Technology and Communication:
Education in the Digital Era

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The three Ls: language, logic and learning

Connectivism: Engagement

- There is no curriculum, no theory, no body of knowledge
  - (or, more accurately, the curriculum is the McGuffin)
- The product is not the knowledge, it is the *learner*
- It's not that there's nothing to learn, it's that it's *complex* and needs to be navigated... not memorized

First Theme

active engagement, not passive observation…

– No presumption of commonality, translation…

– No presumption of a defined community of practice

http://carbon.cudenver.edu/~mryder/itc_data/ant_dff.html

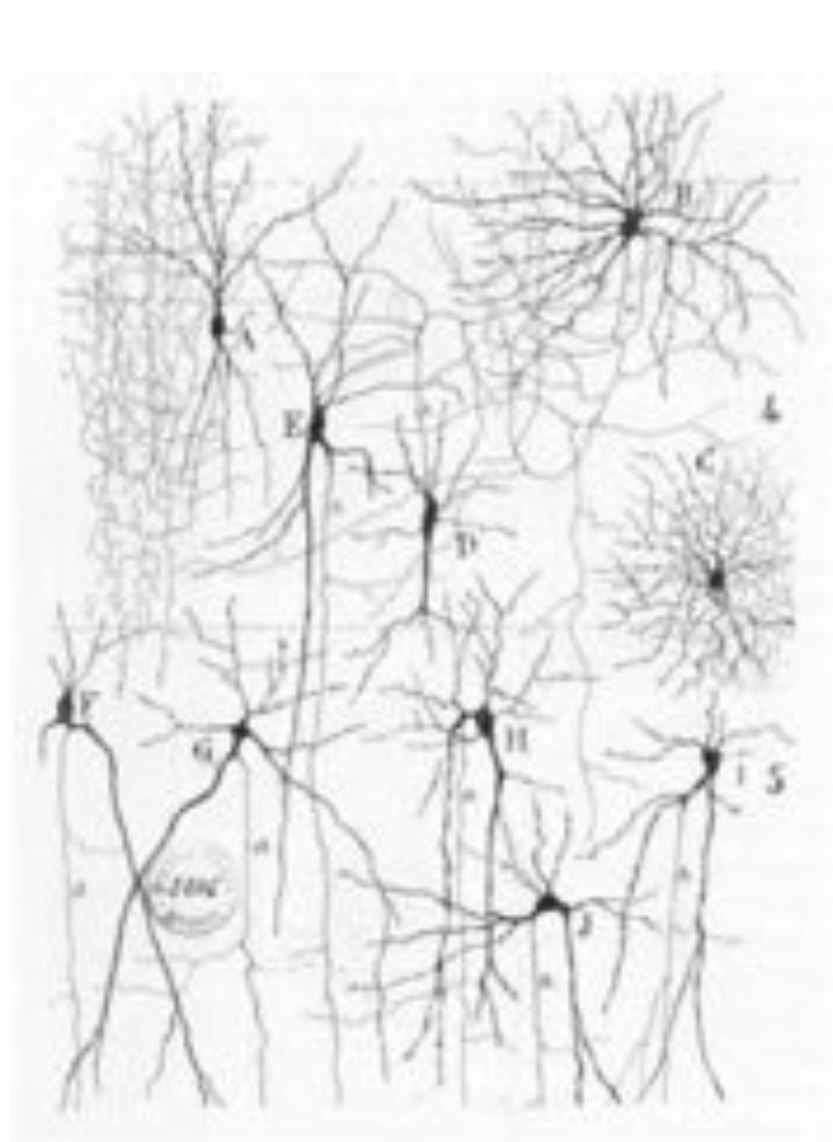http://www.emtech.net/actionresearch.htm

