



Pädagogische
Hochschule Weingarten



Using weblogs at school to prepare today's students for their (professional) life

Christian Schmidt

6TH November 2009

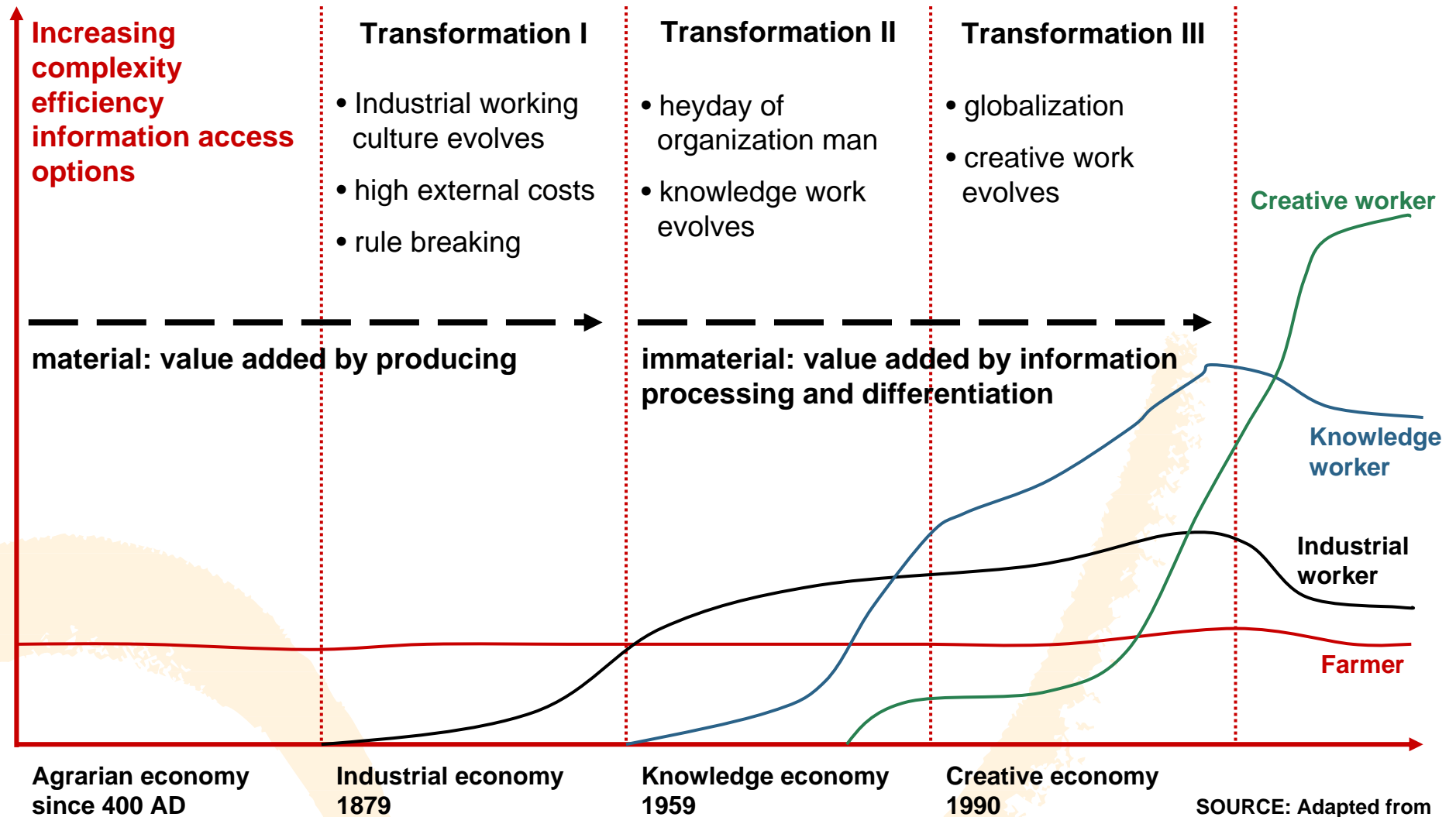
ZEW-KMRC Workshop on Social Software

Mannheim

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New business environments...



SOURCE: Adapted from Brühl & Keicher (2007), p. 26

... demand new competences.

