

# OERS, MOOCs, and the Future

Stephen Downes -- May 25, 2013

# OERs, MOOCs and the Future

- OERs: Open Educational Resources
- MOOCs: Massive Open Online Courses
- The Future: stuff that hasn't happened yet

# How to add Comments to the Slides...

Thanks so much for being here!



Hit the little tiny arrow



Click on the big letter A

Yo!

HI:)

Click anywhere on the slide and type your message

So

Ola!

I have one cat and one dog

maybe you need more...?

Great idea!

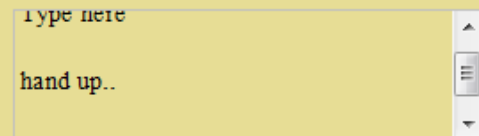
Love to see you

It works!

:)

okay...two cats, two dogs

Message



we are getting a bunny next week too

Thanks

hello

aha, go blue jays

Hello! I have two cats!

I also have a dog and a snake!

yikes--snake! I agree

Thanks! :)

hello

Had a bunny. He was a little men-  
Has anyone commented on your likeness  
to Crosby...in Crosby Stills and Nash?

Hello everyone!

Hello there, working for me

# What is an OER? (1)

In the space below, enter what you think we mean by 'Open' ...

access, reusability

Share with others

Free

Accessible for free..



reuse, remix

accessible no matter where you are from and where you go

Available.

copyleft or public domain license

open to all

sharing

you can use remix

creative commons

Accessible

Available to EVERYONE

searchable

available online

No gatekeeper.

Part of a network

online  
Creative

accessible for everyone

remixable

the pursuit of dispersing knowledge

part of a collective

Freedom  
accessible... but not necessarily free

sharable resources that are education based

no cost, able to remix, able to add on, love all serve all basically

Inviting

# What is an OER? (2)

In the space below, enter what you think we mean by 'Educational'...

Learning resources

communicating

content that some person with power has decided is useful for others more than just the school system

building people

curriculum based...

Learning and reflecting

Mentally stimulating inquiry

provides an opportunity for someone to learn something, sharing

asking questions

seeking knowledge?

helpful

student to teacher communication

student to student communication

student to content interaction

extending horizons

values knowledge that society finds important

life

expanding thought

not just curriculum because learning can be about anything....you could have a resource to teach you to sing....or cook.....or ????

students interacting with the web

content structured

Provides an opportunity for someone to grow

it has a purpose for supporting someone to learn something, education and information sharing

anything that helps life long learning

acquiring information from "experts"

adding knowledge positive or negative

hmmm, or adding skills +ve or -ve

# What is an OER? (3)

In the space below, enter what you think we mean by 'Resources'...

Material, experiences, opportunities to learn and grow

a tangible unit of information

Blackboard

YouTube vides

lessons blogs

tools

useful information

auditory

a vehicle for sharing

good diagrams

collections

information that can be shared in any format

webinars

anything that aids in learning

wide open, anything that the teacher can use to get their point across

video, podcasts, articles,

Wikipedia

Canvas instructor

a tweet

twitter

chat texts

videos

Curriki voicethread

tools

case studies

this recording once it's done

text based

blogs

anything that helps in learning

this slide once it's done

learning objects

lessons, video, text, books...

audio

Anything that allows the students to explore their learning in a deeper way

textbooks

anything to help aid in achieving educational goals

experts in the field

opportunities for collaboration with communities

ohhh--so some thing that sparks inquiry and thought

people, places, things, and/or experiences

if online, that's what video is for...? love live shots from

Skype IMages

exotic places

digital textbooks, pdfs, video, audio, learning obj

# Some Definitions...

“Open Educational Resources (OER) are freely accessible, usually openly licensed documents and media that are useful for teaching, learning, educational, assessment and research purposes.” – Wikipedia [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open\\_educational\\_resources](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_educational_resources)



# Some Definitions (2)

“Open Educational Resources are freely available teaching and learning materials which the author has licensed in an open format to allow others to re-use and adapt.” CLT

<http://clt.lse.ac.uk/digital-and-information-literacy/OERs.php>





# Some Definitions (3)

“Open Educational Resources are teaching, learning or research materials that are in the public domain or released with an intellectual property license that allows for free use, adaptation, and distribution.” UNESCO

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/access-to-knowledge/open-educational-resources/>



# Some Definitions (4)

“(Open Educational Resources are) materials offered freely and openly to use and adapt for teaching, learning, development and research.”

