

Connectivism: Knowing Knowledge

ePortfolio 2006

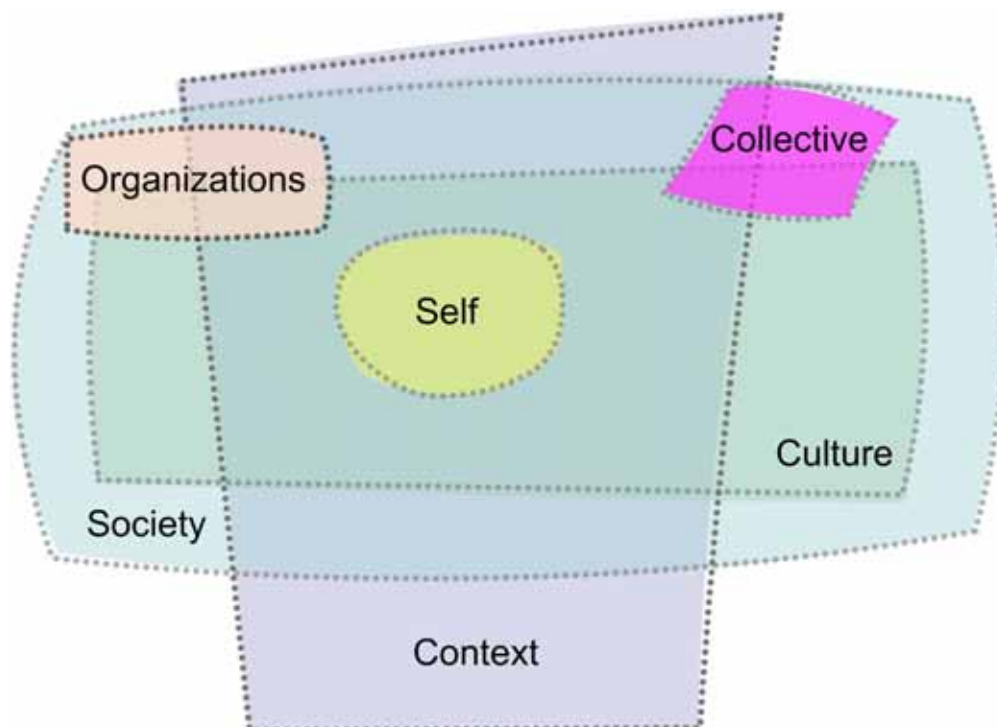
George Siemens



