# Ess Research Group

# Enhancing e-learning by integrating Social media and knowledge management

**University of Southampton** 

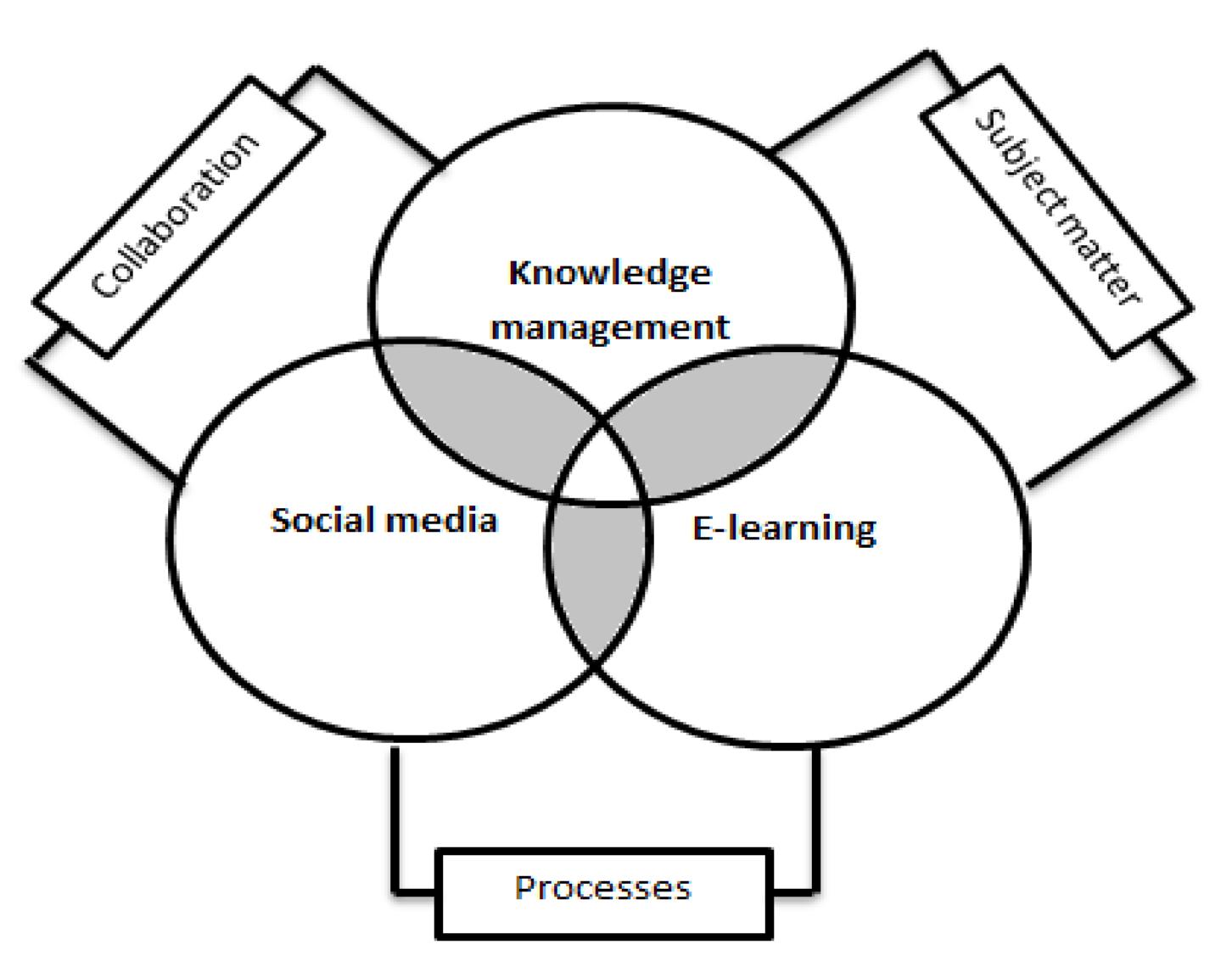
Edrees Alkinani, Lester Gilbert and Richard Crowder

#### Abstract

Knowledge management (KM), e-learning, and social media (SM) are three different research fields. Integration of KM with social media may be expected enhances e-learning. KM connects with e-learning in terms of subject matter and with social media in terms of supporting the notion of creating, sharing, and disseminating knowledge within organisations. Social media connect with e-learning in terms of delivering the process of an e-learning transaction, which in turn provides the content of the subject matter. Such connections between the three different areas suggest how e-learning can be enhanced by integration of social media and KM.

# State of the art (overlap between KM, e-learning, and SM)

The Web has transitioned from a means of simply transmitting information to become a platform via which users can create, share, repurpose and remix, information, resulting in collaborations between widespread and users distribution of content. In addition, the growing use of social media tools such as wikis, blogs, RSS, and mediasharing supports such collaborations and facilitates connections and exchange of information.



An e-learning transaction contains four elements: tell, show, ask, and feedback. These elements, and combinations of e-learning and social media, yield processes that deliver specified subject matter.

KM and e-learning have a common connection. This is subject matter. Subject matter is content (Fact, Procedure, Concept, Principle)that needs to be delivered to learners. Elearning focuses on methods of delivering learning content, whereas KM controls the quality of the content delivered. Each category of subject different has matter diagrammatic approach used in which can be knowledge analysing domain.

## Research Questions

- How e-learning can be enhanced by integrating social media and knowledge management?
- What is the appropriate approach to take when analysing subject matter to support the integration of social media, KM, and elearning?
- What is appropriate analysis of social media that servers e-learning and knowledge management?

### Achieved work

- Developed an ontology based on different categories of subject matter.
- Analysed a number of components of social media in terms of e-learning transaction.
- Selected Facebook as SM component to support both KM and e-learning through developing an application.
- Developed an application which uses the developed ontology and connect it with Facebook through API.

## Work in progress

- Developing an ILO (Intended Learning Outcomes) ontology which combines subject matter with capability verb and use it in an application through social media. The learners can filter the application based on Capability verb which will be given in both ILO statement and an assignment.
- Investigating other components of social media for supporting e-learning and KM such as Google plus.