Free Learning

- The *picture* of learning you should have is one of a large set of connected nodes (like the neurons in a brain)
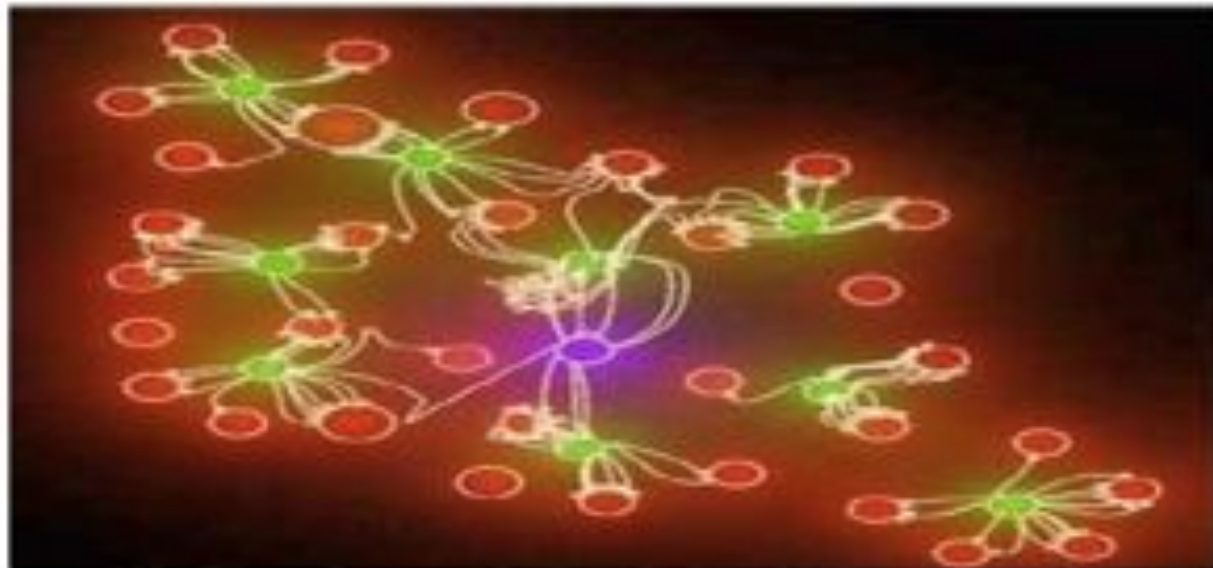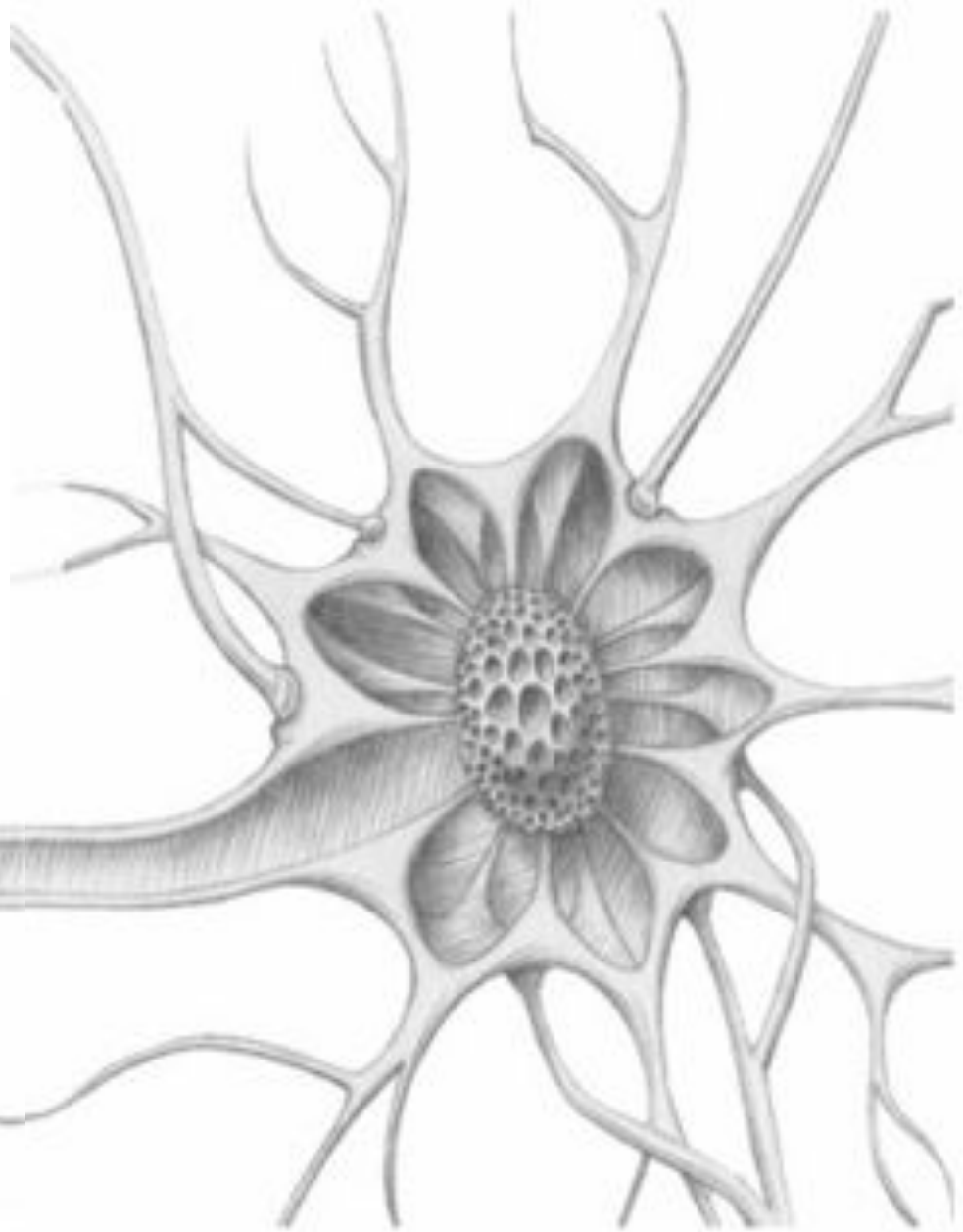
- Teachers are nodes, students are nodes
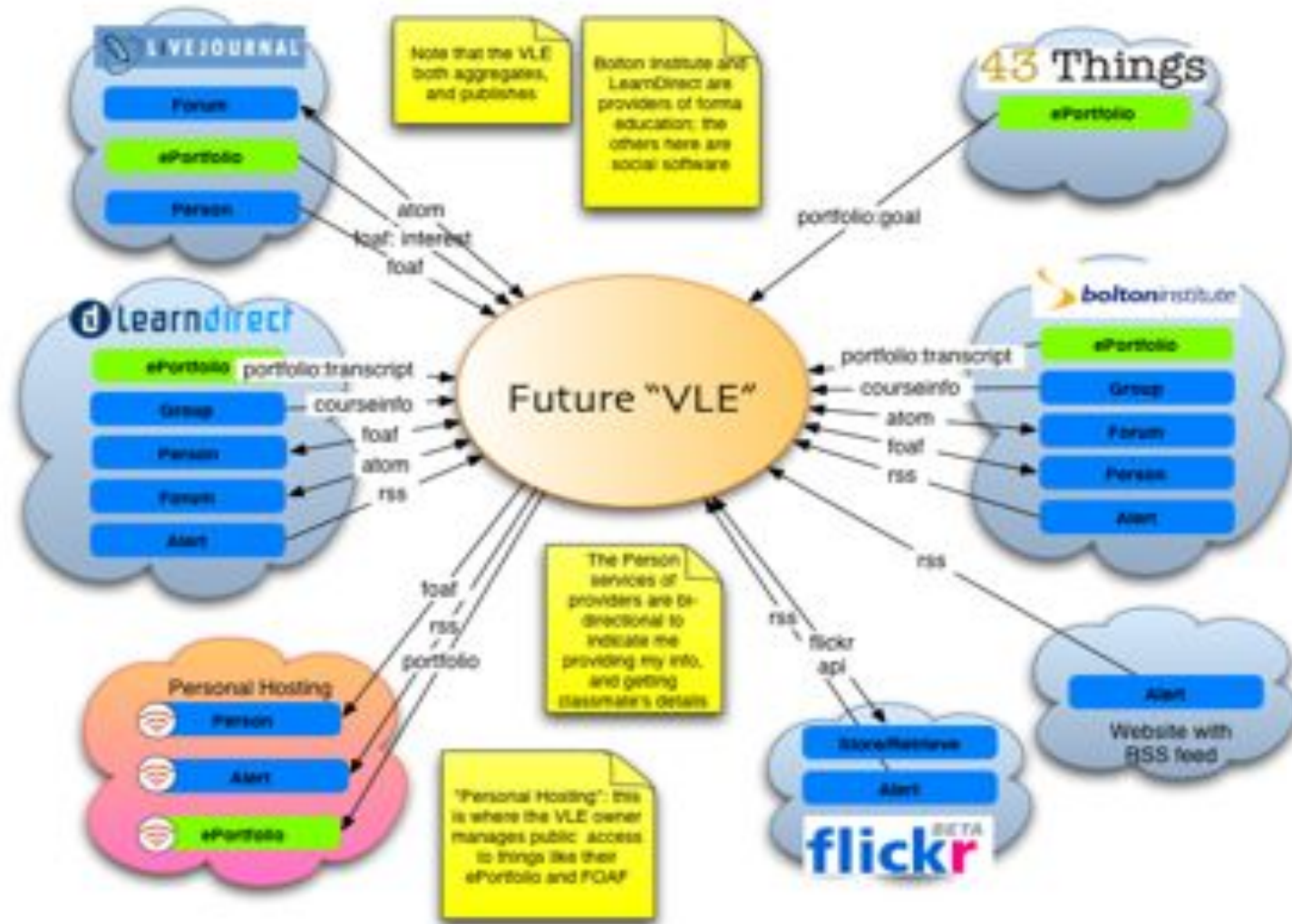- Both teaching and learning consists of sending and receiving communications to other nodes