■ Characteristics of knowledge work:

- Complex and dynamic
- Continuously new challenges
- Demand a high degree of information, coordination and cooperation
- Demand continuously personal development and creative performance

■ Personal resources needed :

- Domain knowledge
- Problem solving competence
- Media competence (utilization, appraisal)
- Social competence
- A positive attitude to lifelong learning

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■ Characteristics of knowledge work:

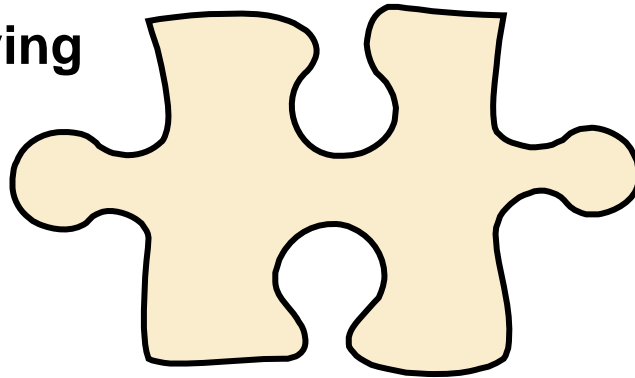
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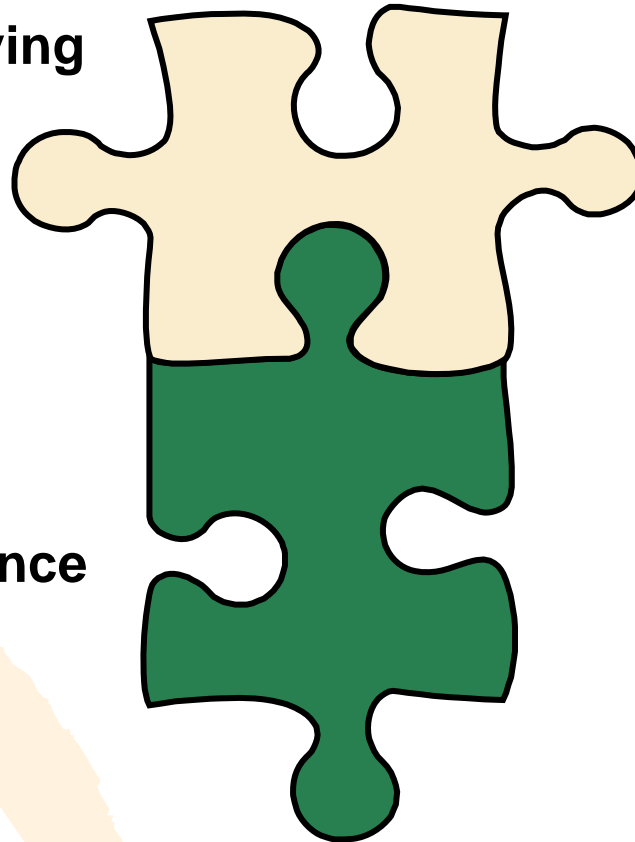
Assembling the jigsaw pieces

