What Would Einstein Say?

Terry Calhoun, Publisher, Society for College and University Planning
Jennifer Swann, Professor, Biological Sciences, Lehigh University
“I never memorize anything I can look up in less than two minutes.”

What would he say in 2013?
According David Wegner, a transactive memory system consists of the knowledge stored in each individual’s memory combined with metamemory containing information regarding the different teammate’s domains of expertise. Just as the individual’s metamemory allows him to be aware of what information is available for retrieval, so does the transactive memory system provide teammates with information regarding the knowledge they have access to within the team.
Transactive Memory Systems

[S]o does the transactive memory system provide teammates with information regarding the knowledge they have access to within the team. Group members learn who knowledge experts are and how to access expertise through communications processes. In this way, a transactive memory system can provide the group members with more and better knowledge than any individual could access on his or her own.
[W]e need, first, to take charge of our own learning, and next, help others take charge of their own learning. We need to move beyond the idea that an education is something that is provided for us, and toward the idea that an education is something that we create for ourselves. It is time, in other words, that we change our attitude toward learning and the educational system in general.
What is important about a connectivist course, after all, is not the course content. [The content] serves merely as a catalyst, a mechanism for getting our projects, discussions, and interactions off the ground. It may be useful to some people, but it isn’t the end product, and goodness knows we don’t want people memorizing it.”

At its heart, connectivism is the thesis that knowledge is distributed across a network of connections, and therefore that learning consists of the ability to construct and traverse those networks. Knowledge, therefore, is not acquired, as though it were a thing. It is not transmitted, as though it were some type of communications.
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SCUP Academy Council:
Report on Trends in Higher Education Planning
Complimentary copy for MSCHE2013 attendees

INSTITUTIONAL DIRECTION PLANNING ACADEMY
ACADEMIC PLANNING ACADEMY
FACILITIES PLANNING ACADEMY
RESOURCE AND BUDGET PLANNING ACADEMY

http://www.scup.org/asset/68743/
Observations by 100+ SCUP planning academy members of 200+ concurrent session proposals for SCUP’s annual conference.

2. Institutional/Educational Effectiveness

- Increased Levels of Accountability
- Strategic Planning
- Assessment and Planning
- Need for Good Data to Support Decision Making
- Time to Completion
- Accreditation, Certification, and Licensure
- Academic Program Review and Planning
- Opportunities for Conversation

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Among the bulleted “opportunities for conversation” are:

• Increasing impact of government demands, which drives standardization through accrediting bodies and potentially forces small institutions to get on bored rather than encouraging their own approaches, which may be just as valid.
• Ways to link planning and budgeting, performance indicators, and measurements.
• Preparing for and managing new federal government demands.
• How do you achieve your goals when your institution is financially strapped.
January–March 2014 Mojo Theme is “Effective-Institutions”

Previous themes, which are shared by our journal, Planning for Higher Education, have been:

- Campus-Space
- Disrupt-Transform
- Collaborate-Partner
- Community-College
- Infra-Structure
The Mojo’s weekly cycle has shared concepts with flipped classrooms:

Friday— Release of substantive content, to be viewed or read on the weekend
Monday— A wider release in SCUP communications channels and online engagement through Friday
Friday— A live Google hangout with authors/contributors and some Mojo participants + questions from others
“Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.”

Nonthreatening
Peers and Colleagues
No obligation
No tests

So, why not try it?
What Would Einstein Say?

“The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking. It cannot be changed without changing our thinking.”

So join us starting January 10. What should we be talking about in the Effective-Institution Mojo?

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