Aggregate

Remix

Repurpose

Feed Forward

ARRFF

The Idea of the PLE…

Plex Personal Learning Environment Example

Collecting and Filtering RSS

http://www.downes.ca/mygluframe.htm
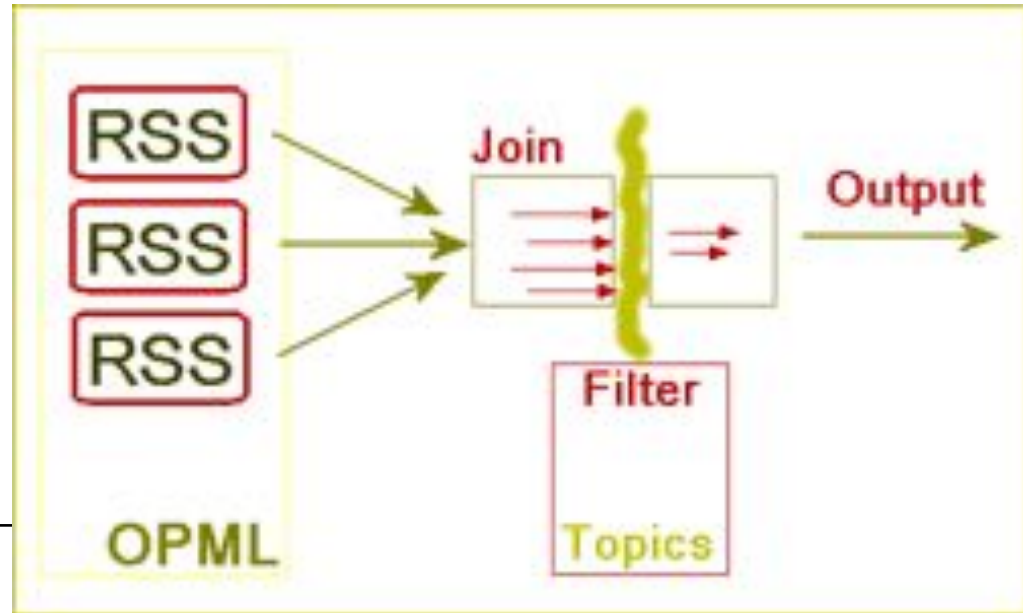
MyGlu

By Stephen Downes

About

```
Force: 1

Harvesting http://del.icio.us/rss/Downes
Feedfile is: myglu/feedcache/del.icio.us_rss_Downes
No content. Harvesting from source.
URL: http://del.icio.us/rss/Downes
Parsing Feed=HASH(0x9f0f10c)

Harvesting http://www.downes.ca/news/OLDaily.xml
Feedfile is: myglu/feedcache/www.downes.ca_news_OLDaily.xml
No content. Harvesting from source.
URL: http://www.downes.ca/news/OLDaily.xml
Parsing Feed=HASH(0x9f0ef8c)
```

RSS Writr

FeedForward

http://blogs.cetis.ac.uk/feedforward/

Second Theme

Complex	Complicated
P-S-R	S-A-R
Emergent Practice	Good Practice
Chaotic	Simple
A-S-R	S-C-R
Novel Practice	Best Practice