**Problem solving
competence**



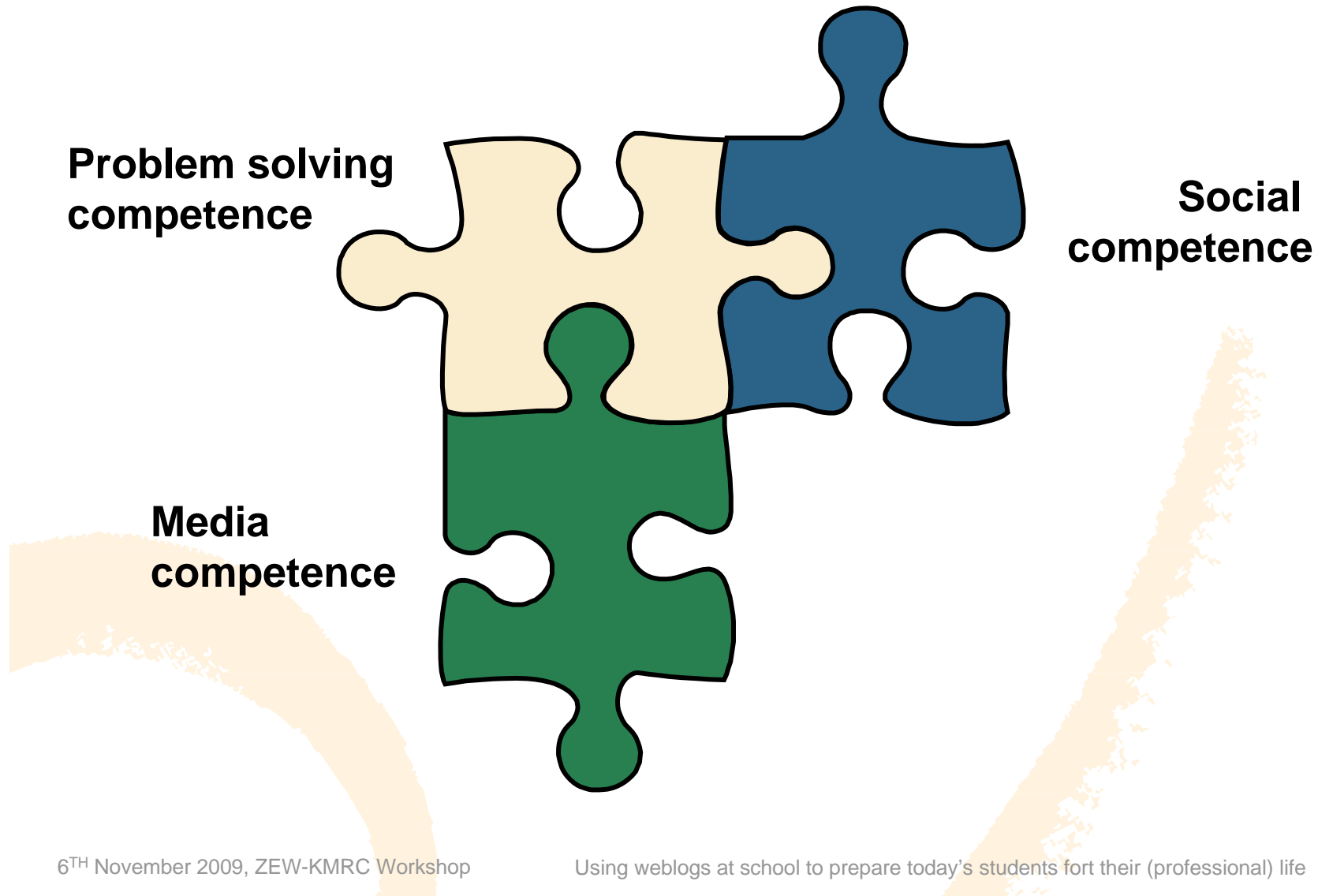
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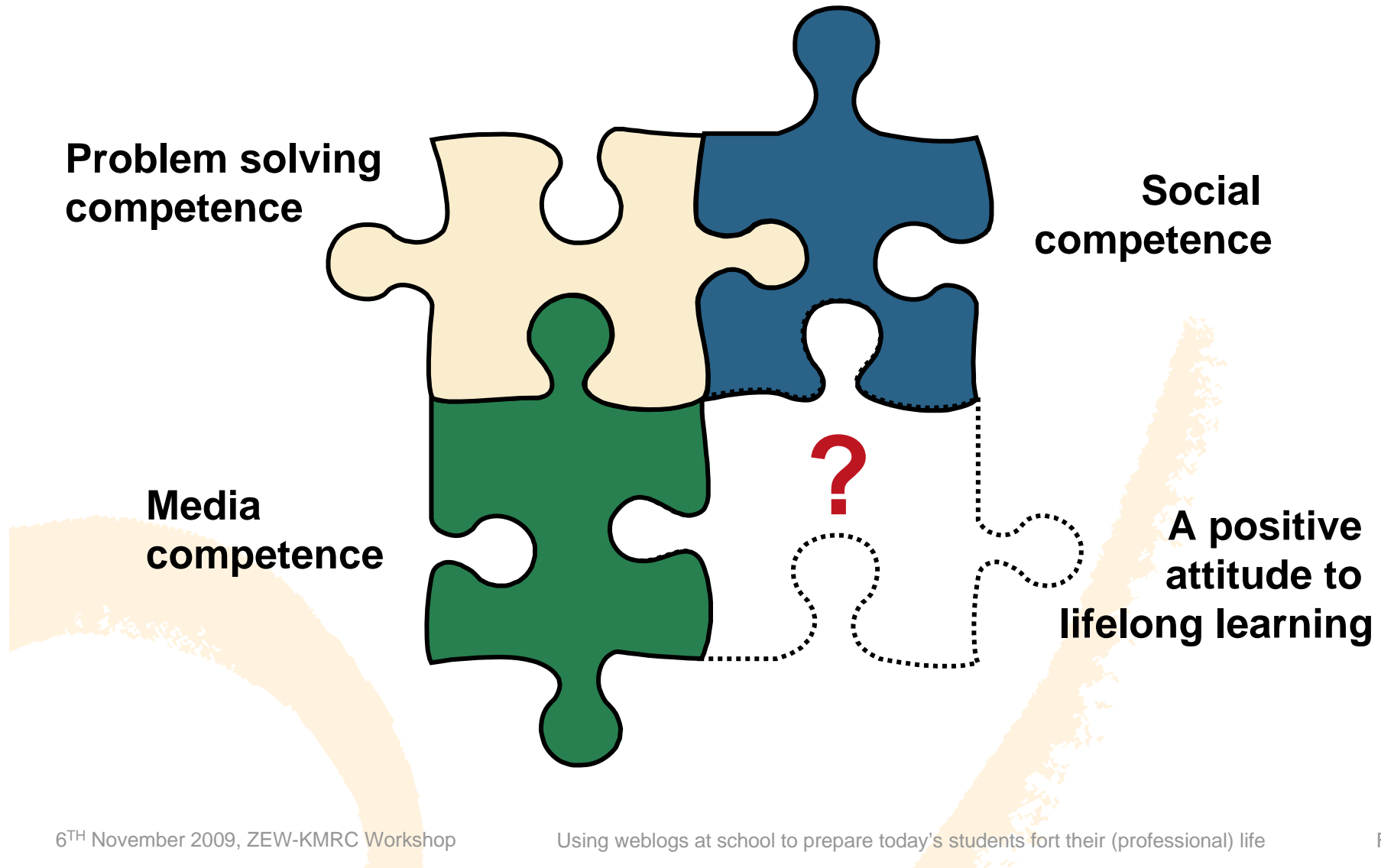