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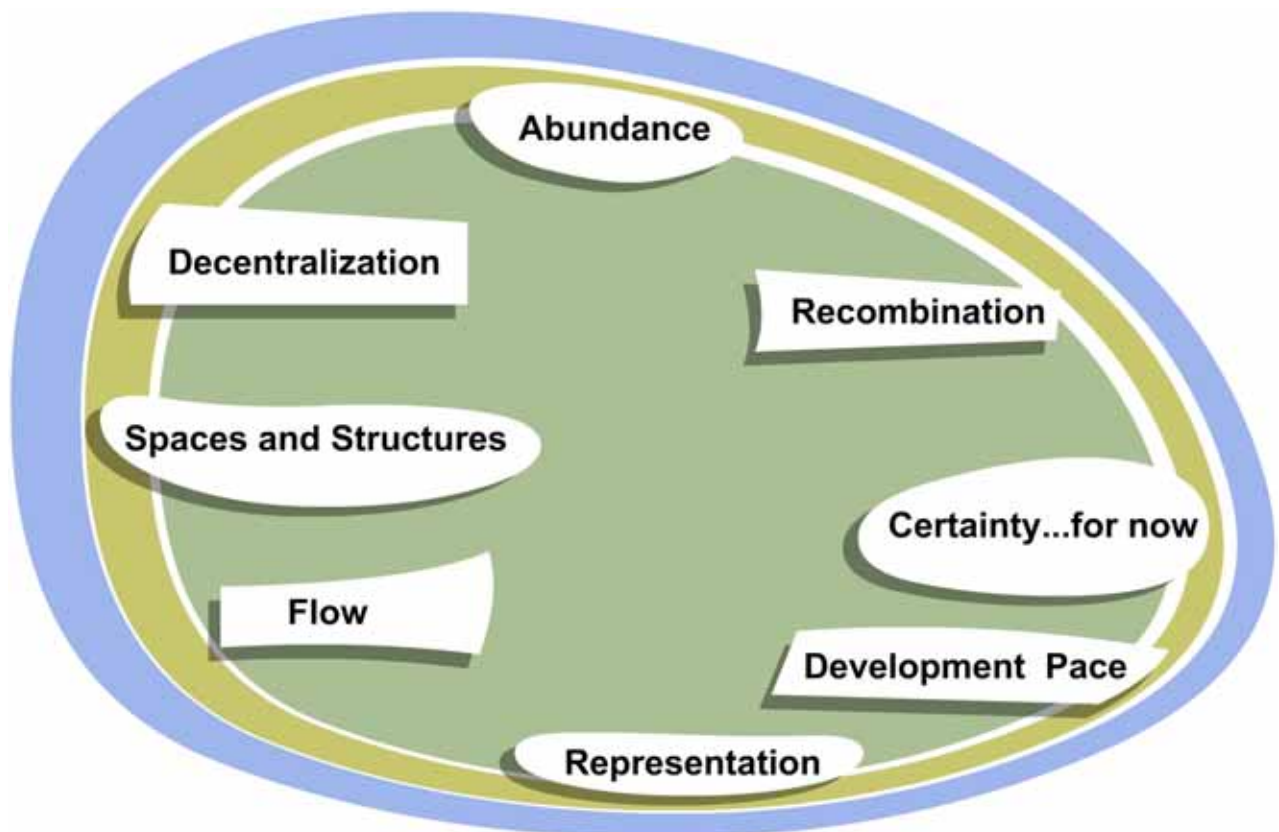
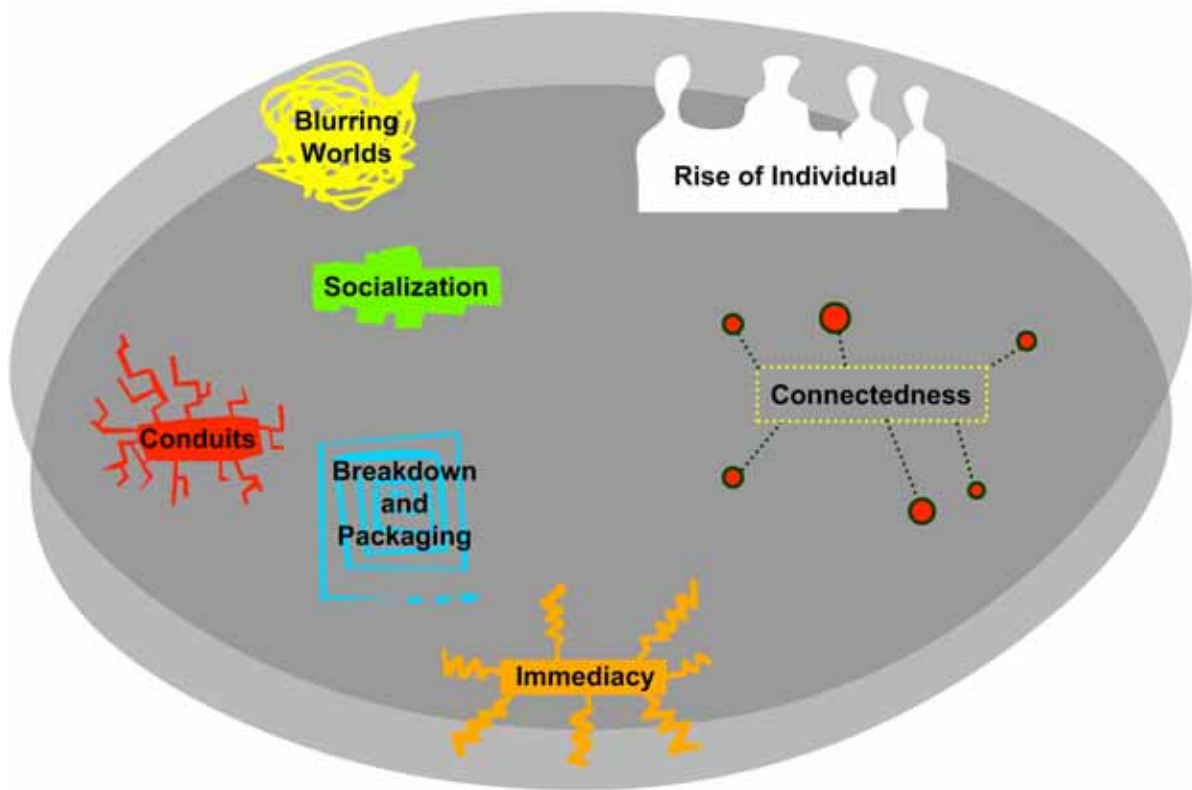