Learning…. vs the right learning

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cynefin

Understanding Interdependence

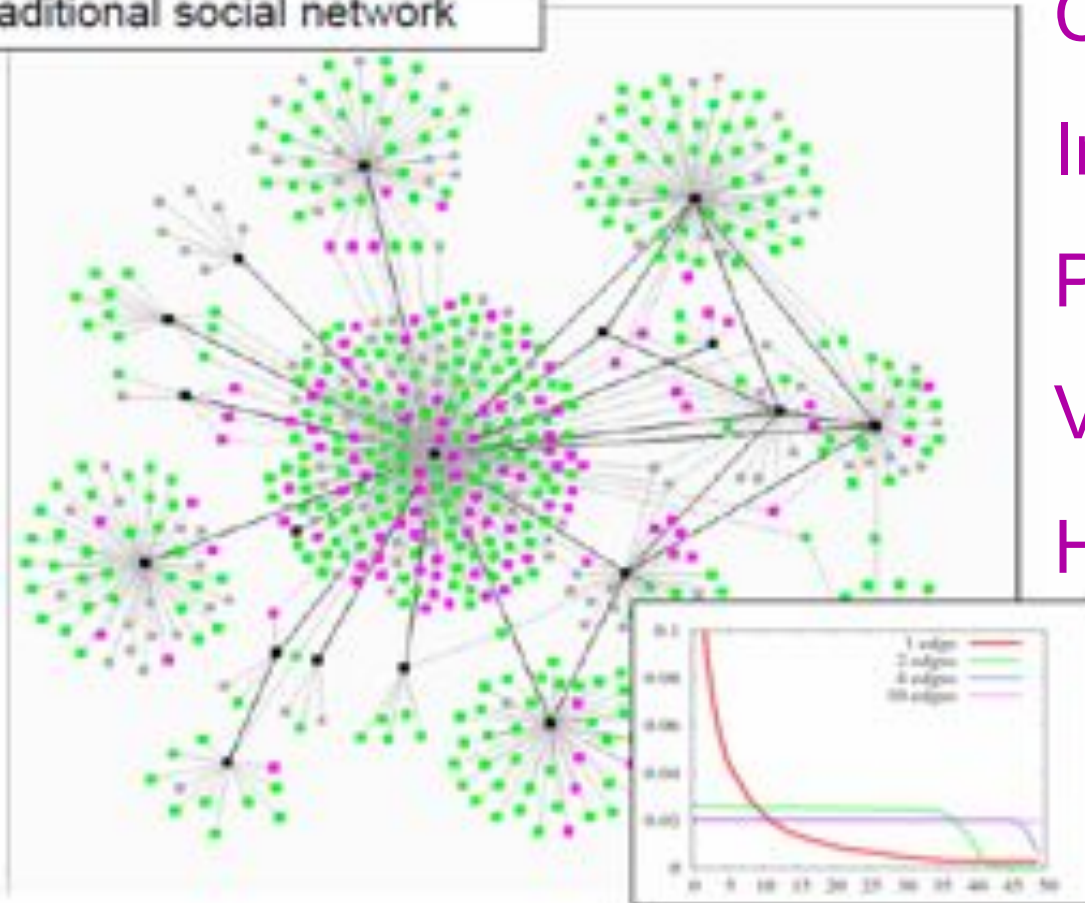= no simple principles
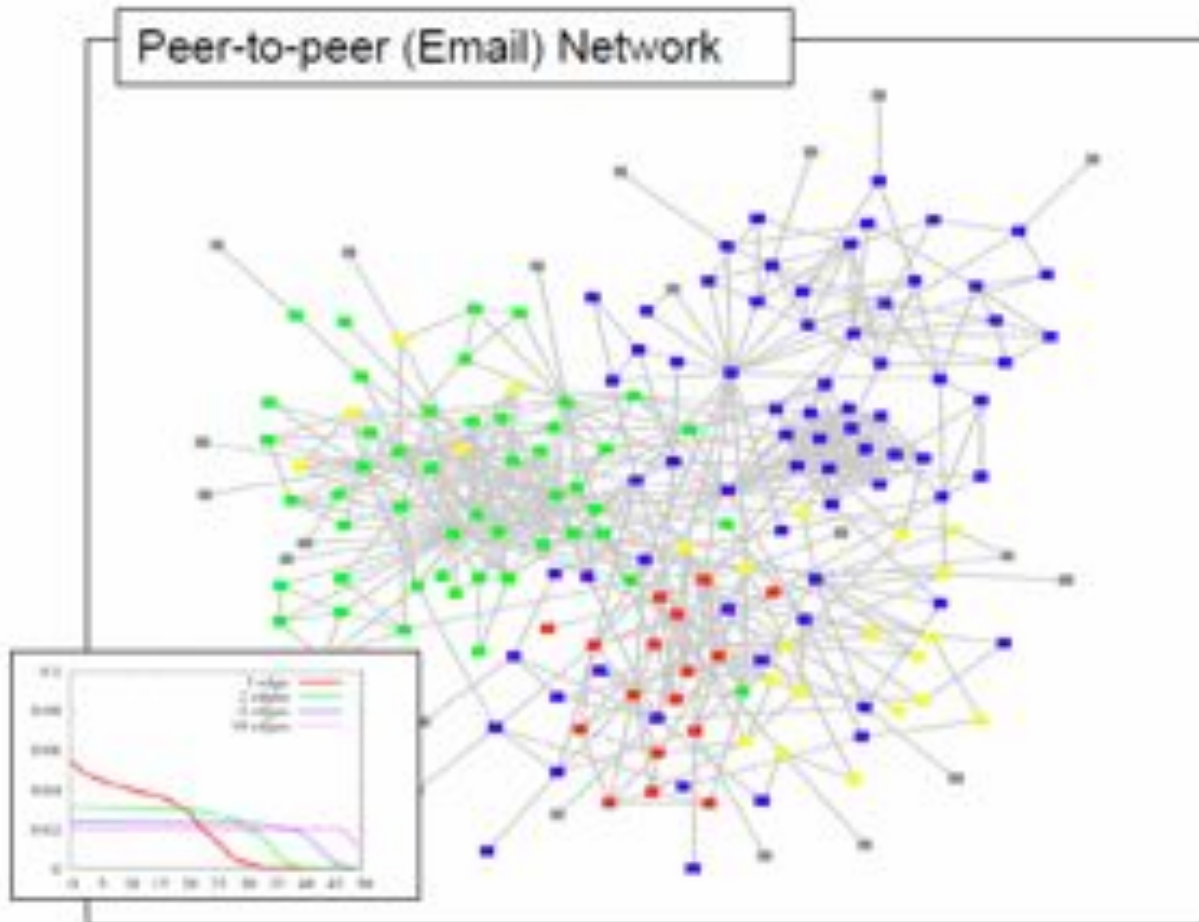
= no simple cause & effect

