

Mario Camilleri**mcam@acm.org**

The Social face of Web 2.0 (ECML project “Blogs”)

Historically, the roles of Web media producers and consumers have been clearly demarcated, with consumers requiring minimal skills and having little or no control over Web content, and producers requiring production expertise and access to tools for creating, managing and presenting content. Web 2.0 technologies such as Weblogs (blogs) and podcasts promise to blur the distinctions between these roles and make the Web a more socially equitable medium. Sometimes touted as ‘push-button publishing for the people’, blogs in particular have found favour with language educators because of their support for communities of practice and promotion of peer-to-peer discourse. In the last few years, teachers have come up with many innovative ways to exploit these qualities in their classes. But there is a more ‘subversive’ side to these technologies which may offer greater educational potential but which many teachers may not be sufficiently daring to explore.

Biography of presenter/ Biographie du présentateur/ Bigraphischer Hintergrund des/der Beitragenden:

Mario Camilleri is responsible for the ICT and Computer Science programmes in pre- and in-service teacher training within the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technical Education of the Faculty of Education at the University of Malta. He is a member of both the ACM and the IEEE, and his research interests include Web 2 technologies, standards and protocols, Computer Science education and teacher training, and virtual learning environments.

Name of institution/ Nom de l'institution/ Name der Institution:

Dept of Maths, Science & Technical Education,
 Faculty of Education,
 University of Malta