**Media
competence**

Assembling the jigsaw pieces



Assembling the jigsaw pieces



Opportunities gained by teaching knowledge management at school

Schools

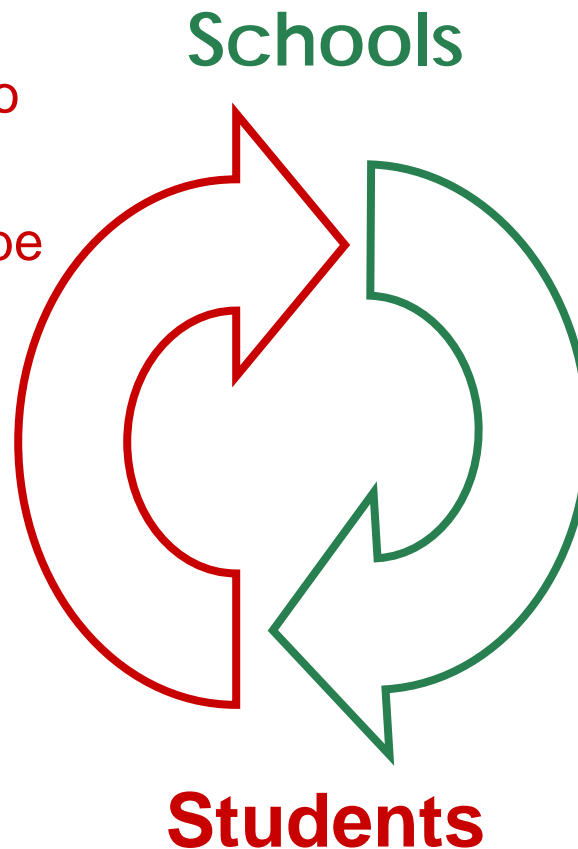


Students learn the benefit of teamwork as well as the necessity of lifelong learning. With increased competencies in handling information and knowledge they are better prepared for their future (professional) lives.