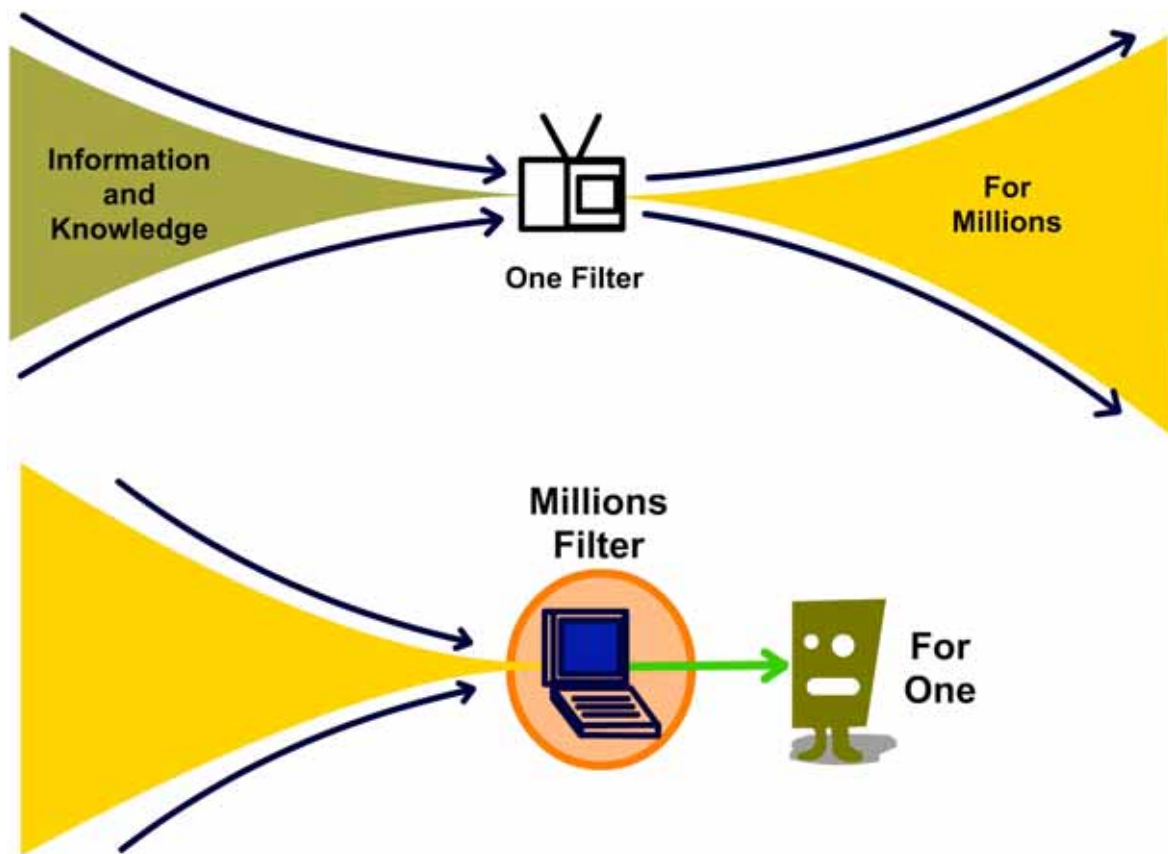
Where we exist...



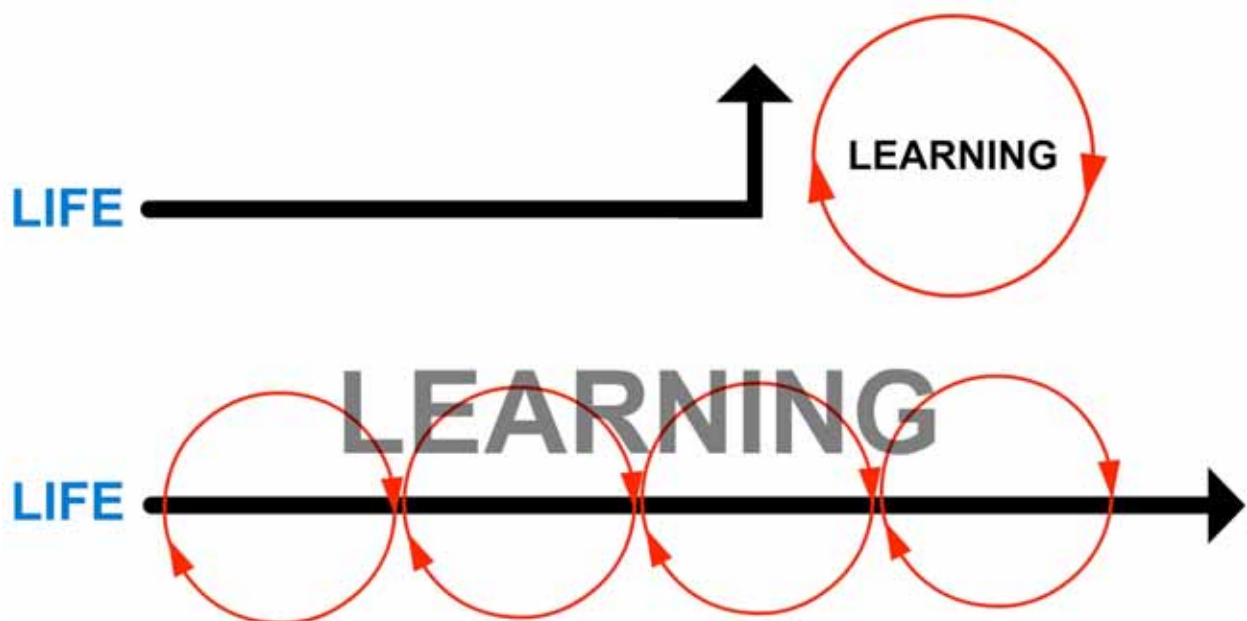
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LEARNING IN SYNCH WITH LIFE



