

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

20 TEACHING WITH TECHNOLOGY

15 SHOWCASE

Making Waves: Innovation for Student Success



Promoting Digital Fluency On Campus

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Objectives

- **Acknowledge** that we have a problem
- **Identify** which gap(s) we're talking about
- **Recognize** the need of a solution
- **Identify** essential skills that could comprise a 'digital literacy' program (**WHAT to teach**)
- **Identify** effective ways to train students, faculty and staff in those skills (**HOW to teach it**)
- **Provide** concrete suggestions and recommendations on how this issue could be addressed in the context of FAU

There is a problem

Harvard
Business
Review

EDUCATION

The Real Revolution in Online Education Isn't MOOCs

by Michelle Weise

OCTOBER 17, 2014

"Something is clearly wrong when only 11% of business leaders — compared to 96% of chief academic officers — believe that graduates have the requisite skills for the workforce."

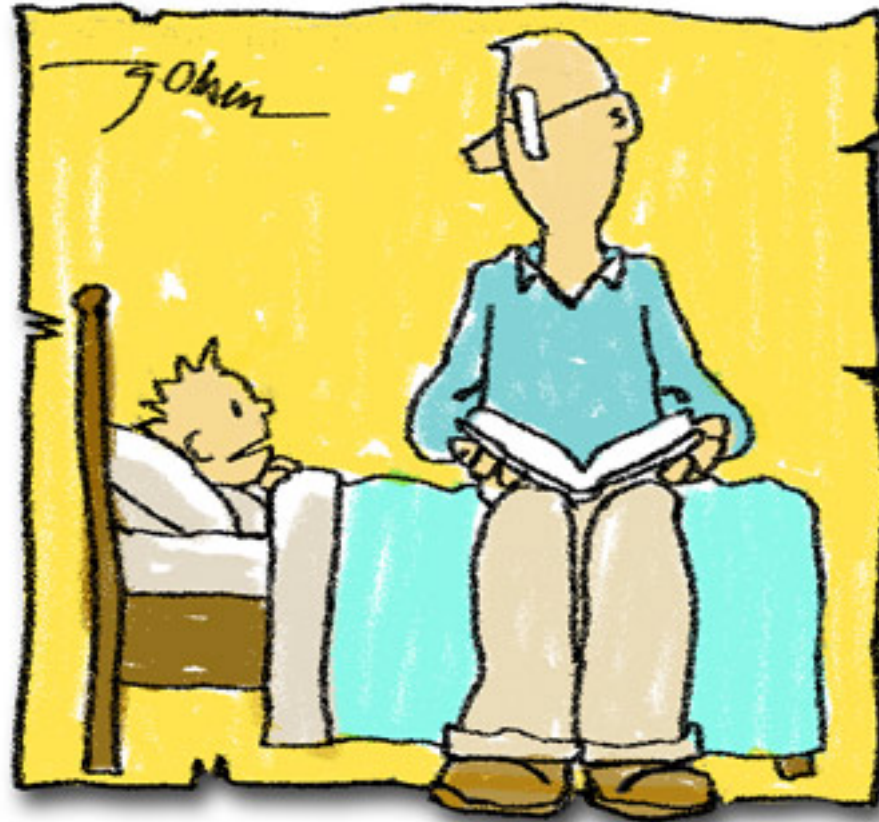
There is a gap

Or maybe more than one...

1. GENERATIONAL Skills Gap
2. TECHNOLOGICAL Skills Gap
3. INEQUALITY Skills Gap



Generational (skills) gap



"You know, Dad, you do a darn good job.
You should let me record you sometime, and
I'll podcast you on my website.
Just a thought."

GENERATIONAL Skills Gap

There is a *massive* digital fluency divide between *students* and post-secondary education *faculty*.

- Student populations are *digital natives*, while their professors, typically, are not.
- “You can’t teach what you don’t know.”

