# **2008 ANNUAL AIEC CONFERENCE**

How Online Communities Change International Education

The Illuminate Consulting Group

8 October 2008

## HOUSEKEEPING

- 35-40 minutes for the presentation, 20-25 minutes for discussion
- The presentation will be posted on the ICG website
- Some more second half 2008 Web 2.0 / online community-related presentations:
  - CASE Leadership Summit / Europe Annual Conference: The Future of Community and Affinity in an Online World, The Online Communities Workshop: Metrics for Performance and Success, and The Online Community Agenda
  - EAIE: Web 2.0, Alumni, and International Student Recruiting
  - CBIE: Strategic Responses to Online Communities & Platforms
  - CEC: An Introduction to Marketing and Recruiting in Online Communities, and A Primer to Advanced Network-centric Recruiting and Marketing

## WHICH INSTITUTIONAL FUNCTIONS WILL THIS PRESENTATION TOUCH UPON?

- Marketing and communication
- Alumni and career services
- (International) recruiting
- Legal and risk management
- Educational technology tools/channels

### **An Introduction to Online Communities**

- How familiar are you really with online communities?
- Key communities
- Community user behavior and adoption
- Risk: To manage or not to manage

**Case Studies** 

- Caltech on LinkedIn Professional Networking
- MIT on YouTube An Educational Channel
- Do you want to get Lucky? Exploiting New Opportunities
- Building a global online community in five minutes

**Strategic Responses** 

### Housekeeping

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#### **Strategic Responses**

- You've heard about Facebook. But who has an account?
- What in the world is Orkut?
- What accounts for the majority of interactions on Second Life?
- What is the largest online community?
- What is the community with the most daily usage?
- Who spends more than 30 minutes a day in communities?
- Have you been tweeted?

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#### **Strategic Responses**

MySpace More than 160 million accounts, a global town squa	are
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- CyWorld One-third of all South Koreans are signed up
- YouTube Sold for \$ 1.65 billion at 21 months old, hundreds of millions of video views a day
- Facebook More than 110 million users since February 2004, 30+ million pictures uploaded daily
- Flickr More than 2.4 billion pictures (user generated)
- Second Life First real metaverse, 15.4 million "residents", IBM is investing \$ 100s million in underlying technology

Hundreds of millions of community users in target demographic

### Housekeeping

#### **An Introduction to Online Communities**

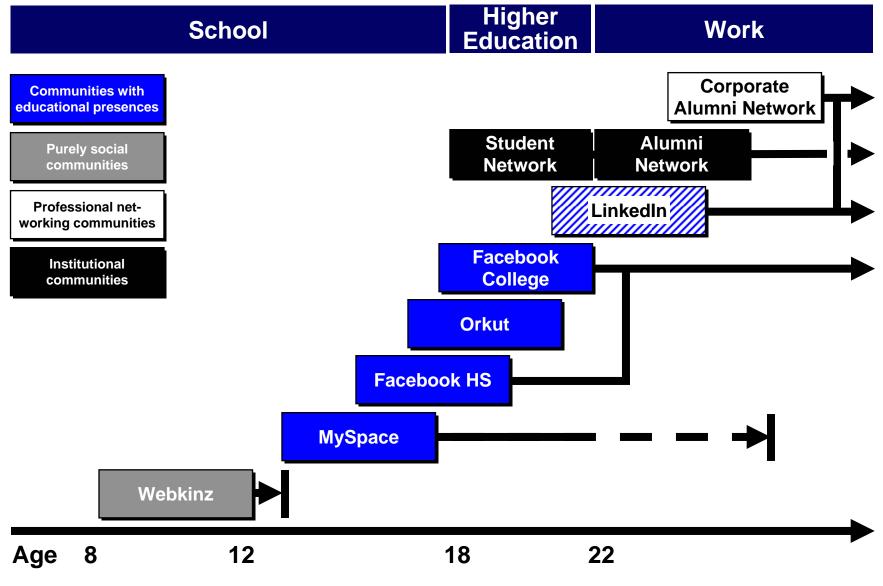
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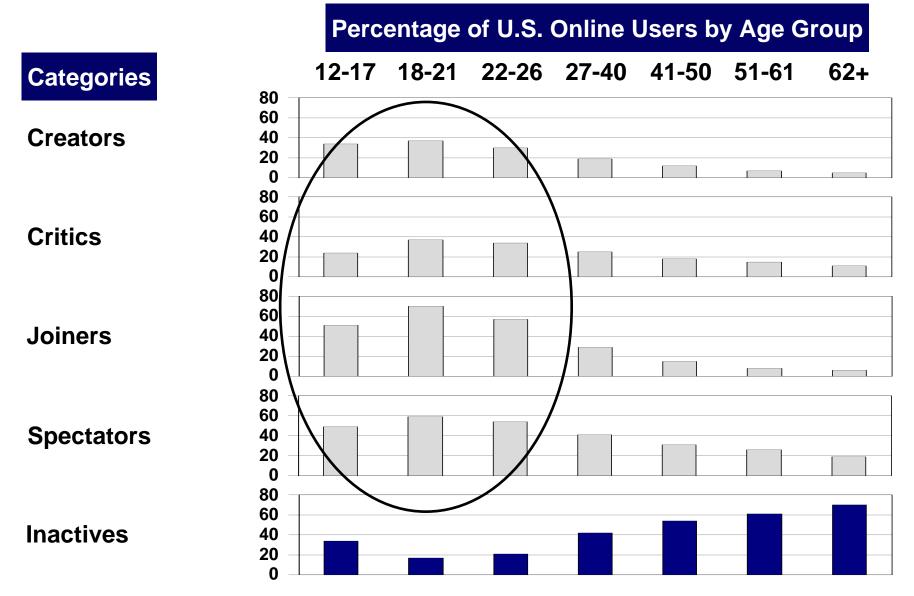
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#### **Strategic Responses**

