

WIKIPEDIA IN HIGHER EDUCATION: AN EMPIRICAL STUDY ON FACULTY PERCEPTIONS AND PRACTICES

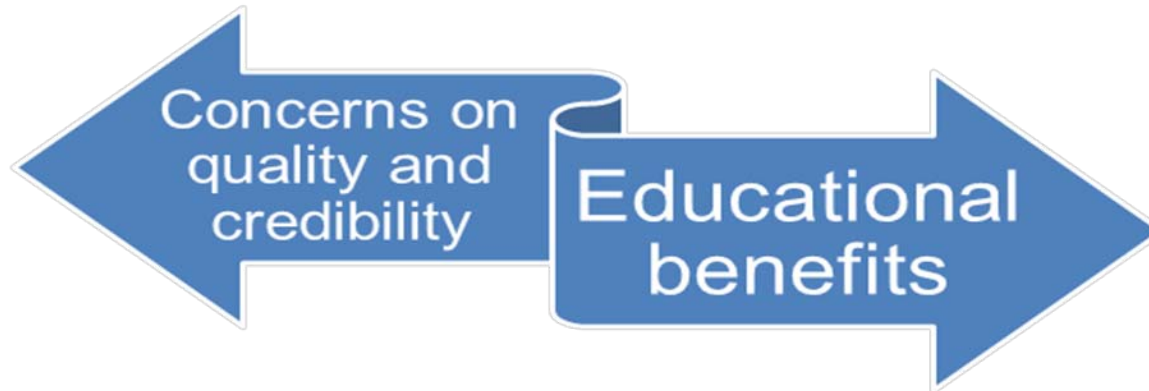
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-ongoing project-*

1. Wikipedia in Higher Education

- Wikipedia is in the classroom. Is everybody happy?



- Empirical evidence

2. Research project: Aims

- Who uses Wikipedia for teaching?
- Attitudes of University faculty towards Wikipedia as an educational tool
- Key factors and faculty profiles

3. Research project: Design

- Online survey. Universe size = 2,128 people (full-time and part-time professors)
- 800 respondents sample size
- Questionnaire: characterization data + 41 questions with 5-point Likert scales

4. Findings I: Usage

- Wikipedia is seen as a useful tool for teaching but its use is scarce
- There's no big problem with students using Wikipedia, but few faculty recommend or cite it
- Most faculties are regular (passive) users of Wikipedia

5. Findings II: Usability & Quality

- Easy to use
- More sceptical about quality
- No clear positions on editing and reviewing process

6. Findings III: Role models

- Most faculties think the use of Wikipedia is not well seen by colleagues
- Most faculties show a “sharing attitude” even though intensive use of web 2.0 tools is rare

7. Discussion

- Easy and useful but they don't use it for teaching purposes
- Everybody uses it privately but nobody talks about
- Standard academic procedures vs open collaborative model of peer production

8. Further research

- Beyond the photo: clustering, user profiles and TAM analysis
- More empirical data
- Compilation of teaching experiences

Contact information

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