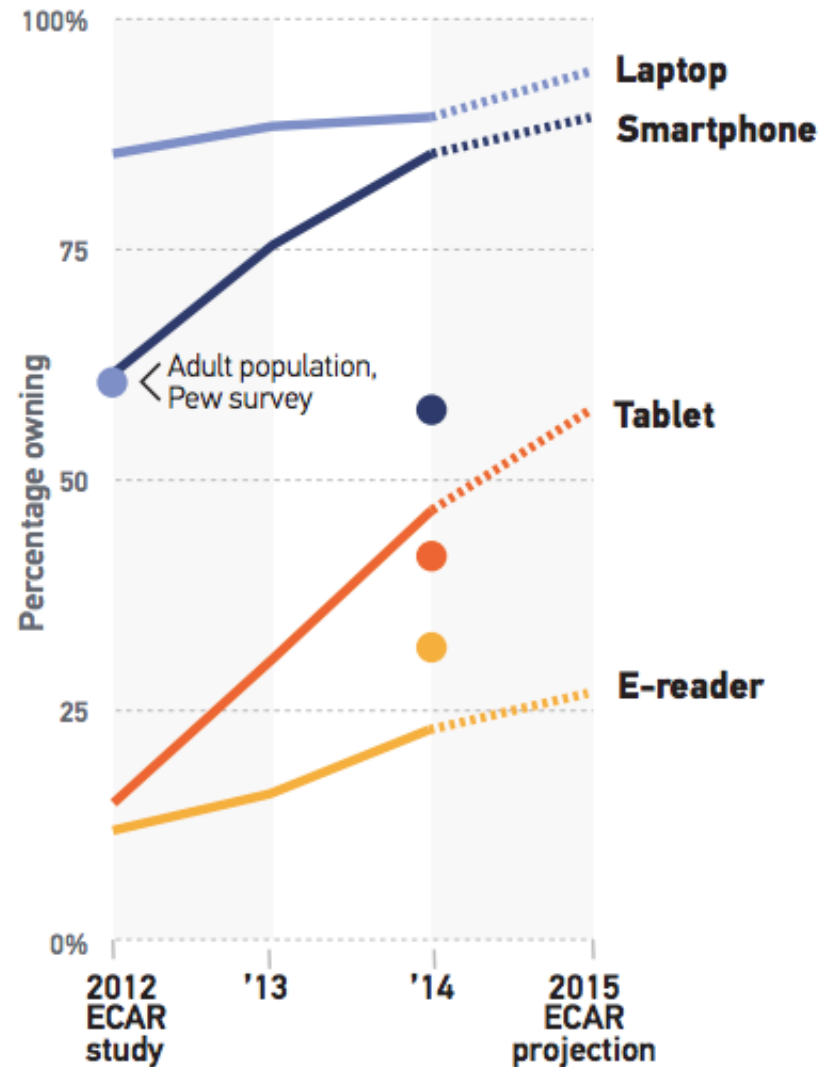
GENERATIONAL Skills Gap

- Device ownership – college students (2014)

90%: laptop

47%: tablet

86%: smartphone



TECHNOLOGICAL Skills Gap

There is a gap between the digital skills educators currently possess and those they *should* possess.

- In a world where skills have a half-life of 2.5 to 5 years, leaders need constant development.

INEQUALITY Skills Gap

There is a wide spectrum between the digital skill levels of all college students, known as “skills inequality”.

- University students possess some digital skills, but to varying degrees.
- We should level the playing field and incorporate learning that all students can benefit from, instead of having to cater to the weakest skillset.

The solution?

- Promote *digital fluency* efforts in a broad and extensive way.
- Teach *core digital skills* using the most appropriate tools and techniques.
- Engage *everyone* (faculty, students, and staff)

Core digital skills



Attention



Documents



Communication



Security



Platforms



Search & Research



Project Management



Digital Etiquette

Core digital skills

- Focus and Attention Management

Learn and practice strategies to filter out surrounding “noise”, focus on a task at hand, and give a lesson, project or learning experience your full attention.



Core digital skills

- Document Creation, Collaboration & Management

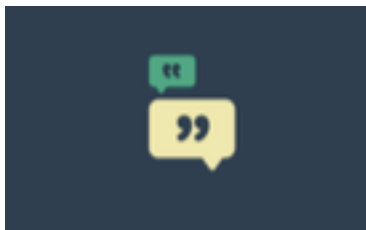
Become fluent in *creating* digital documents, *sharing* them with others, *annotating* them as necessary, and then *locating* them at a later date.



Core digital skills

- **Communication**

Master digital communication skills across different media, e.g., email, instant messaging, and social media.



Core digital skills

- Security & Privacy

Learn how to protect our personal information and our privacy using state-of-the-art security measures (and a healthy dose of common sense).



Core digital skills

- Platform Flexibility

Learn how to competently navigate across different devices, platforms and operating systems.



Core digital skills

- Search & Research

Learn research skills "beyond Google" and acquire the critical skills necessary to:

- access specific information quickly and effectively
- be able to determine whether an online item is fact, fiction, or fantasy.



Core digital skills

- **Project Collaboration & Management**

Learn strategies to improve time, course, and schedule management in collaborative projects.

Adopt best practices and tools to manage workflow.



Core digital skills

- Digital Etiquette ("netiquette")