## BY THE TIME STUDENTS ENTER HI ED, THEY ARE ALREADY DEEPLY IMMERSED IN MULTIPLE COMMUNITIES



## TARGET AGE COHORTS ARE BY FAR THE MOST ACTIVE ONLINE COMMUNITY USERS

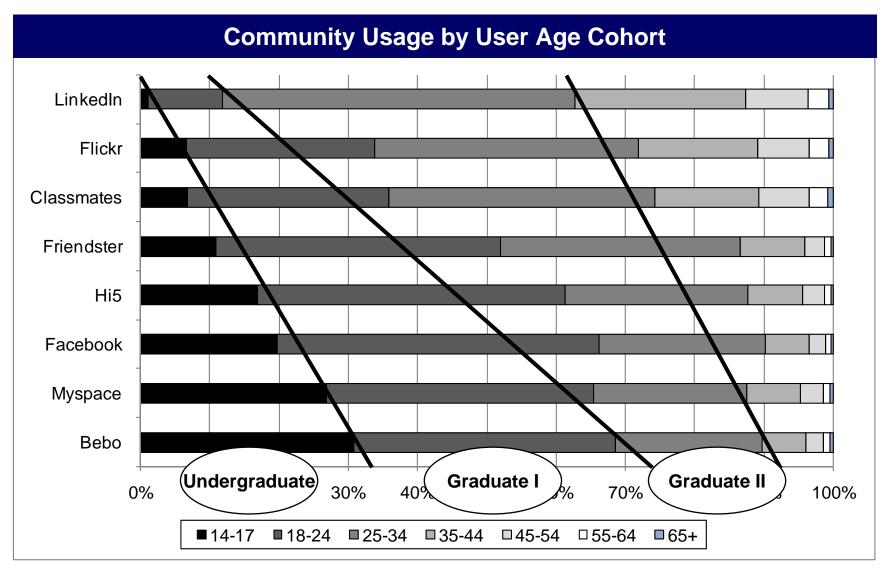


Source: Forrester Research, 2007.

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## DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES OFFER VASTLY DIFFERENT RECRUITING POOLS



Source: Rapleaf, June 2008.

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## RISK – TO MANAGE OR NOT TO MANAGE: IMPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

- There is less critical risk than often presumed, but there is more noncritical and strategic risk than generally understood
- There is no way to eliminate risk. The lawyers need to come to grips with this fact of life on the web
- There are many risk areas which can be effectively mitigated if you have an integrated risk management strategy
- A key pillar of such a strategy is to use network-centric and communitybased self-policing and controlling tools
- Many recruiting targets are quite sensitive to risk management measures
- Lastly, risk can be managed through positive credibility (by association)

