Online simulations of real life experiences: the educational potential

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Simulation

Well, we have to start somewhere

Early flight simulator  Early horse simulator!
Simulation

Modern heavy vehicle simulator

Modern flight deck simulator
"The imitative representation of the functioning of one system or process by means of the functioning of another"
Webster's Dictionary
Simulating accident investigation in Second Life

• Students of risk and accident causation/prevention/investigation
• Need to practice analytical skills and investigation techniques
• Difficult to do this in real life
The Second Life simulator
SIMITA
SIMulations in Transactional Activities
Legal Studies
Legal Practice
Legal Process Course
4 students per Firm

Simulation 1    Firm 1 vs Firm 4
Simulation 2    Firm 2 vs Firm 5
Simulation 3    Firm 3 vs Firm 6

Pairs of firms conduct a 'civil case'
(investigation, research, analysis, case theory, correspondence, etc.)

Concluding with negotiated settlement
SIIMITA
SIMulations In Transactional Activities

Modular online platform
Mash-up of existing technologies:
Blackboard Academic Suite
Microsoft SharePoint
Wimba Collaboration Suite
Avonlaw

Team Announcements

witness is on holiday
by [redacted]
our witness is on holiday...fairly unhelpful!!!

Letter to Shelia (witness) Sent 17.05
by [redacted]

Letter to Witness
by [redacted]
Draft of letter to witness in documents box....

Letter to Redmans sent 23.00
by [redacted]

Letter Sent
by [redacted]
i've sent the letter to the consultant, have you sent that e-mail too?

(More Announcements...)
Voice mail to Redmans

View All Site Content

Virtual office
- Activity log
- Firm's e-mail inbox
- Firm's e-mail outbox
- Firm's documents
- Calendar
- Tasks

Communication
- Team discussion
- Voice mail to Redmans
- E-mail to Redmans
- E-mail to Consultant
- Firm's blog
- Partners' blogs

Subject: Voice mail from Avonlaw [A010809]
Audio: 0:00
SIMITA Pilot 1 statistics
24 students, 2 months,
4,000 hits: average of each student entering their virtual office 3 times per day

- pilot not linked to assessment -
More information

SHE - Simulations in Higher Education
http://www.uwe.ac.uk/elearning/she

Archived Wimba Distinguished Lecture
http://tiny.cc/eldu

Second Life blog
http://researchobs2.edublogs.org

Second Life Elearning at UWE island slurl
http://tiny.cc/elisland