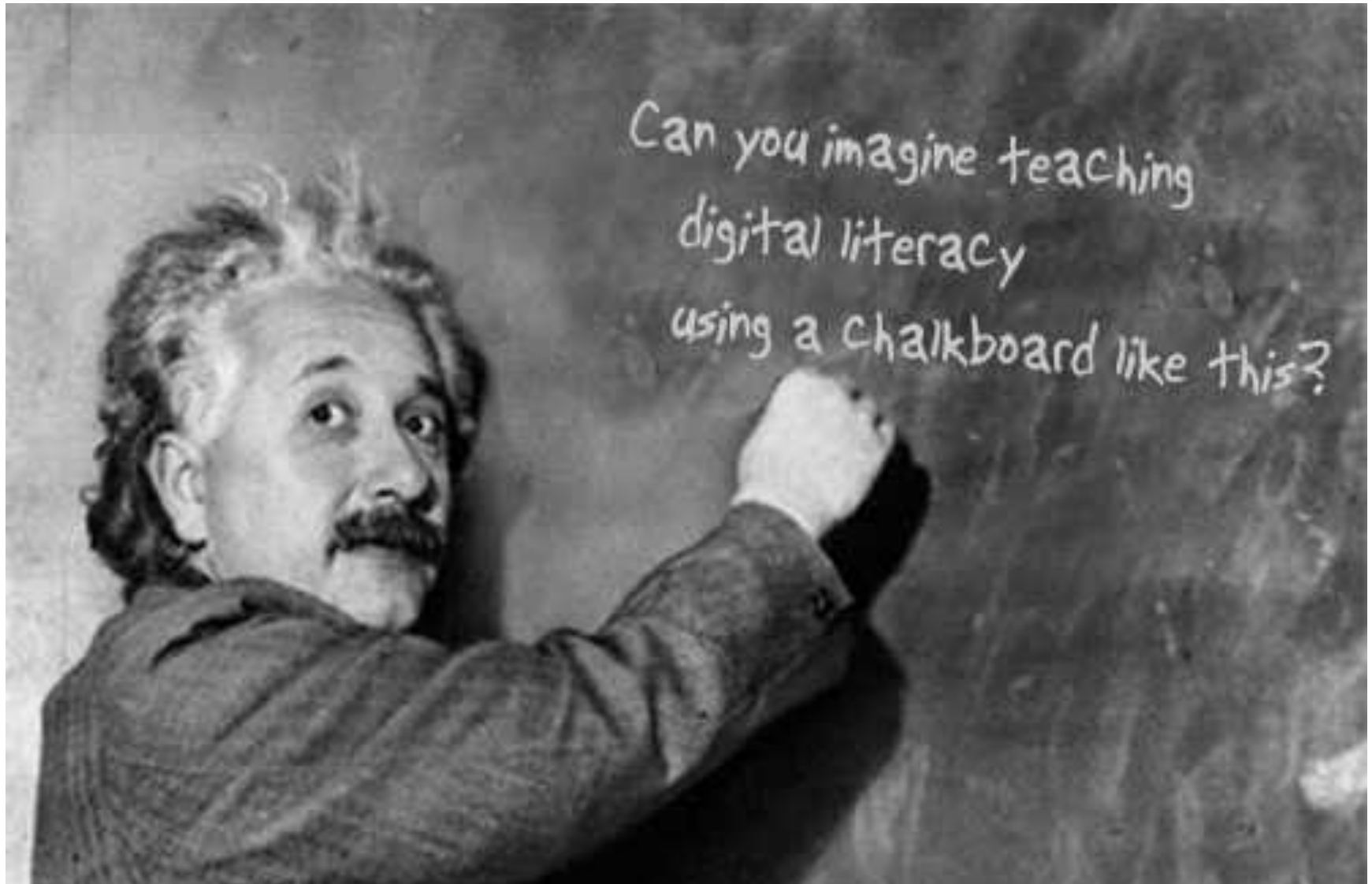
Understand the rules of the road for communicating in a digital environment.

This includes:

- understanding the risks of being on various social media platforms
- watching for online stalkers
- digital reputation management
- tackling the online rumor mill.



How to teach digital literacy?

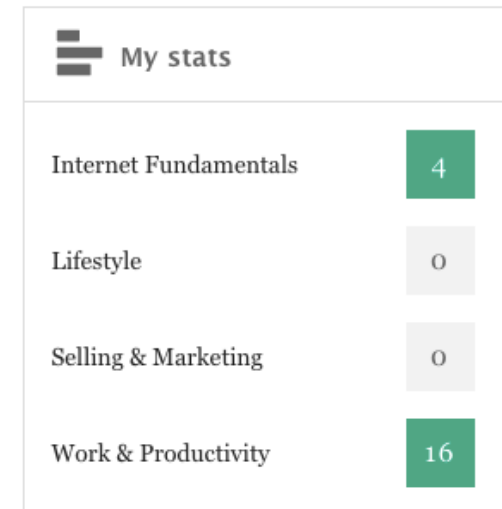


A viable alternative

- *Customizable* training using a *microlearning* approach. [Example: Grovo]

My experience with Grovo

- Signed up for a 14-day trial earlier this year
- Explored their programs and modules
- Got acquainted with Dashboard
- Created teams, customized training programs, assignments, deadlines, etc.
- Took several courses
- My conclusion?
 - It works!

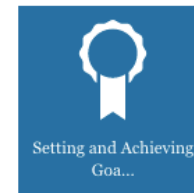


My stats	
Internet Fundamentals	4
Lifestyle	0
Selling & Marketing	0
Work & Productivity	16

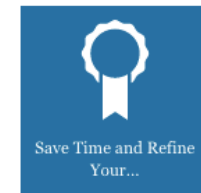
Certifications (5)



Share



Share



Share



Share



Share

Take-home message

FAU should promote broad and extensive initiatives to address the digital fluency divide between students and faculty and strive to become the go-to place for mastering digital skills.

Final remarks

- Let's start a conversation on how to promote digital fluency in the context of FAU.
- Concrete suggestions and recommendations are welcome!



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