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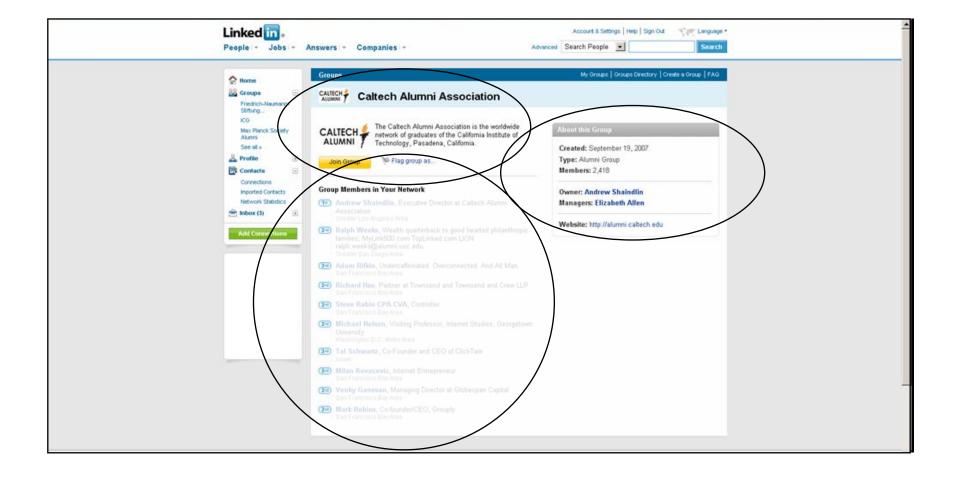
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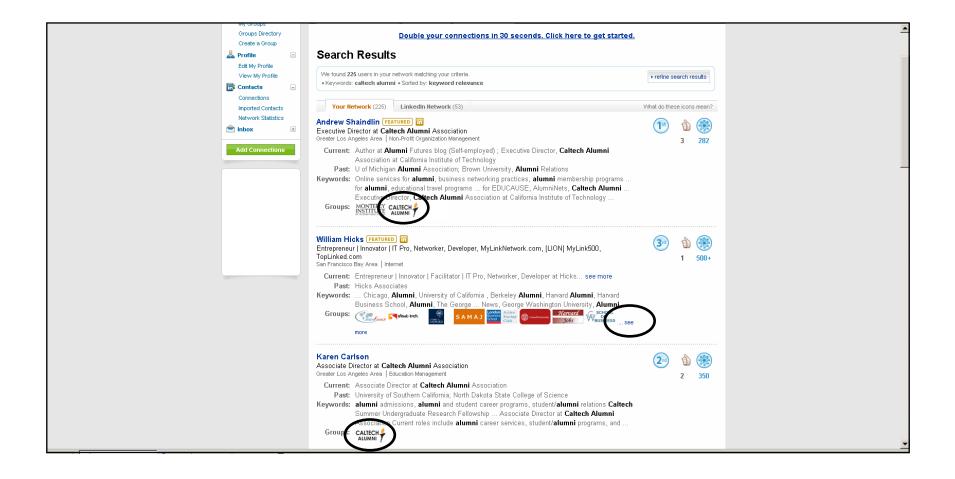
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## **CALTECH ON LINKEDIN**



#### There is not a lot to see from the outside...

Source: LinkedIn Caltech Alumni Association Group page, October 2008.

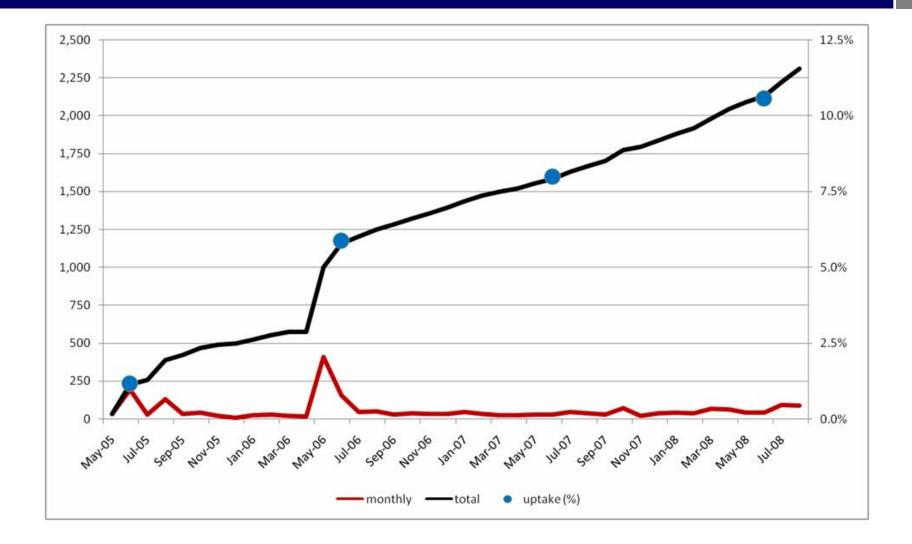


#### It is about branding – which applies to alumni, students, and recruits

Source: LinkedIn search results page, July 2008.