Why we do it differently

Previous models arose in climate of
barriers

Today's models arise in climate of
openness

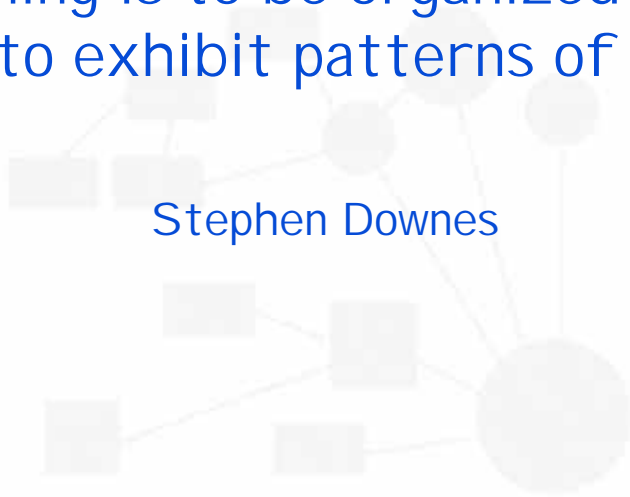


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To “know” something is to be organized
in a certain way, to exhibit patterns of
connectivity

Stephen Downes

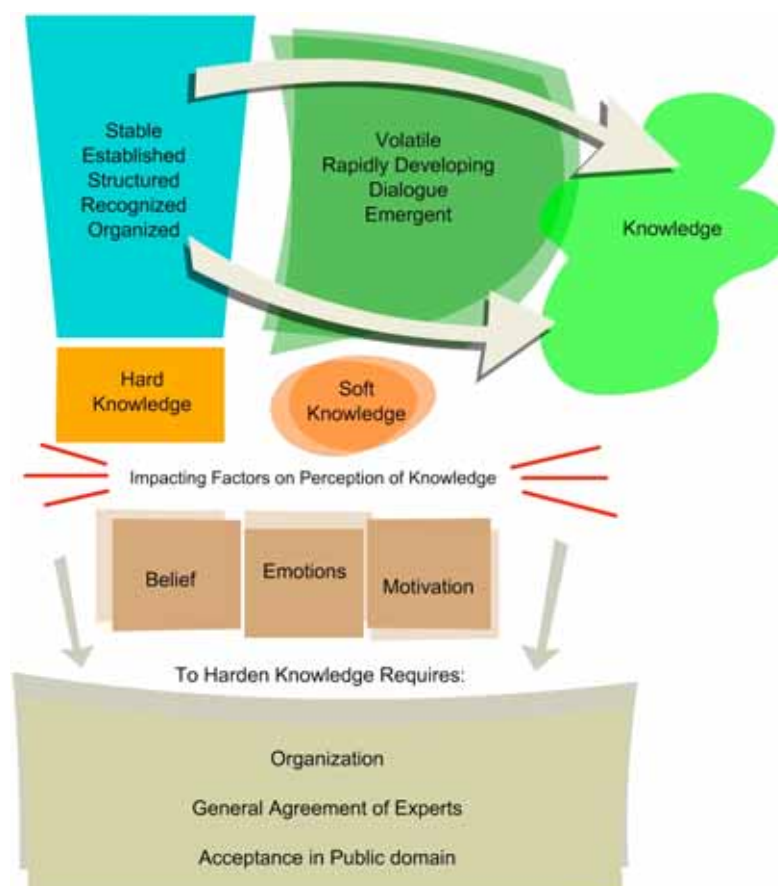


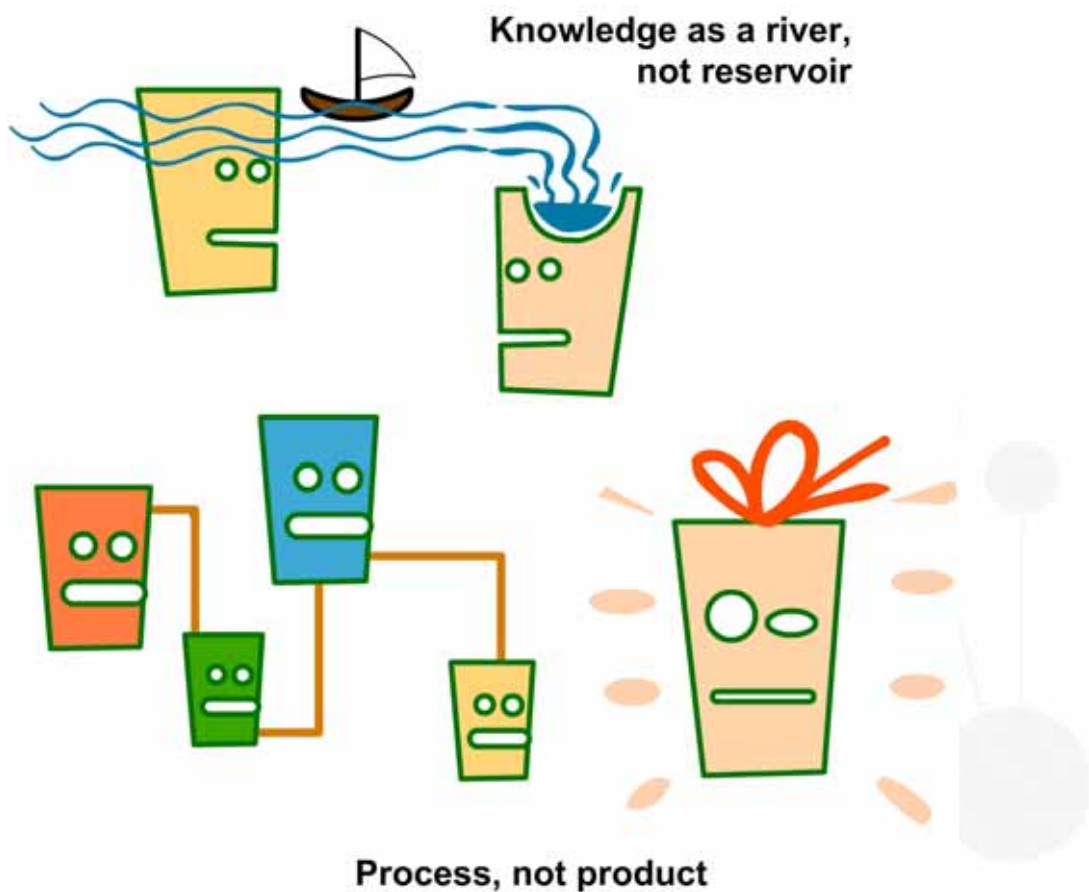
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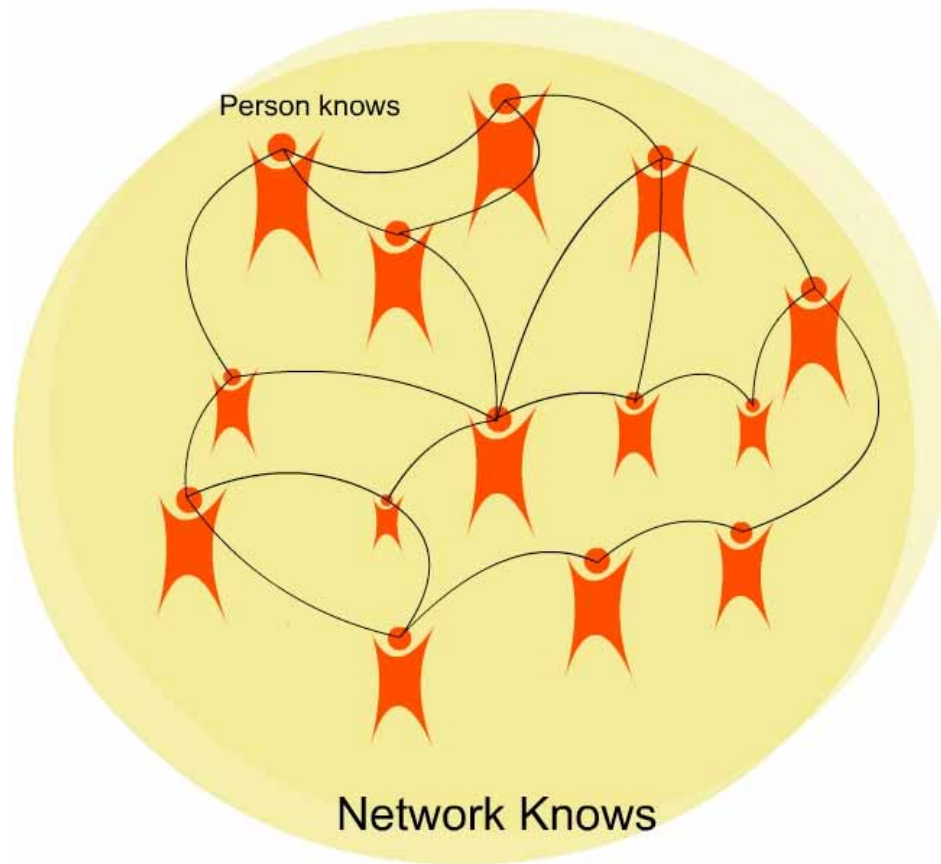


We come to know in many ways:

- senses, observation, and experience
- thinking and logic
- intuition (“gut feel”)
- revelation (the “A ha!” moment)
- authority (validated, trusted)
- connections (our personal learning network)



