and shortage of access/networking points hinder mobility.

Netbooks – a new era in computing?
Emergence of netbooks – cheap, light, long battery life, multiple USB ports, Wi-Fi, ultraportable...BUT...slow processors, lacking in memory – poor performance requiring cut-down version of Windows. Small screens and low resolution.

Smartphones, tablets, eBooks – iPad, Android, Windows 8...
Tablets, particularly the iPad, revolutionise computing. Portable, powerful, high resolution combined with low cost and wide range of innovative and engaging apps.

Personal Computer | Mobile Devices

Introduction | Introduction | Growth | Maturity | Decline | Withdrawal

Today
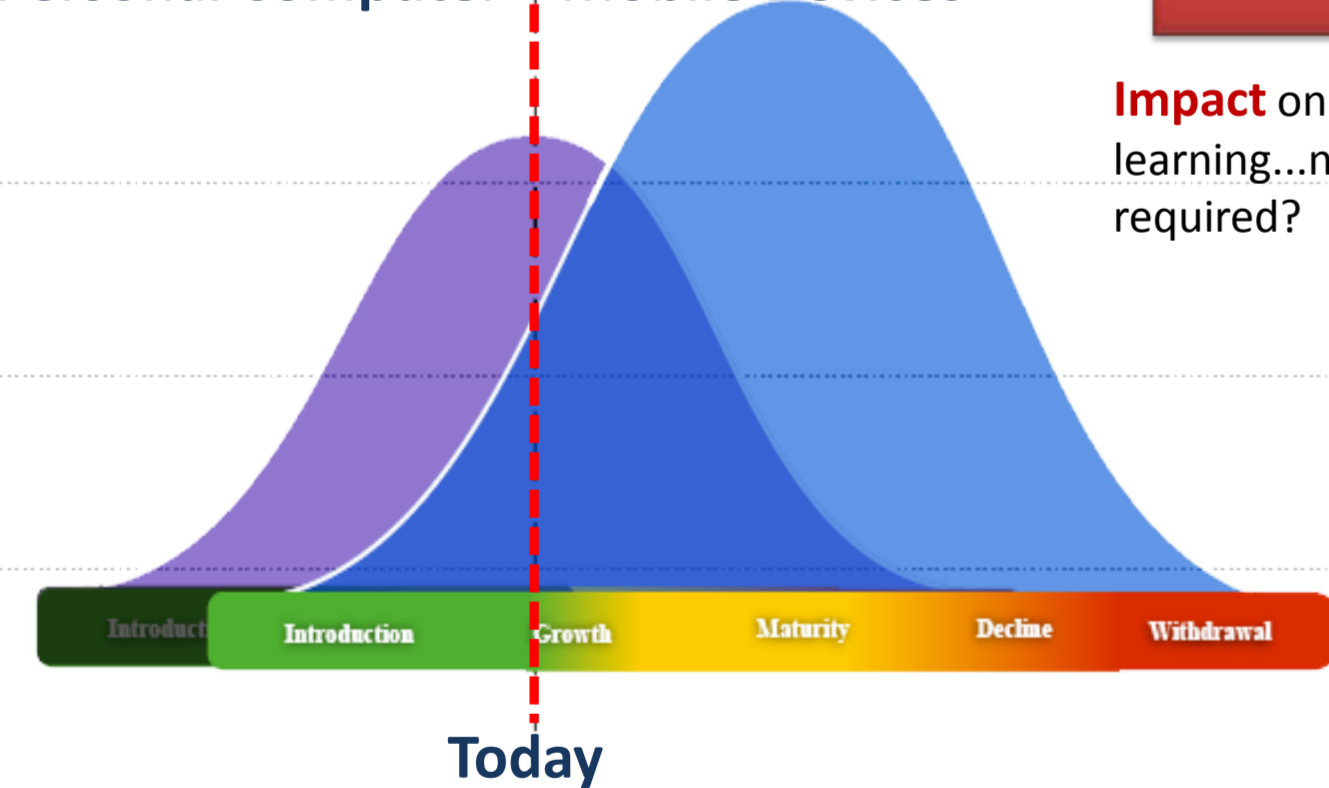
Impact on teaching and learning...new approaches required?

Strengthening the student learning experience...

Strengthening the student experience
Mobile devices and the range of apps has the potential to **enrich** learner engagement using a wider range of learning and teaching resources and methodologies. Mobile devices combined with collaborative tools, apps, community and other ICT recourses can potentially **enhance** learning.

The flexibility and mobility of smartphones, tablets and increasing range of apps allows learners to take greater control of their own learning thereby **empowering** students to research, create, share engage and collaborate with other learners.

Improved built-in tools and apps can transform learning experiences for students with additional support needs, such as dyslexia or students who are blind. Apps to support organisation, planning, memory, reading, writing and notetaking compliment and accommodate a range of learning styles, needs and lifestyles.

Post PC era
Mobile devices outselling traditional desktop computers. Students released from desktop tethering – enhancing individual freedom – an adapting student population – transformative learning through technology:

- improving apps – significant task design,
- collaborative tools,
- eBook – readers and authoring apps,
- improved productivity and research apps.

Paradigm shift in 'classroom' practice
Classrooms without walls but social learning spaces:

1. Lecturers create enriched multimedia presentations with interactive features using apps such as the Nearpod Content tool.
2. In the classroom lecturer shares content with students but controls the activity using 'Teacher' controls.
3. Students receive module content and submit responses via their mobile devices using Nearpod app.
4. Lecturer monitors student activity and measures student results on an individual and aggregate basis.

(Adapted from *Steve Molyneux 2013*)

Scan the QR code to view Professor Steve Molyneux's presentation.

Teacher Development in a Post-PC Era
The impact of iPads on Education

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