Network Structures - Tree

Traditional social network

Central

Influence

Power Law

Viral

Hierarchy

Network Structures - Mesh

Distributed

Discussion

Balanced

Reflective

Democracy

http://www.daniel-lemire.com/fr/abstracts/DIVERSITY2008.html
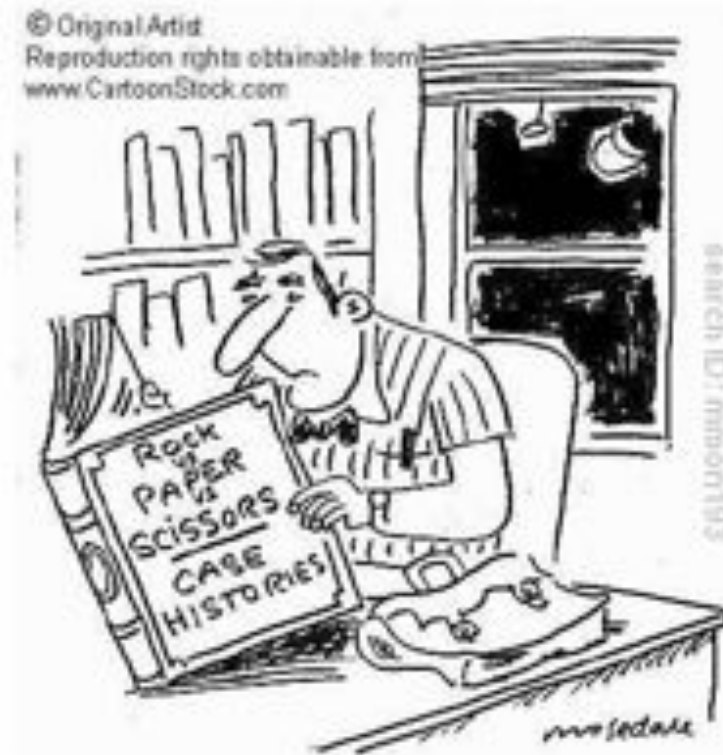http://www.mailchimp.com/blog/using-email-to-uncover-hidden-social-networks/

Individualism vs Mutuality

Independent variables vs dependent variables

eg. Rational decision - vs role model


The myth of solitary autonomy

Third Theme: Connectivism

"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."