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## **CALTECH ALUMNI GROUP ON LINKEDIN: GROWTH RATES**



### Sustained growth – despite LinkedIn not appealing to many Caltech alumni

Source: Caltech Alumni Association, September 2008.

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- Why the LinkedIn group was created: Pre-emption of unofficial groups, address alumni professional networking needs
- How the LinkedIn group was propagated: Landing page on alumni association web site. Repeated announcements in publications, e-mail newsletters, membership mailings, and at events
- What LinkedIn cannot do: Act as a closed network, focus on social activities
- What LinkedIn can do: Connect Caltech alumni professionally amongst each other and to 26 million other users; provide brand identity
- What works: Rising sign-up numbers, attractiveness of Caltech brand (fakes), professional outcomes for alumni

Caltech benefits from contributing to alumni professional networking value

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## YOUTUBE: A 5 MINUTE VIDEO = A GLOBAL LEARNING AND RECRUITING COMMUNITY



## More than 2.4 million views (and it is not even a YouTube channel)

Source: http://youtube.com/watch?v=NZNTggIPbUA

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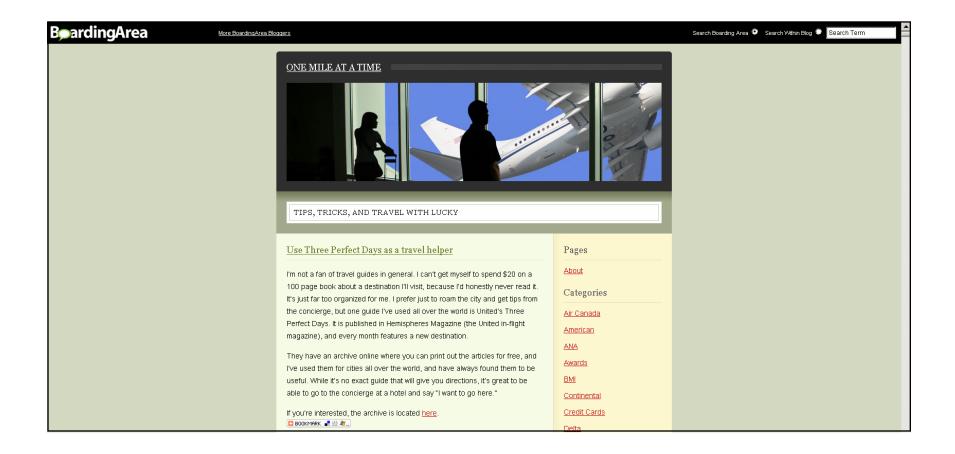
University of Florida	UF Web with Google 🔍 Search 💿
<ul> <li>About UF</li> <li>Academics</li> <li>Admissions</li> <li>Campus Life</li> <li>Research</li> <li>Services</li> </ul>	Admissions

## Let's remember this gentleman

Source: www.ufl.edu/admissions.

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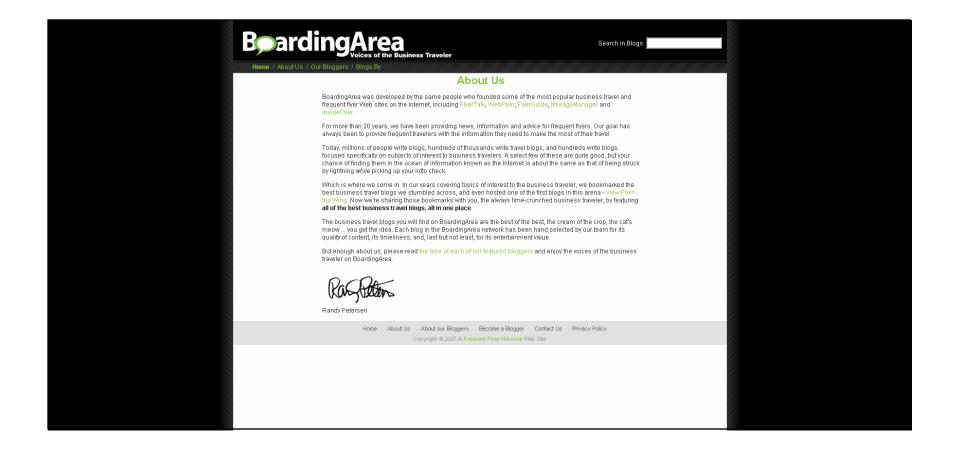
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### Lucky's blog started seven months ago, now reaches up to 1,500 hits/day

Source: http://boardingarea.com/blogs/onemileatatime

## THE BLOG IS PART OF A HIGHLY BRANDED ARRAY OF TRAVELING ADVICE SITES



#### Lucky is co-branded with Randy Petersen (really frequent travelers know)

Source: www.boardingarea.com.

