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Ask the expert

Question 2: Are there any examples of Twitter being used as a learning tool to supplement teaching?

Of course, Sarah entered into the social media spirit to answer this question and posed it to her followers on Twitter! A great example of the reach of social media, check out the range of rapid responses received...

Hashtags can be a means of bringing together people, expertise and resources and facilitate learning. Vet Zoe Belshaw @ZotVet tweeted see #vetfinals<<https://twitter.com/hashtag/vetfinals?src=hash>> and @VetFinals<<https://twitter.com/VetFinals>> if you want a veterinary example of amazing teaching on Twitter!

@bob_connolly (neonatologist, medical educator and head @QueensPeds) shared this storify on how he used a class hashtag to generate some discussions while teaching. He's set up this storify (a really useful social media tool!) to journalsome of his experiences of using Twitter in medical education. https://storify.com/bob_connolly/using-twitter-during-medeclasses

Kit, a geriatrician, says he's learned from tweetchats, references people have shared, sources like @ukcochranecentr & NICE and he gives an example from today where NICE has tweeted a recommendation with the relevant link. He cites particular accounts (organizations and individuals) he's found particularly helpful, as sources of 'patient-centred' info, high quality patient-centred qualitative research and more. I like this tweet from him: "I've learned more re management of breast cancer (tech & subj) from @Liz_ORiordan<https://twitter.com/Liz_ORiordan> than I did at med school!"

I asked the wonderful Teresa Chinn @AgencyNurse (founder of @WeNurses and the #wecommunities) for some example and she sent me these:

- Richardson J., Grose J., Nelmes P., Parra G. & Linares M. (2016) Tweet if you want to be sustainable: a thematic analysis of a Twitter chat to discuss sustainability in nurse education. Journal of Advanced Nursing 72(5), 1086-1096. doi: 10.1111/jan.12900<<http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/jan.12900>> <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jan.12900/abstract>
- To Twitter to Woo: Harnessing the power of social media (SoMe) in nurse education to enhance the student's experience. Sinclair et al. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.nepr.2015.06.002>
- And from the CDP perspective Moorley, C. and Chinn, T. (2015), Using social media for continuous professional development. Journal of Advanced Nursing, 71: 713-717. doi: 10.1111/jan.12504 <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jan.12504/abstract>

Also see the article from Plymouth Uni, where they experimented with including Twitter as an assessed element of the first year nursing course:



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JONES R., KELSEY J., NELMES P., CHINN N., CHINN T. & PROCTOR- CHILDS T. (2016) Introducing Twitter as an assessed component of the under- graduate nursing curriculum: case study. Journal of Advanced Nursing 00(0), 000–000. doi: 10.1111/jan.12935

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