

Design for Learning: Space Matters!

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Abstract: When considering innovative teaching practices, the design and utilization of space is often little more than an afterthought. However, effective design and utilization of learning spaces are key components to true digital age learning environments. This presentation will consider the interrelationship among space design, effective technology integration, student-centered learning and appropriate professional development. Research-based models will be emphasized. Presenters will include professionals with expertise in design and architecture and educators with international experience. Examples of cutting-edge and “under development” models will be presented.

Introduction

The three panelists will introduce themselves with a focus on the perspectives they bring to the examination of the relationship among space design, pedagogy and learning technologies. They will also share direct experiences they have had with innovative learning space design and utilization, sometimes referred to as ‘classrooms of the future.’ The panelists will focus on what they believe are the four key components to the successful design of rich learning spaces:

- Innovative design of space, including an integrated approach to all key elements, e.g., furniture
- Integration of key and learner driven technologies
- A strong pedagogical base, supported by research
- Well-designed and sustained professional development to support systematic integration of space design, learning technologies, and learner centered pedagogies.

Overview of Panel

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Presenter(s)</u>	<u>Time</u>
1. A simulated model of a “classroom of the future” (based on cutting edge work in US and China) will be presented.	Award winning professional with expertise in design and architecture	20 mins
2. Two experienced educators, both with expertise in innovative learning spaces, including US and international settings, will offer their observations and thoughts on the simulated presentation	Internationally recognized educators with expertise in innovation and pedagogy	10 mins
3. Audience Participation: While a formal audience Q&A will be offered at the conclusion of the formal panel presentation, an ongoing “backchannel chat” will be available throughout the full presentation		

Research

Research-based resources to support innovative space design and utilization will be made available to audience participants as a take away.