

Innovation and change

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Abstract

This presentation is a synopsis of the research I have undertaken on innovation diffusion and change processes in higher education and K-12 education in the United State. Within the framework of Rogers' (1995) Innovation Diffusion Theory and Hord, Rutherford, Huling-Austin, & Hall's (1987) Concerns Based Adoption Model (CBAM) I have conducted several case studies of innovation/change processes:

- The implementation of a college-wide electronic portfolio project;
- The implementation of a set of middle school science modules that emphasize learner-centered instruction through the use of an Electronic Learning Environment (ELE);
- The implementation of a professional development initiative in a one-to-one laptop school;

For each diffusion/adoption context, factors that impacted the process will be discussed.

The presentation will attempt to address the following questions: How can innovation related research be applied to the adoption of innovative technologies in schools? In what way can understanding innovation research help facilitate the adoption process in a school? How does the school environment impact the implementation and change process?