CS 7460 Collaborative Computing: Collaborative Technologies

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What are some of the earliest collaborative technologies?
Beyond Being There (Hollan & Stornetta 1992)
Contrasting f2f and remote collaboration

• Examine the then telecommunication technologies and their effectiveness in supporting collaboration across distances
• The authors argue that these technologies are limiting (aka 1992) and cannot take into account the richness of social interactions
• They envision that these technologies need to have the property of “beyond being there” to supplement the limitations of distance
What are typical problems with remote collaboration technologies?
Contrasting f2f and remote collaboration

- Key concepts to support remote collaboration:
  - Social presence
  - Information richness
  - Cue variety
  - Feedback/the problem of “availability”
  - Message personalization
  - Conversational attributes – turn taking, repairs, stylized openings

- Examples:
  - Informal communication (email)
  - Ephemeral interest groups (“water cooler conversations”)
  - Meeting others (structured profiles)
  - Semi-synchronous discussions (contrasting a f2f meeting; problem of the newcomer)
Anonymity

You can’t block people offline
Examining how Facebook’s Affordances Shape the Disclosure Process

Jessica Vitak and Jinyoung Kim
Feb. 18. 2014

College of Information Studies | University of Maryland, College Park
Beyond face to face

- Video of Microsoft Research’s Illumishare
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ewmw8fUTaoY
Thoughts about existing collaborative systems

- Discussion boards
- Wikipedia
- GitHub
- Google docs
- Skype
- Uber / Task Rabbit