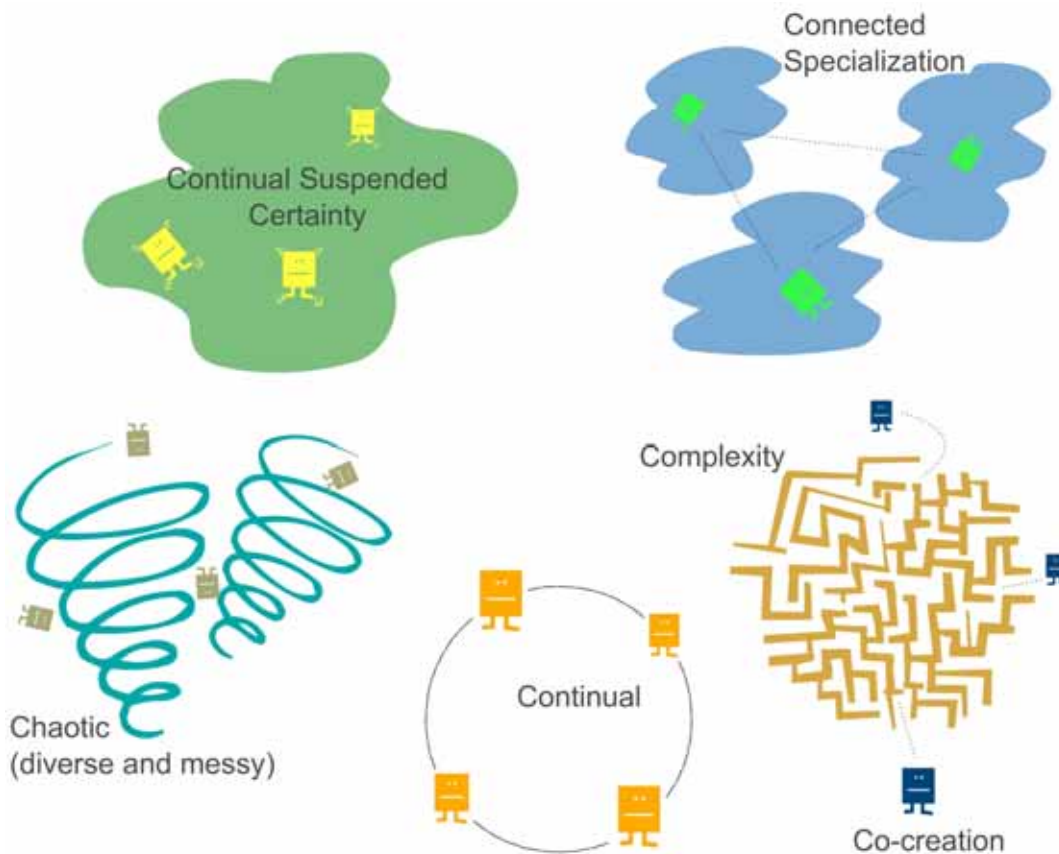




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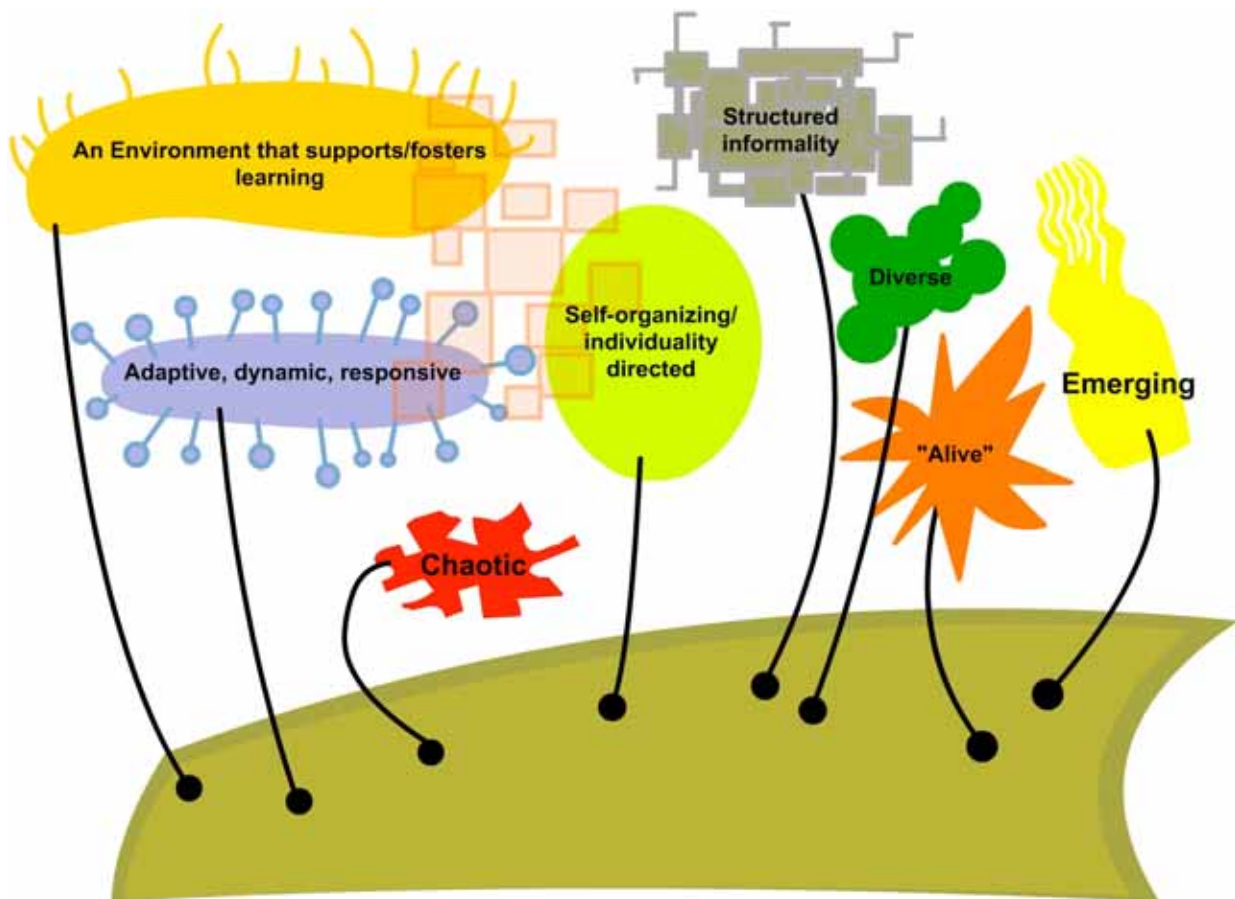
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Our digital needs...

