

Creative Café Report

Your Name: Samuel Witzig, Urban Lim

Title of Creative Café: Dealing with Legal Challenges in the Age of Web 2.0 in HEIs

Which main topics emerged during the discussion?

- Usage of tools in a “grey zone” (such as learning analytics, ppt-slides appearing in slide-databases, classroom videos (personality rights), figures and pictures with a copyright, reputational risks when publishing podcasts)
- How to inform people on the legal risks?
- Almost nobody is complaining on legal issues!
- General awareness of legal issues in higher education
- Copyrights vs. usage rights
- Misusage of rights
- Storage of data on campus or in the cloud?
- Usage of tools such as Turnitin despite the problematic Safe Harbor agreement between Switzerland and the US
- OER and MOOCs

What is the relevance for the Swiss HEI?

Swiss Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) are bound to Swiss (federal and cantonal) laws. HEIs and their members (staff and students) do have to observe these laws (especially those related to copyright and privacy) when using web 2.0/cloud-tools. Most web 2.0/cloud-tools are very easy to use and offer useful features, and are widely used by members of the Swiss HEIs, despite the mentioned legal issues. It is therefore important that staff and students are sensitized for legal issues. Additionally, critical media literacy needs to be improved to act responsibly by choosing an appropriate tool (web 2.0/cloud-tool or tools offered by the HEI's) in the age of Web 2.0.

Suggested next steps (if any):



It seems to be important that Swiss HEI's are aware of legal issues in regard to the usage of Web 2.0/cloud-service by staff and students. We therefore suggest measures to further improve critical media literacy for all members (staff and students) at Swiss HEI's.

Additional comments: