

Engaging Students Where They Are: The Challenges and Successes of Integrating Technology with Diverse Student Populations

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The Generations in Our Classes

Boomers

Gen X

Gen Y



Boomers

- Born 1946 – 1964 (ages 47 – 65)
- Education – then and now
- Work Experiences and Attitudes
- Communication – Preferred style
 - Personal interaction (Face-to-Face)
 - Phone calls (land lines and cell phones)
- Technology Knowledge
 - Grew up with calculators, TV, early computers
 - Range from little knowledge to tech savvy



Gen X

- Born 1965 – 1980 (ages 31 – 45)
- Education – then and now
- Work Experiences and Attitudes
- Communication – Preferred style
 - Email
 - Twitter for social contacts
 - Cell phone
- Technology Knowledge
 - Grew up with computers
 - Comfortable with technology



Gen Y

- Born 1981 – 1995 (16 – 30)
 - Includes PSEO students
- Education
- Work Attitudes
- Communication – Preferred style
 - Text message with hand held media
 - Social media, Facebook, Video, Blogs
- Technology Knowledge
 - Born with technology
 - Computer and Internet use beginning as early as age five – eight years
 - Easily learn and use new technology
 - Multi-taskers



“Who Are We?” Survey

Please complete the survey

The survey will be collected

Surveys with names will be returned



Thinking about Our Students

What do we know about our students and technology?

- What **Generations** do your students represent?
- Do your students have **Access to Technology**?
 - What type(s)
- What are the **Technology Knowledge** preferences of your students?



Challenges

Open-Access Colleges
and
Universities



Levels of Technical Experience

- Extremes
 - Know it alls – tend to be younger students
 - Technology phobic
 - Luddites
 - Tend to be older students



Digital Divide

- Internet Access
 - None
 - Dial-up
 - Bandwidth
 - High-speed cable
 - DSL
 - Satellite



Instructional Expectations

- First-year students
- Developing strategies
- Finding and connecting with out-of-class resources
- Use the appropriate technology each occasion



Faculty – Student Relationships

- Maintain a personal relationship with a student
 - Phone
 - Email
 - Blackboard
 - Elluminate



Technology

Good for the Cause?

Good for the Student?