- Content artifacts (holding and varied display)
- Sharing
- Co-creating
- Conversation
- Capturing (for reuse and refinding)



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What are our needs?

- Needed (“right” or meaning-laden) knowledge, not only access
- Distributed communication
- Social
- Personal centralization
- Distributed sensemaking
 - I understand as my network understands
- Complexity navigation

Tension points

- Hierarchy and networks
- Centralized and distributed
- Controlled and fostered
- Specialized and generalized
- Theory and practice
- Holistic and local
- Professional and amateur

The power of context

- Context, not predefined to broad application
- Who holds ability to:
 - Create context?
 - React to context?



Freedom is not assured...

- Choice enablers vs. choice minimizers
- We accept reduced choice for convenience
 - Learn lessons from LMS space
- Foster richness, diversity
- Seek adaptability over stability
- Greatest opportunity to connect and recombine



Who is the expert?

- Validated by peers?
- Validated by other experts?
- Validated by their history?
- Trust.
 - Journals (others say it's good – it has history)
 - People (we know them – have history)

Connectivism

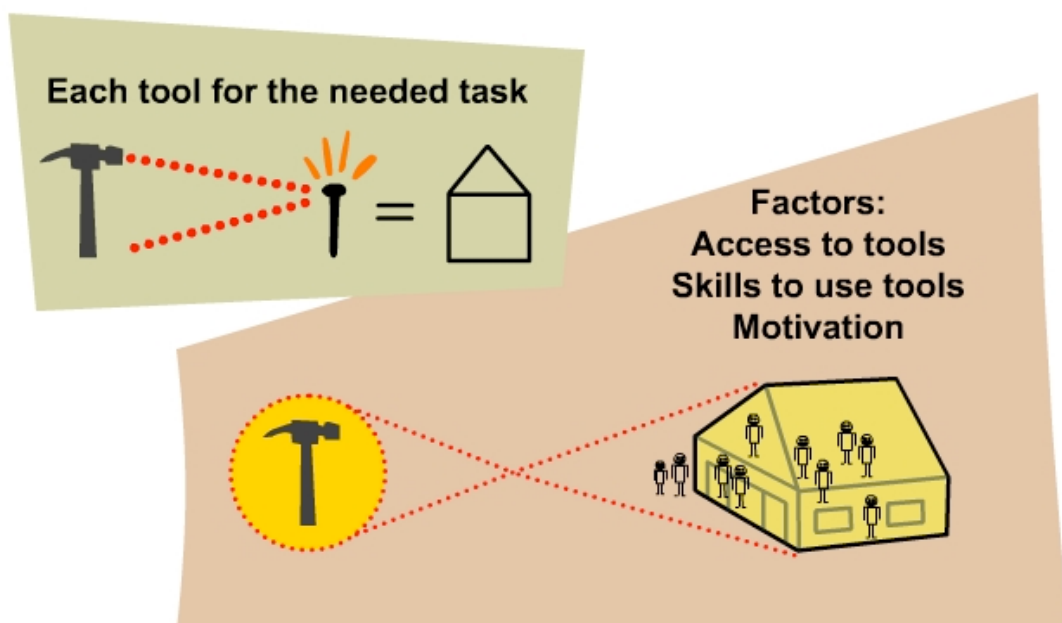
- Diversity
- Network formation process of connecting specialized nodes or information sources.
- Knowledge rests in networks.
- Knowledge may reside in non-human appliances, and learning is enabled/ facilitated by technology.
- Capacity to know more is more critical than what is currently known.

