

Emerging Technologies and Classrooms of the Future

Dr Phil Coogan



Classrooms of the Past

- We've now had around 100 years of promises about the utopian impact of technologies in education – educational technology is not new



- But

Classrooms of the Past:

- The technologies were often positioned as more important than the learning they were meant to enhance
- The teacher was gate-keeper, releasing the knowledge to students
- Knowledge was constructed as fixed
- Students were passive recipients of knowledge – they were not encouraged to re-construct knowledge and disseminate it
- There was no sense of connection of students to each other or to their world
- Classrooms were, and still are, designed to reflect the above



0:21 / 0:50

480p



Classrooms of the Future

- Here is a reasonably typical “imagining” of a (near) [future classroom](#)



In this classroom

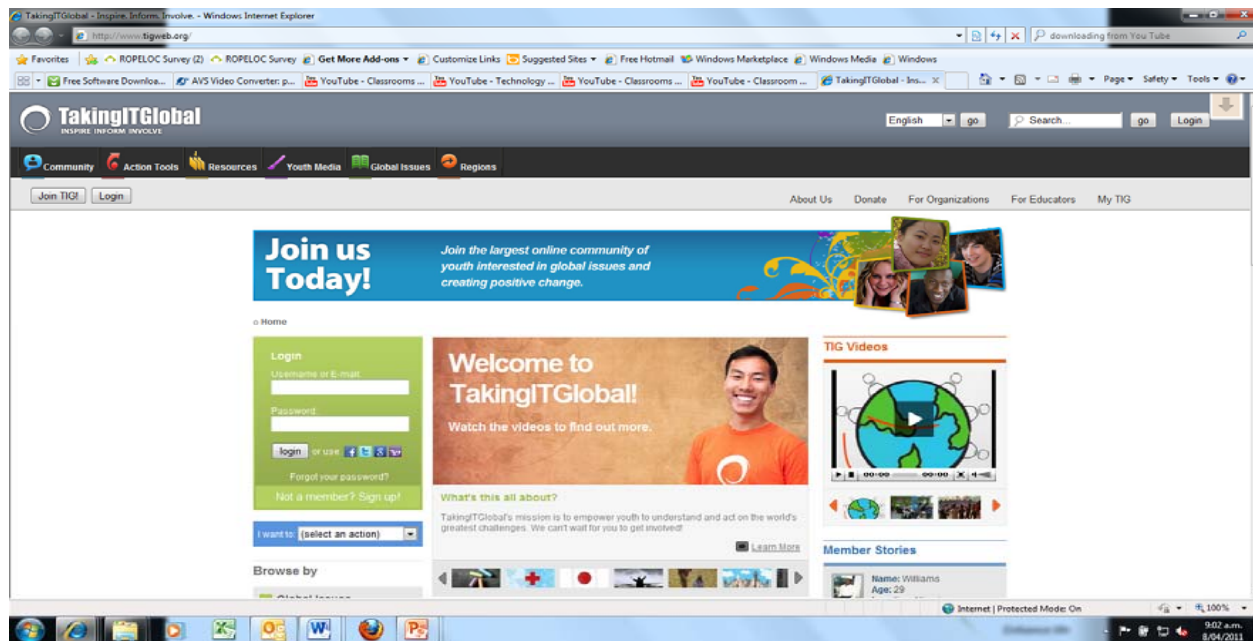
- the technologies shown are pivotal to future visions but the video *starts* with the technology rather than student needs or educational outcomes
- It ignores the three most important parts of those classrooms – teachers, students and the world beyond
- The video constructs the classroom as a teacher and students within 4 walls
- However, the classroom of the future will be ...