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#### ENZ Annual Conference Web Workshop – 6 August 2008

## HOW LUCKY'S BLOG TIES INTO THE LARGEST COMMUNITY OF AIR TRAVELERS IN THE WORLD (FLYERTALK)

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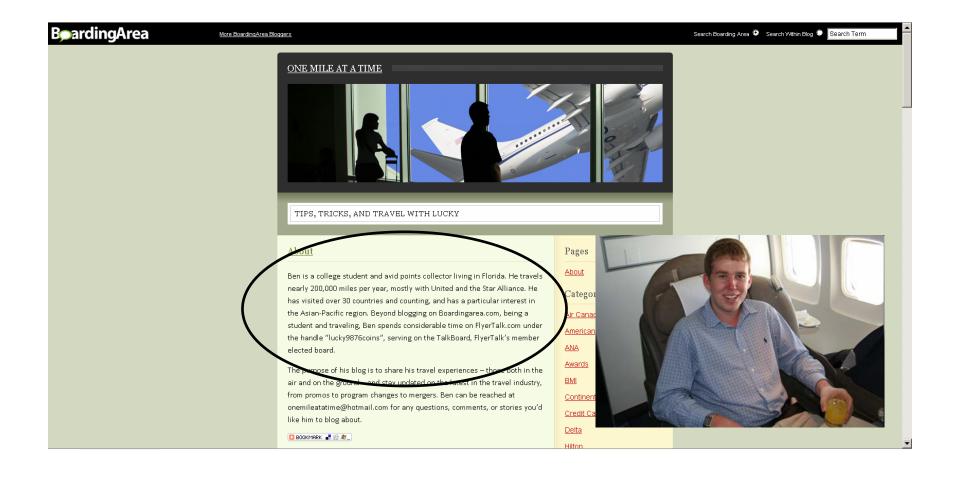
### Three and a half year of community participation: 21,197 posts

Source: "Lucky's" profile on www.flyertalk.com.

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#### ENZ Annual Conference Web Workshop – 6 August 2008

## **MEET LUCKY**



#### Not a CEO. Not a consultant. A college student...

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## REVISITING THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA ADMISSIONS WEBPAGE

> About UF > Academic > Admission > Campus L > Research > Services	IS A		Meet Lucky
RELATED SITES:	Why Choose U	IF?	
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### Do you want to get (your own) Lucky?

Source: www.ufl.edu/admissions (sort of).

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## INDIVIDUAL BRAND BUILDING AND ONLINE COMMUNITIES: IMPLICATIONS FOR STUDENT RECRUITING

- Lucky is firmly rooted in the Web 2.0 world
- He has a high degree of credibility and authenticity
- His presence can be scaled with no real limits. However, it cannot be broadened in sensible ways
- His brand can be easily subsumed under an institutional brand umbrella
- Costs of integrating him into an institutional recruiting funnel are effectively zero
- What if you could use your own Lucky to become a part of your institutional recruiting efforts?

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## AIEC 2008 ON NING

- www.aiec2008.ning.com
- Let's build it in the next five minutes

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- For international recruiters
  - Soon nearly all target pools will participate in communities, revealing deep personal information but also acquiring specific knowledge about institutions. Response: Survey, observe, gently engage, and never push against a community's culture and tonality
- For alumni relations staff and career services
  - Communities have become a transactional meeting ground for alumni of all institutions – which challenges traditional service and communication models. Response: Connect, communicate, leverage
- For marketing and communication staff
  - Communities are on their way to become the most important (but not only) channel to reach students, while at the same time inducing a new intranetwork dynamic. Response: Seeding, encouraging, and monitoring
- For educational delivery (learning/teaching) staff
  - Web 2.0 tools and platform are fundamentally altering the way and modes of how teaching and learning is taking place. Response: You have to get in front

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