

Poster mashups: Creating dynamic digital posters for collaborative learning spaces

Roger Cook

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
roger.cook@qut.edu.au

Elizabeth Greener

Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
e.greener@qut.edu.au

The development of the digital poster was part of the Learning and Teaching in Collaborative Environments project at QUT ([LATICE](#)), which is developing academic staff capabilities in a pedagogy-space technology framework. The project also supports the development of a new inquiry-based Bachelor of Science (2013). The authors designed and delivered an inquiry-based learning programme in 2012 for sixteen academics and eight professional staff, drawn from academic development models ([Steel and Andrews, 2012](#)). Through a series of workshops and group mentoring activities, the programme modelled inquiry-based learning in a new collaborative learning space, and the participants designed and practiced the delivery of teaching activities.

Through investigating a group poster assessment task, participants critically reviewed the suitability of creating digital posters. The challenges included designing a group assessment and producing a suitable digital environment. The designed solution utilised Google Sites. Unit coordinators evaluated this approach and decided to adopt it for two first year science units (360 students per unit). The decision was based on the required “student” experience and feedback from programme participants including:

- *This is a brilliant mode to encourage collaborative learning and collaborative assessment.*
- *The example "google poster" was a real eye opener... a really useful reconceptualisation.*
- *It really got me thinking about how new technologies could be useful rather than "faddish".*

The HERDSA poster will:

- demonstrate how a digital poster is an effective group assessment item
- overview how a digital poster can be designed and presented (see [sample](#))
- provide [student guidelines](#) for creating a digital poster.