Lemann Center Review
November 2016

A monthly selection of current articles, papers, ideas, projects, news, and social events that are inspiring those at the Lemann Center and in the Stanford University community to engage in improving education in Brazil and in the United States.

News

- Lemann Center Fellow Camila Pereira just joined Stoodi, a Brazilian company that aims to provide access to quality pre-college preparation to every student in the country. Currently, two thirds of Stoodi’s users had studied in Brazilian public schools. As a Product Manager, Camila plans “to apply the concepts and methods learned in the Stanford LDT program to offer equal opportunities to every student, as well as allow new ways of teaching in the future”. Cheers, Camila!
Fablearn Brazil 2016 - “Promoting Equity in Education through the Maker Movement”. FabLearn brought together international researchers, educators, designers, and makers to discuss and explore digital fabrication in education, making, and hands-on learning for the 21st Century. FabLearn Brazil has been organized by the University of São Paulo and Stanford University, with support from the Lemann Foundation and the Lemann Center at Stanford.

In “The Effect of Highly Scaffolded Versus General Instruction on Students’ Exploratory Behavior and Arousal”, Professor Paulo Blikstein, LC Fellow July Silveira and other contributors propose a fascinating journey exploring the difference between scripted versus project-based learning in technology-rich environments using biosensors to measure students’ stress under those two conditions. For the experiment, a group of students completed three computer-based activities within a physics simulation software: building a tower, building a bridge and a free task. As stated in the authors abstract: “We did not find any effect of our experimental manipulation on students’ task performance. We found, however, that detailed instruction induced higher level of activation followed by a relaxation phase and a recovery of the activation level in the last segment of the task (U-shaped curve). On the other hand, generic instructions seemed to lead students into a continuous relaxation pattern along the task (decreasing slope). Moreover, low and high-aroused students appear to be affected by the instructions differently, with high-aroused students at baseline showing less cognitive flexibility. Finally, we observed carryover effects, where types of instruction kept influencing students’ levels of activation in a following open-ended task. We discuss
implications of those results for designing learning activities in constructionist, technology-rich environments.” The article has been published by the TKL journal this month. Read more.

Education in the Media

Brasil El Pais: Ana Júlia E A Palavra Encarnada Ana Júlia Ribeiro resgatou a palavra num país em que as palavras deixaram de dizer. E que força tem a palavra quando é palavra. O vídeo que viralizou levando o discurso de Ana Júlia para o mundo mostra que a palavra dela circula pelo corpo. (10/31/16)

Época: E Quem Nos Salva Da Ana Júlia? Faz sentido ocupar escolas públicas e interromper na marra o ano letivo em função de um debate democrático no Congresso Nacional? (11/02/16)

Época: Bernadete Gatti: "Nossas faculdades não sabem formar professores” Uma das maiores pesquisadoras em Educação do Brasil diz que a mentalidade predominante nos cursos de pedagogia é anacrônica e não atende às demandas sociais do país. (11/06/16)

The Chronicle of Higher Education: How Voter's Education Levels Factored Into Trump's Win
Throughout the election cycle, observers have been interested in the important
role that education appeared to play in shaping voter preferences. What do the exit polls suggest about how that materialized? (11/10/16)

The Higher Education World University Rankings: Promoted From Doctor to Professor: What Changes?
Scholars share what the title means to them and offer the newly-promoted advice on handling the status update. (11/10/16)

NPR KQED: How A Happy School Can Help Students Succeed
A study published in the Review of Educational Research today suggests that school climate is something educators and communities should prioritize — especially as a way to bridge the elusive achievement gap. The authors analyzed more than 15 years of research on schools worldwide, and found that positive school climate had a significant impact on academics. (11/1/2016)

Upcoming Events

- **Nov 17 - 18** - Lemann Dialogue 2016 - Harvard University - The Lemann Dialogue is an annual conference on Brazil collaboratively organized between four universities with endowments from the Lemann Foundation (Columbia, Harvard, Illinois, and Stanford). The theme of the conference varies year by year, but generally focuses on contemporary social, economic, and political challenges in Brazil. Speakers at these conferences include faculty from the four collaborating institutions, as well as scholars, policymakers, and other experts from Brazil.
- **Dec 6** - Seminar: Affective Computing in CSCL EDUC 404 Seminar by Visiting Student Researcher Rachel Reis. 1:30 - 2:50 PM.

Insider's Insight
"On Windhover" by LC Fellow, Izabel Fonseca:

"On Santa Teresa Street at Stanford University campus is a sanctuary of repose called Windhover, in the interior of which one who enters may meditate, study or simply admire its aesthetic representing four elements. Air is present in the poem by Gerard Manley Hopkins on a falcon’s flight, inspiration for the name Windhover, as well as in the breathing of the visitor. Earth, the tones of the floor, walls, benches, forms the ground of all that transpires within. Fire radiates from the paintings by Nathan Oliveira, semi-abstract expressions of winged flight but also of auroras and cosmic spacescapes. From near the corridor between rooms sometimes the soft sound of turbulent water can be heard, disturbing the silence just enough to leave the spirit imperturbable".

Social Happenings

Professor Rachel Lotan and LC Fellows Paula Louzano and Barbara Born lectured about the Programa de Especialização Docente (PED) Brasil just before their departure to São Paulo for the first phase of the project's implementation.
More than 70 Brazilian educators participated in the first training week of PED Brazil at the Universidade São Judas Tadeu in São Paulo. Two State Departments of Education and seven universities from 5 different states are committed to implement PED in their institutions in 2017.

LC Fellow Luana Marotta previewed her presentation “Are income achievement gaps associated with gaps in school completion? Evidence from Brazil” at the Topics on Brazilian Education Seminars prior to presenting it at the Comparative International Education Society (CIES).

Brazilian Ministry of Education’s chief of staff, Rafael Callou met with faculty and fellows during a visit to learn more about the Lemann Center.

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