

## Country Story - Netherlands

### Education 2.0, Science in Schools Seminar – Summer 2008

*"As a student, I am in a class of 28 people. 27 of us feel ICT savvy, 1 doesn't. Unfortunately that's the one teaching us"*

This student's statement expresses a general feeling that many of today's teachers lack the ICT skills which are common among students. And -even more important- the skills which would enable them to innovate the education process like many commercial organisations have been doing the last decade.

Besides this skills problem, educational material does not utilize current 2008 technology and does not appeal to many students. Commercial market publishers lack an urge to re-invent educational material based on current Internet standards.

In BeNeLux the [Innovation Platform](#) (semi governmental organisation to bring NL in the global top 5 of higher education and research) and IBM organized an Education 2.0 seminar to leap-frog high-school science teachers and ICT leaders computer skills. In a 3 days course the audience of more than 50 people was informed of new ICT possibilities and trends which helped many companies to reduce costs and increase efficiency in their (education-) process. There were hands-on workshops, informal working groups, feed back presentations and finally a panel discussion with leading educational organisations to inform policy makers and develop a joined plan to reshape high-school education process.

IBM Learning, Public Sector and CC&CA joined with Kennisnet (Dutch organisation for high school education) and composed a 3 days agenda containing topics like Web 2.0, virtual classroom, Generation Einstein, Learning@IBM, virtual worlds, Serious Gaming, Science in Schools in combination with hands-on exercises and feed back workshops. The course also addressed the mismatch in knowledge and skills on community thinking which is often seen when students that finished school apply with corporations like IBM.

In the weeks preceding the course we used social networking to analyse participants questions and needs and we organised a questionnaire for 500 students to voice their opinions in the seminar.

#### **Tangible benefits.**

- Very positive effect on relation with leading education organisation like Kennisnet and VO raad
- Positioning of IBM as the innovator of education (materials and -system).

#### **Tangible benefits:**

- Active social network to pilot programmes like Reading Companion, Mentorplace, PowerUp etc
- 12 positive media hits
- The course might have revealed an urge for change in the traditional education system due to the government attention it triggered.

#### **Media Coverage:**

The excellent teaming with the Comms department resulted in ample media coverage, all very good, but specially the Volkskrant -which printed a large picture of the merged classroom (teachers attending live, in combination with video conference with a part of EMEA team) and FD video news (combined scenes from PowerUp with teacher interviews) are worth checking.



For further information please contact the Science In Schools

Laboratory Leaders or country contacts indicated on the web-site  
[www.csreurope.org/toolbox/scienceinschools](http://www.csreurope.org/toolbox/scienceinschools)





A Science In Schools event in the Netherlands in August 2008. "Education 2.0"

A 3 day professional development workshop for 50 teachers exploring the future of learning. Promoted in partnership with the Dutch high school education organisation, Kennisnet,