Commonwealth of Learning

<http://www.col.org/resources/crsMaterials/Pages/OCW-OER.aspx>



# Repositories

- OpenLearn (OU) - <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/>
- Open Courseware (MIT) - <http://ocw.mit.edu/>
- China Quality Open Courseware - <http://www.core.org.cn/en/>
- Japan Open Courseware Consortium - <http://www.jocw.jp/>
- Directory of OER Repositories  
<http://oerqualityproject.wordpress.com/2012/10/22/directory-of-oer-repositories/>

# Licensing

- Creative Commons CC - <http://creativecommons.org/>
  - By – Attribution 
  - NC – Non-commercial
  - ND – No Derivatives
  - SA – Share Alike
  - CC-0 – Public Domain  <http://creativecommons.org/choose/zero/>
  - ‘Free Culture License’ - <http://freedomdefined.org/Licenses/CC-BY>
  - No-DRM 



# Use

Finding CC Resources - <http://search.creativecommons.org/>

Evaluating OERs - <http://www.slideshare.net/SCORE/finding-and-evaluating-oer-score-workshop-activity-non-scantlebury>

What criteria would you consider?

Green - OER hosted in local repository  
Gold - OER is hosted by a publisher

# Sustainability

## Who makes OERs? How do we pay for them?

Why would anyone have to pay? I'm confused.

sponsors and learners like you

foundations non-profit

universities

education institutions, volunteer educators

non-profit organizations

taxes  
teachers ... and then they share...

teachers -give of their own time

donations

→ Aren't many MOOCS like a course to advertise the University or professor...encourage more enrollment?  
they should be publicly funded

Would be nice if EVERYONE did  
educators paid by public funds should only create OERs

educators

who makes them? educators?

How do we make them a self-funding system?  
everyday person

public funds

shared funding models, public/private partnerships, things like kickstart...  
and 'pay'—how do we define that?

individuals for whom philanthropy matters

Downes: <http://www.oecd.org/edu/ceri/36781698.pdf>

# Massive Open Online Course

The original conception: an open course made up of OERs

The screenshot shows a Slideshare presentation interface. The main slide is titled "The Connectivism Courses" and features a central cartoon cow with various labels: "Face book", "Grasshopper (going down)", "Back channel", "Multi-purpose udders", "Retweet!", "Hot air", "Milk of human kindness", "USB sockets", "Feet (firmly on ground)", and "Emerging Knowledge". To the left of the cow is a yellow duck with a circuit-like pattern. Below the duck is a small photo of a person. The slide includes the URL <http://www.mooc.ca> and <http://cck11.mooc.ca>. At the bottom of the slide, the text "The Connectivism Courses" is displayed. The presentation is by Stephen Downes and has 7,233 views. The Slideshare interface includes a search bar, "Upload" and "Browse" buttons, and a "Related" section on the right with several other presentations listed.

<http://www.slideshare.net/Downes/the-role-of-open-educational-resources-in-personal-learning-environments>

# What is a MOOC? (1)

In the space below, enter what you think we mean by 'Massive'...

A coherent, typically large body of matter with no definite shape.

part of the collective neural network nope came up with that myself 1000s large number of learners

without end

no set enrollment **interactions can be overwhelming** **too many emails** I have heard that one MOOC course had around of 20,000 students?

unlimited global

Can be misleading, numbers can be small **available to all**

the biggest MOOC was over 180,000 enrolled **How many people facilitate a course that large??**

**no borders** it may also relate to a common purpose or goal

20.18 million **by design @Stephen** huge amount of enrollers

**"massive defined by design as opposed to outcome" - S. Downes**

an audience as large as the population of Beijing **large audience** **unlimited enrollment**  
a lot



# What is a MOOC? (2)

In the space below, enter what you think we mean by 'Open'...

you can contribute to it

open, available to those with an internet connection and computer  
good point

→ available to all

participate at your own level of interest

uses open formats

content available to all

access for all

adapting the course to your own learning needs

interactions available to all (such as this)

open communication students to students and students to teacher

you can enrol if you want to and can

inviting others in

available to have students connect to others all around the world

open to those who have access to internet/computer - so fund public libraries!

