

Online tools for creating communities of communicative learners

A Demonstration by **Vance Stevens**, Petroleum Institute, Abu Dhabi
Fri, Jan 23, Rm 416 MC, 14.30 to 16:00 Cairo time, **12:30 to 14:00 GMT**

This session explains how communities are formed and nurtured in blended and purely online instructional environments. The presentation introduces the mechanics and logistics of the formation of Communities of Practice, and describes factors favoring their robust development. Several free and easy-to-use software tools instrumental in facilitating interaction among community members will be described. These include:

Synchronous and asynchronous text-based communications tools

- Tapped In at <http://www.tappedin.org>
- GroupBoard text chat with Paint graphics and guest book - <http://www.homestead.com/vstevens/files/efi/groupboard.htm>
- <http://www.homestead.com/vstevens/>

Synchronous and asynchronous text-based and audio-based communications tools:

- A very active Chatterbox voice chat room <http://www.study.com>
- <http://www.alado.net/webheads>
- <http://www.wimba.com/>

Synchronous text, voice, and web-cam enhanced chat software:

- <http://www.ivisit.com/>
- Yahoo Messenger: <http://messenger.yahoo.com/messenger/download/index.html>
- <http://www.paltalk.com>

Web sites for setting up portals for promoting community groupings online:

- <http://www.yahogroups.com>
- <http://www.learningtimes.org>
- <http://www.groove.net>

Webheads communities:

- <http://www.vancestevens.com/papers/evonline2002/webheads.htm>
- <http://sites.hsprofessional.com/vstevens/files/efi/webheads.htm>

You can find more information on such tools here:

<http://sites.hsprofessional.com/vstevens/files/efi/software.htm>

Vance's presentations are linked from: <http://www.vancestevens.com/>