



AALBORG
E&PDE
2016

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP



the **Design Society**
a worldwide community



DSIG
Collaborative Design Special Interest Group

Workshop 2: How Can Social Network Sites Support Collaboration Within Product Design Education?

Overview

In line with the conference theme of collaboration and cross-disciplinarity, this workshop will discuss the role of social network sites in design education.

Social network sites are an everyday tool to communicate with friends and family. Students have adopted the technology not only in their social lives but also to facilitate their academic work. Studies have indicated that social network sites make it easier for students to share formal and informal information within group project work, and achieve more timely communication. From a pedagogical perspective this raises interesting questions regarding how a team's social dynamics could change when it comes to participating in group projects, how we can support and encourage students to use social network sites, as well as how appropriate our involvement is. Since these sites reflect a record of the communication, interaction and collaboration within the group, is it possible to use a student's involvement in a social network environment as an evaluation of their performance?

If you interested in learning more about using social network sites to support collaboration, this workshop will act as an introduction to current and future use of the communication methods and can help you to understand how students today are utilising platforms such as Facebook and Twitter for effective design communication.

Workshop format

The workshop will last for two hours and will be formatted as follows:

An introduction will be delivered on how students are using social network sites to conduct design projects and recommendations on ways to integrate social network sites into design education.

Followed by a focussed discussion relating to the pedagogical role that social network sites have, and the role academics play, in facilitating social network communication. The discussion will consider how social network sites will be used in future design education.

Participants will be asked to share the findings of their group and contribute to discussion on the challenges academics will face integrating social network sites into design education.

This workshop will aim to answer the questions

- How are social network sites being used by students to support project based learning?
- How should academics support the use of social network sites in an appropriate way?
- How can we use social network sites to best engage students in their design projects?

How can i get involved?

Come along to the workshop at 16:00 on Wednesday 7th September (Registration Day) at the E&PDE conference 2016, Aalborg University, Denmark. Remember to sign up for **workshop 2** during online conference registration.

Chair: Ross Brisco – University of Strathclyde,
Co-Chair: Dr Ian Whitfield - University of Strathclyde.