

UC eNGAGE: Several campus representatives from UC San Diego attended this conference hosted in San Francisco by UCOP on October 24, 2014. We asked them to tell us one or two ideas they encountered that were significant to them.

“Flipped Classroom and Blooms Taxonomy of learning presented a really clear picture of how technology can be used to help with the lower tiers of learning (remembering and understanding), allowing us to focus instructional/faculty time on the higher tiers of analyzing, evaluating, and creating.”

“From most UC campuses, collecting raw data about how students perform and learn in the physical and online classroom environment is no longer a problem. The challenge now is gathering these data from seemingly disparate systems, organizing it in meaningful ways, and presenting it in a manner that is useful for informed decision making. In other words: the data is there, so let’s start using it.”

“I found tremendous value in the conversations between sessions.”

“While my area is graduate education and the emphasis of the conference was on the undergraduate experience, I still found it to be an excellent learning opportunity with application to the graduate learning experience.”

“I believe the most interesting idea is the unified database for students and faculty: the student one would include the individual co-curriculum data and their likes/dislikes as well as statistical data; the faculty one would include their individual contract/grants and teaching (feedback as well as innovation) data. This information could help shape future initiatives.

“The second most interesting idea was testing out education related software. I am not sure who is doing that now but this is definitely worthwhile to do, in particular we should partner with nearby companies like Qualcomm that have more resources and capabilities to test new software/apps.”

“Regarding the presentation by Gary Small and his reference to anyone under 25 as a “digital native”, I encourage everyone looking for a more comprehensive discussion of the “digital native” stereotype to read this piece by Tony Bates: <http://www.tonybates.ca/2014/02/16/a-comprehensive-review-of-the-literature-on-digital-natives/>”

“One thing that stood out for me at the conference was how there was little to no discussion of Universal Design concepts. Universal Design not only makes information accessible to individuals with disabilities but also makes it accessible to individuals with different learning styles and to those for whom English is not their first language.”

“Dr. Gary Small’s presentation on the Impact of Technology on Learning and the Brain provided some positive impacts of technology on the brain: The benefits of technology use is improved reaction time, increased brain activity, and improvement of the brain as we age.”

“We need to make technology a part of how students interact with the university, not optional. Otherwise it will become a tool that nobody uses”

“A faculty member from UC Santa Barbara pointed out that online courses are NOT FREE and that there is a period of adjustment/development that needs to take place which may require that the institution buy out faculty time to give them an incentive to develop online courses and practices. For graduate students, many of whom will go on to be educators, this is a great opportunity to think about how we can involve them in the development of online instructional delivery methods.”

““Flipping the classroom” is an effective teaching strategy, however, it requires a significant initial investment of time for faculty teaching the course. It would be helpful if departments or the university could provide resources to facilitate, and encourage, restructuring classes using this model.”

“We are in a period of experimentation in the delivery of online instruction “We are at the end of the beginning”.

“UC Merced has used telemedicine psychiatry to increase their services to students and more students are willing to obtain counseling using this approach compared to in-office visits.”