A Connected Classroom

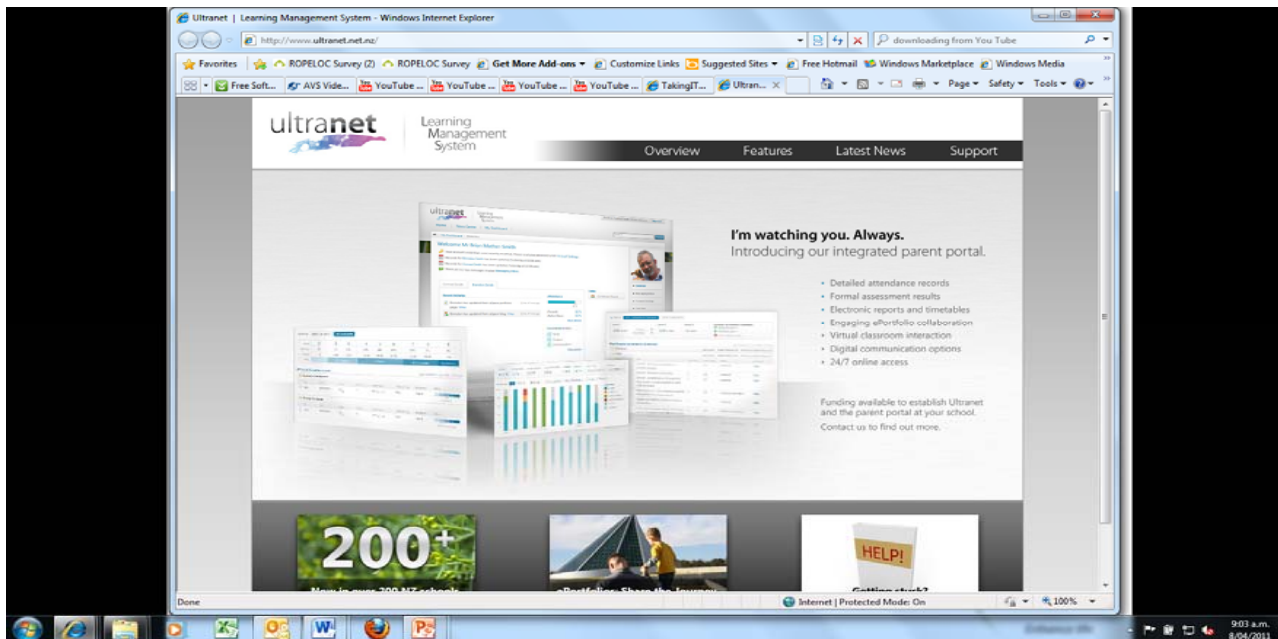
- Which won't be *defined by* 4 walls (although it may have these)
- Which won't be *defined by* the current teacher-learner relationship (although that relationship will be critical)
- Which will be defined by the centrality of the internet to enable

The Connected Classroom

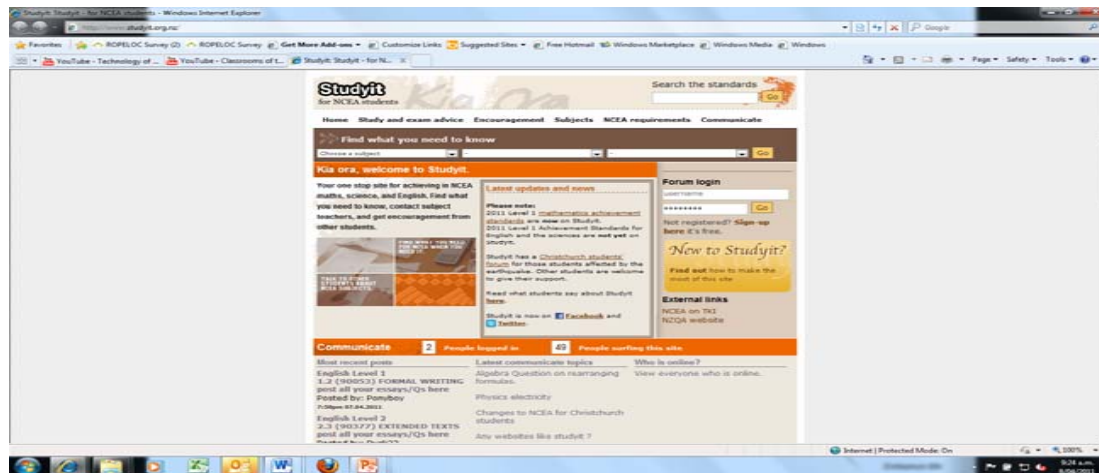
- Where students connect with each other to achieve a better world eg through [Taking IT Global](http://www.tigweb.org)



- Where students connect to their teachers and each other through increasingly sophisticated collaborative platforms eg Ultranet



- Where students connect to sources of expertise eg [Study It](#) (which support student success in the NZ qualifications system) and, with increasing access to high speed broadband, through internet based video conferencing



The Connected Classroom

- In which mobile devices challenge the concept of the static classroom and of the time-bound school day



The Connected Classroom

- In which connectedness is the most important aspect of learning.

- *Read more – [The Connected English Classroom](#)
*Dr Phil Coogan**