

Web 2.0 - Your Online Productivity Toolkit

Anne-Marie Deitering - Oregon State University Libraries

resources available at:

<http://blogs.library.oregonstate.edu/deiteria/2008/04/27/2008summit/>

Since the term was introduced in 2004, “Web 2.0” has been used to describe such a wide variety of technologies, services, business models and applications that it seems more like a buzzword than a useful description. Despite this, there are some important things going on on the Web, and it is useful to take a moment to examine what these things have in common.

Why “2.0” ?

The easiest way to describe what is “new” about these emerging tools is that they work the way the web itself works. To a large degree, what differentiates “Web 2.0” is that the technologies and services associated with it were “born on the web.”

The fact that these tools do not attempt to replicate or mirror physical world processes allows developers and

Web as platform: Web 2.0 services run on the web itself. Users do not have to download programs to their computers. Documents are created and saved right on the web, allowing for easy collaboration.

Microcontent: The content of the emerging Web is understood not as pages or sites, but posts, photos, videos, tags and podcasts that users can link to, pull out, unbundle and repack-age in a variety of creative forms.

Radical openness: The idea of “openness” is central to Web 2.0. Developers are using open source models to share and build on each others’ work. Users can share data and collaborate across the web with friends and strangers alike

Anne-Marie Deitering, Undergraduate Services Librarian
anne-marie.deitering@ oregonstate.edu

121 The Valley Library
Oregon State University