

Blended teaching and learning technology: feedback from users of virtual tools

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This paper is based on a survey conducted at two campuses of Eastern Institute of Technology located at Hawke's Bay and Gisborne about the recently installed blended learning facility. Two sets of questionnaire were designed for the purpose: one for the staff members who have developed and/or are delivering a blended learning course at EIT either using the facility or likely to use it in the near future, and another for the students who participated in the blended teaching-learning process this semester across both the campuses. The responses received were analysed to gauge the effectiveness of this new mode of delivering courses across the two campuses of EIT separated by a distance of about 220 kms. This paper is based on the first set of questionnaire targeted at staff members with a view to get their feedback on the effectiveness of blended delivery of business courses. The paper discusses some important and interesting issues such as: how the staff feel about the blended learning environment, the support of IT services to staff involved in blended teaching, advantages and limitations, and how they can be overcome or mitigated. The paper also outlines the project history, specific class activities, challenges faced in implementation, and recommendations for modifying a future course and for adaptation at other centres of EIT.