What Connectivism Is

http://halfanhour.blogspot.com/2007/02/what-connectivism-is.html

- Networks of interactions (aggregate, remix, repurpose, feed forward) – syndication
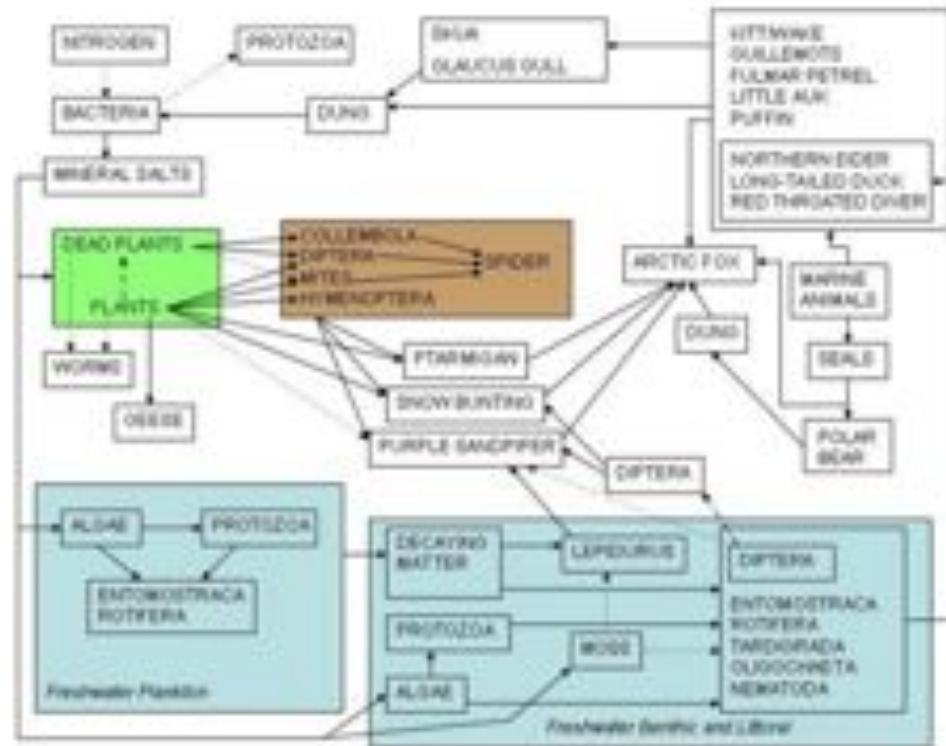
An ecology…

