Presentation Title:	The borderless classroom : QR codes and mobile tagging

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Abstract

Within the field of M-learning the mobile phone is often criticized for the things it cannot do. Much of this criticism arises out of direct comparisons with the capabilities of the traditional computer. This presentation will show that the mobile phone should be seen as a facilitator of learning rather than as a complete location-free solution. In Japan almost all mobile camera phones include barcode scanning technology as a standard feature. As a result QR (Quick Response) codes are now a regular sight in Japanese society as a means of advertising and marketing. Despite this their implementation into educational settings has been virtually non-existent. This presentation describes the process and presents the findings of a project which attempted to introduce three specific examples of basic QR code activities into six university EFL classrooms. The presentation proposes that mobile phones along with QR codes be considered one of the most productive ways forward in achieving a semi-ubiquitous computing environment. Student survey responses assessing attitudes toward mobile phone and QR code usage will be discussed along with the advantages and disadvantages surrounding the implementation of such QR code projects and activities.

Biodata

Damian J. Rivers is currently a lecturer in the International Communication Department at Kanda University of International Studies in Chiba, Japan and a PhD candidate researching the impact of ethnolinguistic affiliation on L2 learner motivation. His current research interests revolve around issues associated with motivation and willingness to communicate, task-based language teaching, the promotion of monolingual classroom language environments and the adoption of technology within the classroom.