the end is not determined

there are no strings attached

natural progression of content, in an open format

available network for like-minded individuals

open communication with other learners/ open in the sense of taking on a variety of perspectives...

any individual in the course has equal access to every other learner, instructor, and resource

# What is a MOOC? (3)

In the space below, enter what you think we mean by 'Online'...

computer based with internet access

can be accessed or downloaded through internet connection or data plan on a mobile device

available with internet access

accessible via an internet connection?

asynchronous able to participate anywhere anytime

includes a digital component that is shared

synchronous

No face to face component  
Wrong app

on the world wide 'interweb' [sic] and also things folks have copied from there and...





Stephen Downes

Active since Jul, 2012

DASHBOARD

REPORTS

TRAINING

ACTIVITIES

FRIENDS

ROUTES

ACTIVITIES

**Thursday Bike**  
MAY 23, 2013 - 10:01 AM



— May '13 9

05/23 Cycling 13.26 km.

05/21 Cycling 13.19 km.

05/21 Cycling 13.19 km.

05/19 Cycling 39.22 km.

05/17 Cycling 16.33 km.

05/11 Cycling 27.19 km.

05/08 Cycling 23.44 km.

05/07 Cycling 12.83 km.

05/05 Cycling 21.20 km.

+ Apr '13 3

+ Mar '13 9

+ Feb '13 9

+ Jan '13 10

KM	DURATION	AVERAGE SPEED	CALORIES BURNED
13.26	1:00:41	13.11	648



the ability to determine your own level of participation

[Make this a Route](#)

TOTAL CLIMB



# What is a MOOC? (4)

In the space below, enter what you think we mean by 'Course'...

a path

A space for TRUE LEARNING

learning module but you control the learning

it has a goal, a map and a compass

It is the distance from here to there.

I'll take the credit Jocelyn

taking ownership developing your own plan

the direction we travel and learn

beg, middle end

a unit of study

do some courses never end?

if participants continue learning together?