- The *personal* learning centre

Autonomy

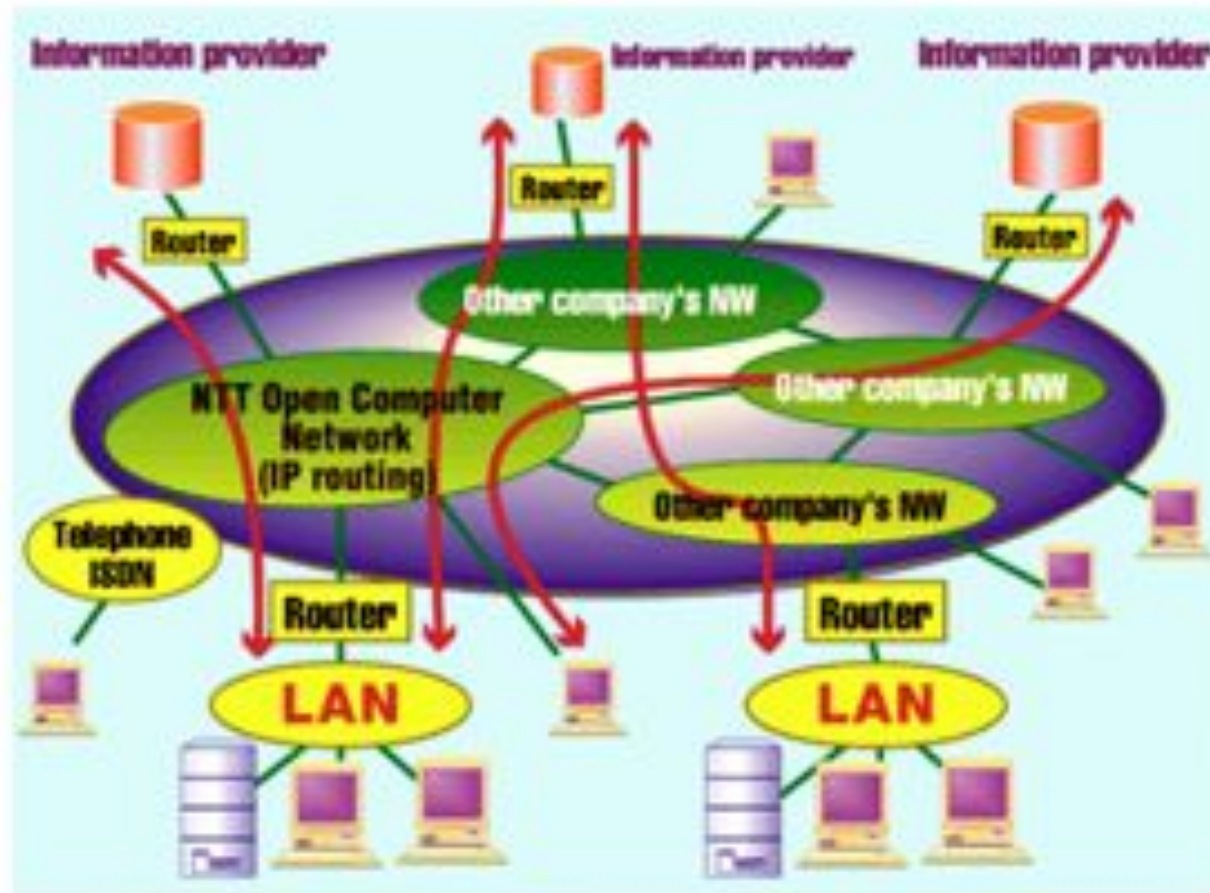- The Network is Diverse – multiple views, multiple technologies
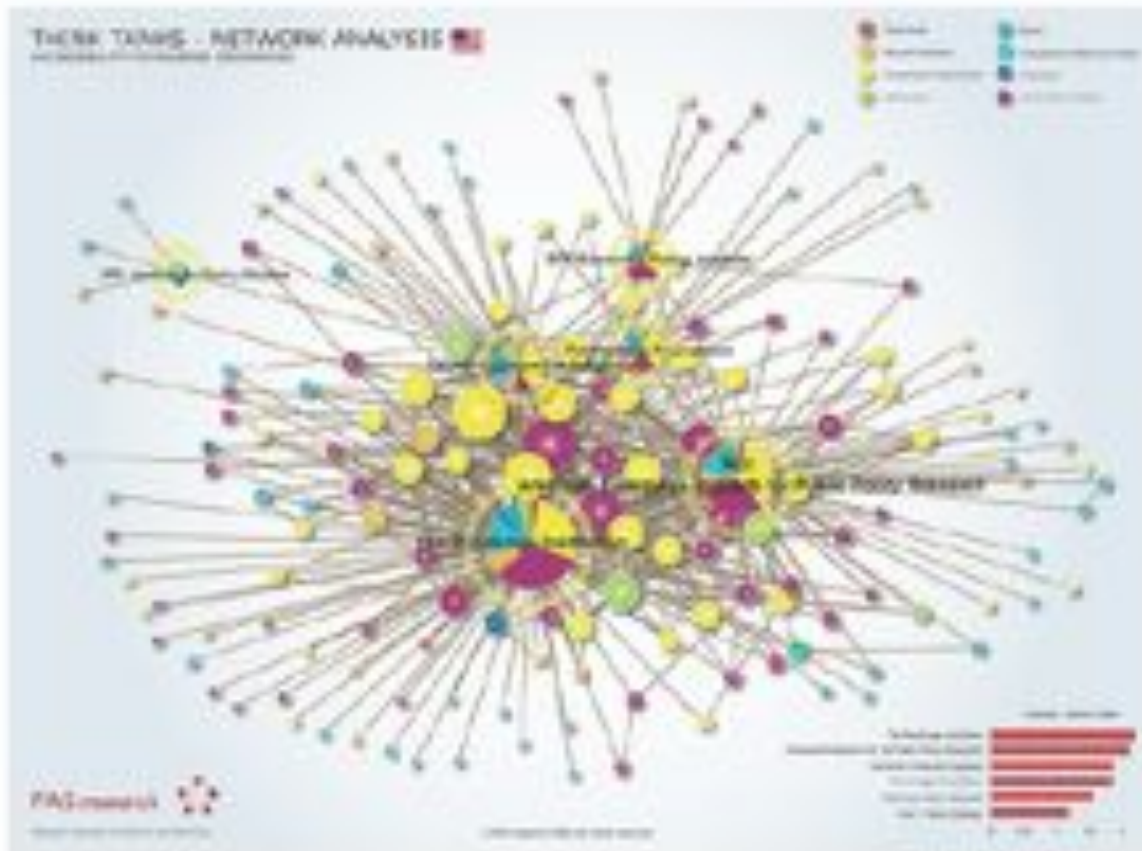
- The Network is connected and interactive (*not* 'integrated') – small pieces, loosely joined

- The Network is *open*

http://park.org/Japan/NTT/DM/html_f4/F4_10600_e.html

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http://www.downes.ca