**Unit 2 – Seminar 1 Recap**

**What Went Well?**

Role assignment was easily managed as we each took on roles within our own areas of strength. This was easily accomplished as we were a diverse enough group to have experience in different areas.  The tools for collaboration allowed everyone to easily contribute to the activities for the weeks seminar.  The Google drive and Google docs document allowed us to collate our thoughts for the weeks session and to contribute to the building of the PowerPoint when each of us had the time.  Access to a collaborate room, Skype and email allowed us to dialogue with each other on a continuous basis throughout the week.  Instructions for signing on to Edmodo were easy to follow and included a video for more visual learners.  Our instructions for the entire week were laid out clearly at the very beginning so everyone knew what to expect for the week and were made available in a number of different locations, including a mass email to the cohort delivered through the course instructor’s weekly bulletin.  The one student who missed the instructions was able to get them in the synchronous session. Some students took advantage of this information and completed all the requirements early in the week, while others paced the week accordingly.

The asynchronous Edmodo chat area allowed students to build on others thoughts, ideas and comments. It was also a good central location for the dissemination of instructions and collection of student “work”. We were easily able to keep track of which “students” had posted a comment or assignment. The “turned in” button meant that, as a group, we could assign a mark to that student’s progress list, thereby letting the other group leaders know that the student’s post had been viewed and received commentary.  The synchronous Twitter chat was well received by some, and a learning experience for all.  Students were generally happy with the learning that occurred and some indicated that they would continue using Twitter as a professional tool.

The choice of venues, in this case, allowed for students to actively participate in some of the emerging tools being used in Education.  The students were able to experience the beneficial as well as the challenging aspects of these tools.  The twitter chat seemed to be the most emotionally charged event and the video reflection inspired the most discussion but all of the assignments dealt with the week’s learning outcomes.

**What Would You Change?**

A script, or notes for reference, would be helpful for facilitating the live synchronous sessions. Assigning roles and more specific questions would help to clarify the breakout sessions. Roles could include one person to watch the timer for each group and provide a one minute warning to wrap up.

Under different circumstances, fewer places to check for posts might help to reduce the information overload feeling brought on by several venues to check, but due to the nature of our topic, we felt it important to give the others a sample of the various forums.