Connectivism

- Learning and knowing are constant, on going processes (not end states or products).
- Pattern/connection recognition
- Currency (accurate, up-to-date knowledge) is the intent of all connectivist learning activities.
- Decision-making is learning. A right answer now, may be wrong tomorrow due to alterations in the information climate affecting the decision.

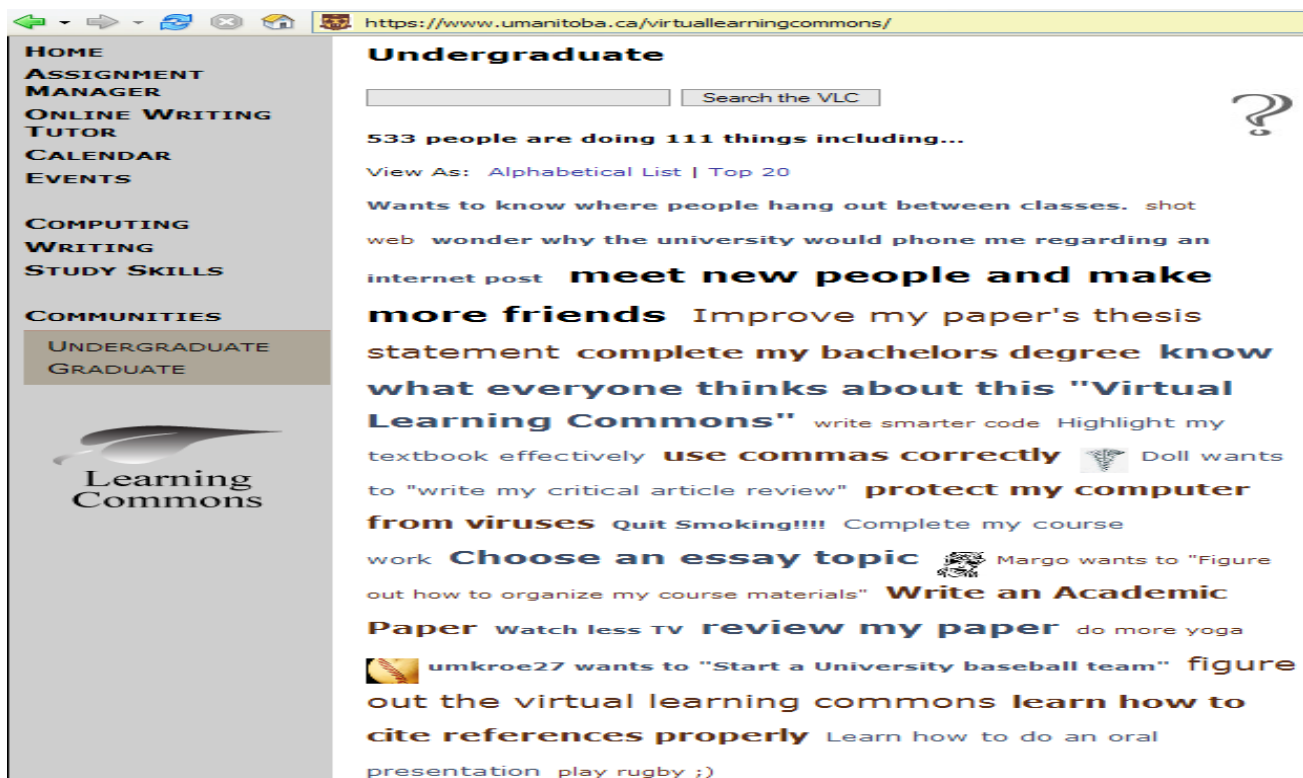
Affordance

Each tool possesses inherent traits that will determine use. Task is to have access to a broad range of tools to adjust to situation.



Challenge of use...

- Blend of content, conduit, conversation
- Designed in line with needs of end-users
- Create for adaptability (future proof)
- Value in line with change required



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.umanitoba.ca/virtualllearningcommons/>. The page is titled "Undergraduate" and features a search bar labeled "Search the VLC" and a question mark icon. A list of user activities is displayed, including:

- 533 people are doing 111 things including...
- View As: Alphabetical List | Top 20
- Wants to know where people hang out between classes. shot
- web wonder why the university would phone me regarding an
- internet post **meet new people and make more friends** Improve my paper's thesis
- statement **complete my bachelors degree know what everyone thinks about this "Virtual Learning Commons"** write smarter code Highlight my
- textbook effectively **use commas correctly** Doll wants to "write my critical article review" **protect my computer from viruses** Quit Smoking!!!! Complete my course
- work **Choose an essay topic** Margo wants to "Figure out how to organize my course materials" **Write an Academic Paper** Watch less TV **review my paper** do more yoga
- umkroe27** wants to "Start a University baseball team" figure out the virtual learning commons **learn how to cite references properly** Learn how to do an oral presentation play rugby ;)

www.elearnspace.org

www.connectivism.ca

www.knowingknowledge.com

ltc.umanitoba.ca/wordpress



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