Open Courseware and Open Research: Realizing Wikiversity’s Potential

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Wikiversity: “wiki university”

– Materials in course format, none for credit, most under construction
– Web space for courses taught elsewhere
– Hosts original research projects
– Essays that may contain original research
– <500 contribs./day: low activity
– Organized feedback?
  • Might improve if groups of people who know a particular area become regular contributors
Improving Wikiversity

• Recruit core group of contributors
  – A few courses on wiki tasks
    • Move custodian schools for other Wikimedia projects to Wikiversity?
    • Courses about how to use the Wiki markup language, with certifications: similar program in WikiEducator

• Better explain how to upload videos: from YouTube, MIT and elsewhere
More links to Wikiversity from highest-traffic Wikipedia pages (http://stats.grok.se/en/top)

Improve Wikiversity’s visibility
Wikipedia

• Limited usefulness for university learning:
  – Research, courseware limits Wikipedia to non-formal education
    • “No original research” policy
  – Article talk, User pages, email: Can communicate with contributors knowledgeable in a particular area
  – Reliability of contributors?
Open Courseware (OCW)

• All materials come from a few sources
• MIT: no degrees offered, no built-in way to receive feedback from others
  – Text and sometimes video materials
  – Research?
• Columbia: Materials, feedback, engineering degrees 100% online
  – Tuition: Higher than on-campus courses
Academics

- Courses with defined curricula, that allow people to gain credentials
- Research: physical and financial requirements for this vary
- Access to university library materials
- System of accrediting research
- Organized feedback