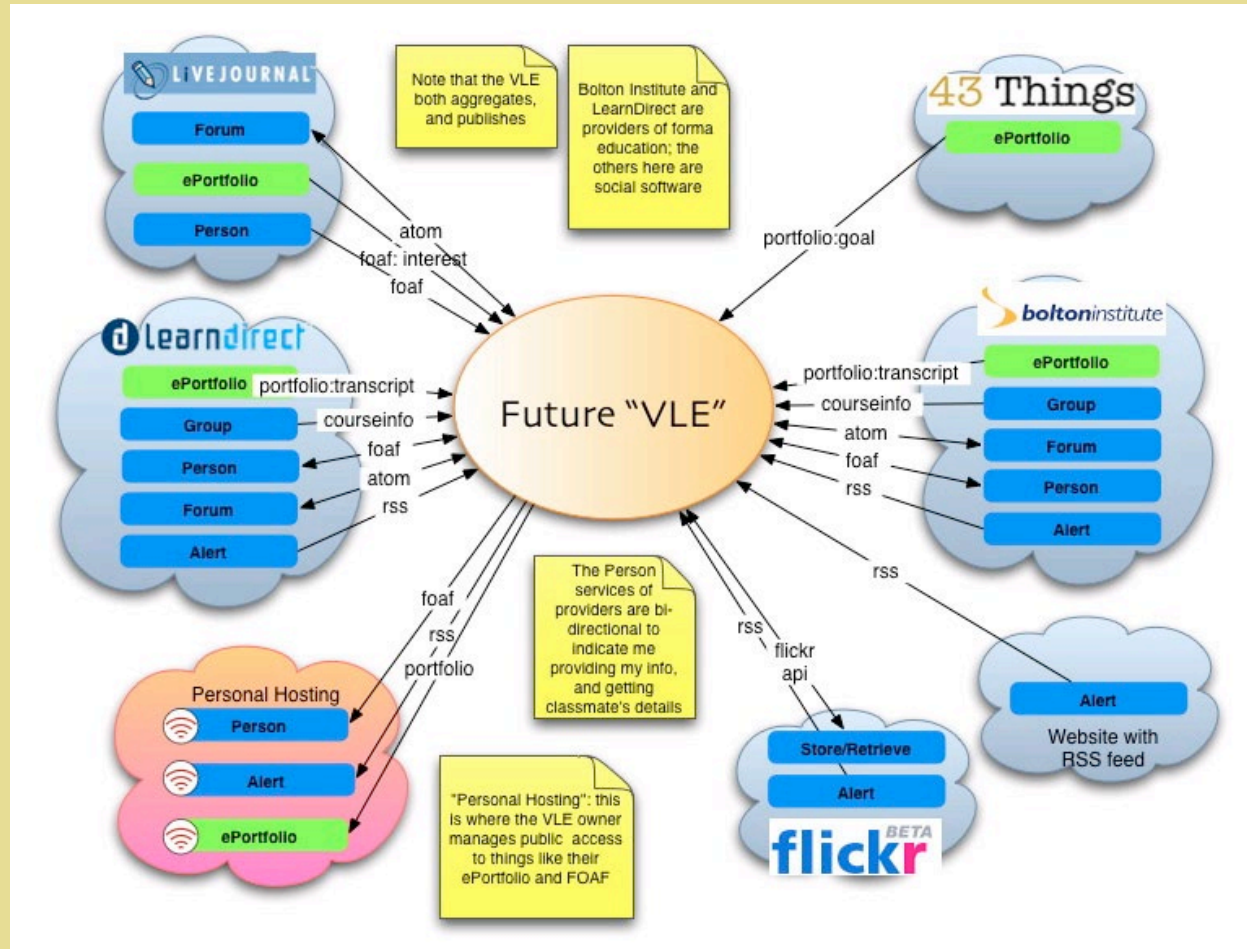
Satisfying questions and curiosity

allows a space / time frame for students to explore concepts and engage in learning

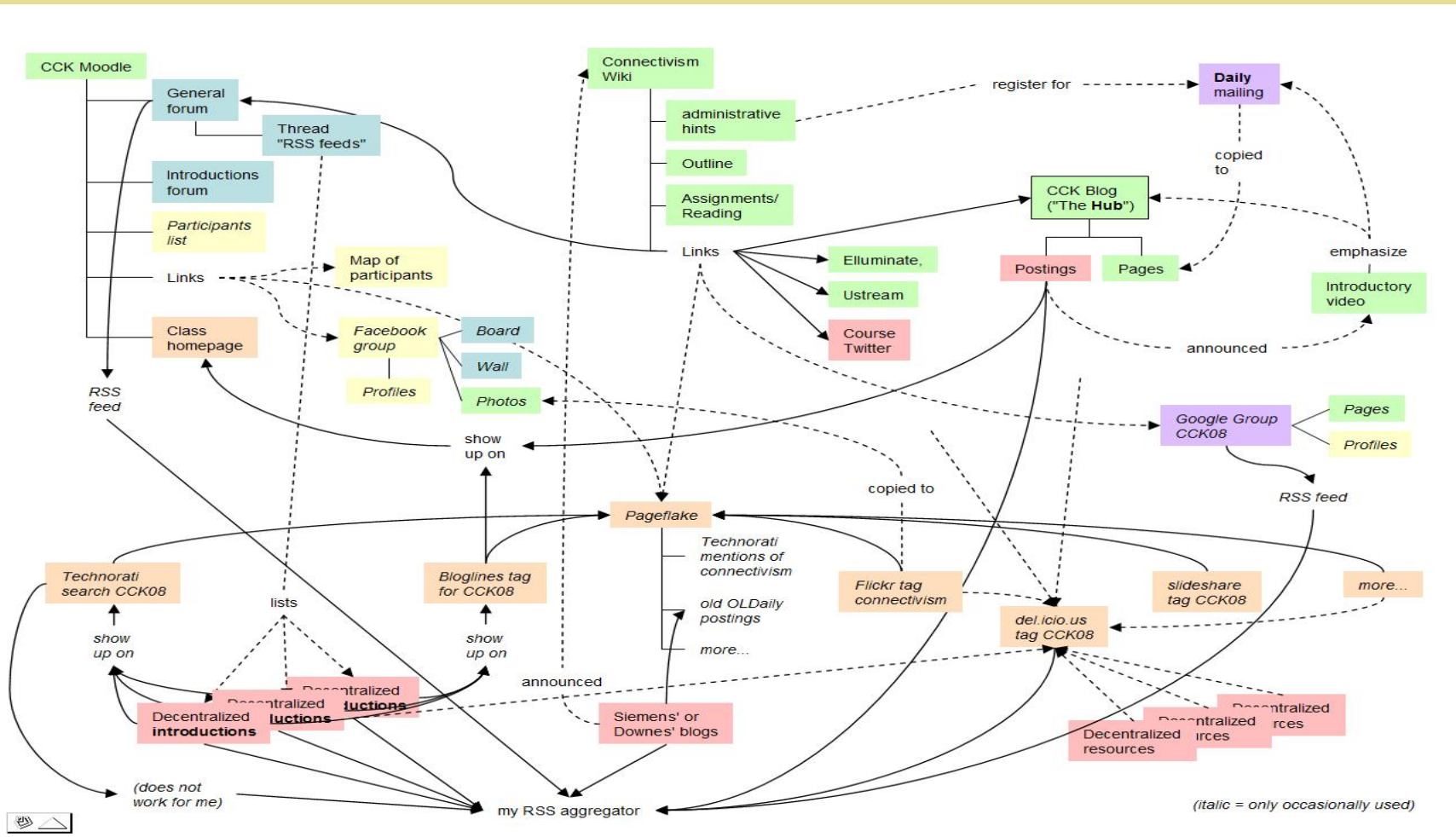
provided by one, experienced by another

course is a group of individuals waiting to become a community

# Personal Learning Networks



# The Course as Network



# cMOOC vs xMOOC

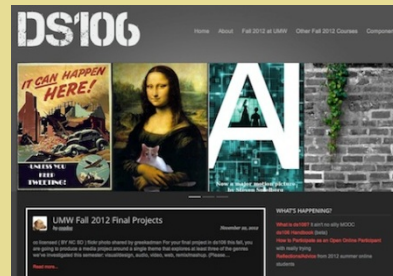


networks

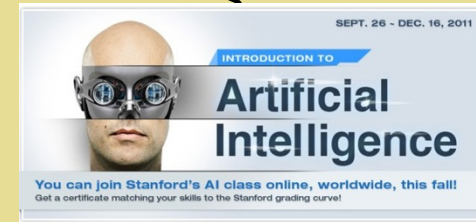
tasks

content

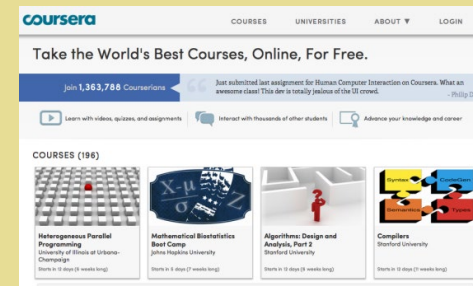
S



<http://ds106.us/history/>



<https://www.ai-class.com/>



<https://www.coursera.org/>

<http://lisahistory.net/wordpress/2012/08/three-kinds-of-moocs/>



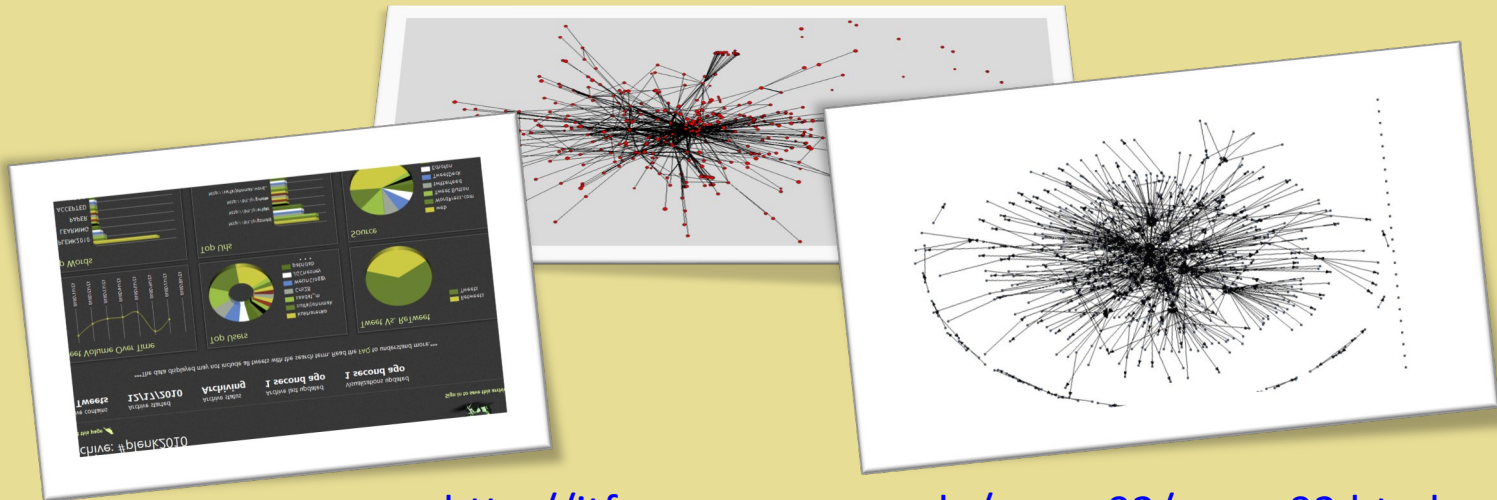
# Success Factors

- What sort of decentralized network will best support learning-as-growth?



# The Semantic Condition

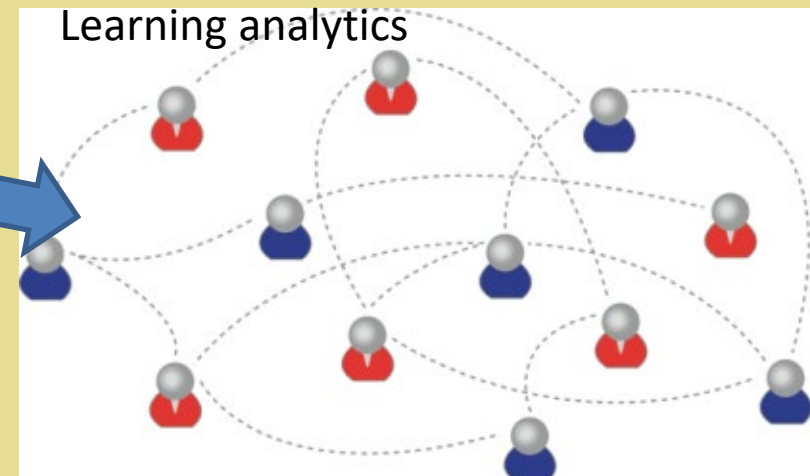
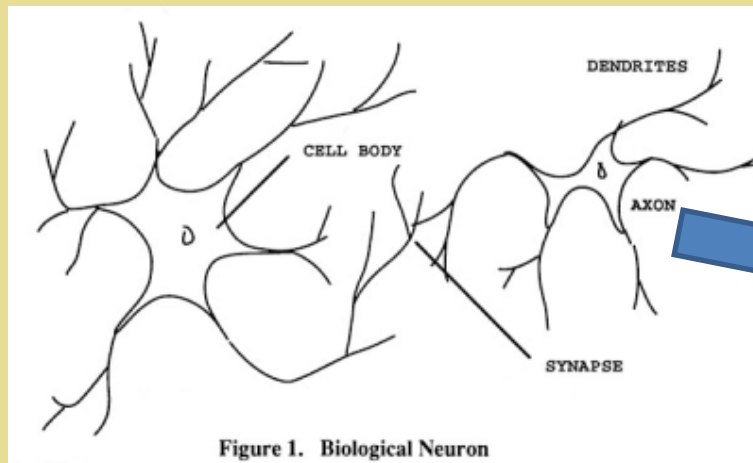
- Autonomy, diversity, openness, interactivity
- These conditions are the conditions for a constructive dialogue...
- And are thus the design principles for a MOOC



<http://itforum.coe.uga.edu/paper92/paper92.html>

# How to Evaluate Learning

- Learning is not possession of a collection of facts, it's the expression of a capacity
- Learning is recognized by a community of experts in a network



We recognize our understandings...

...by the way we use them in our social network

# The Future

- The future grows out of the present (it is not a mysterious black box)
- It is created through a process of change -  
<http://www.downes.ca/post/53662>
- We read the future the way we read the past

# The Future (2)

- What is the future of OERs and MOOCs



<http://www.downes.ca>