Students

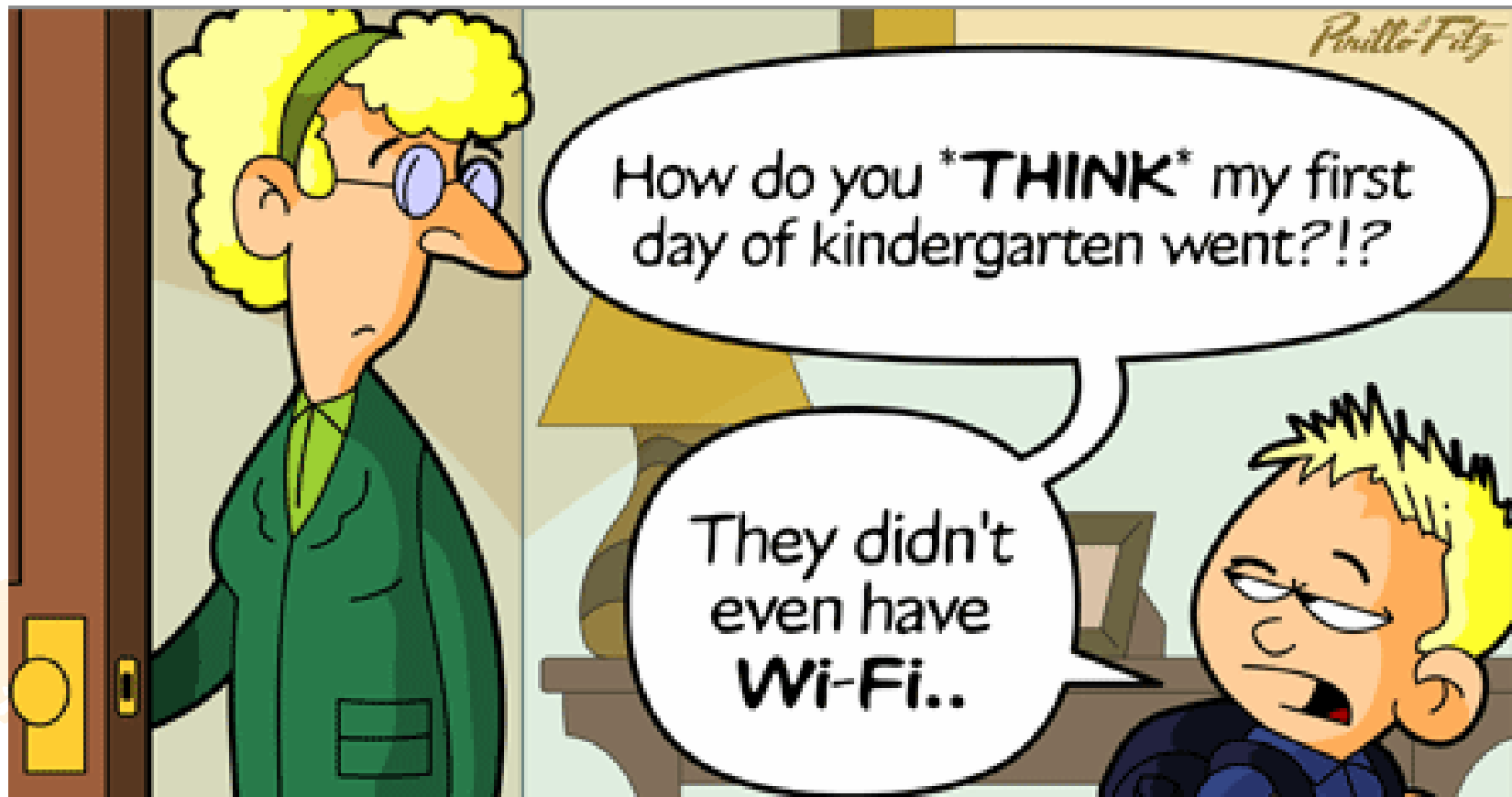
Opportunities gained by teaching knowledge management at school

Students who are able to cooperate as well as to handle information can be confronted with more complex tasks. This allows schools to implement innovative teaching methods, and hence make education more effective.



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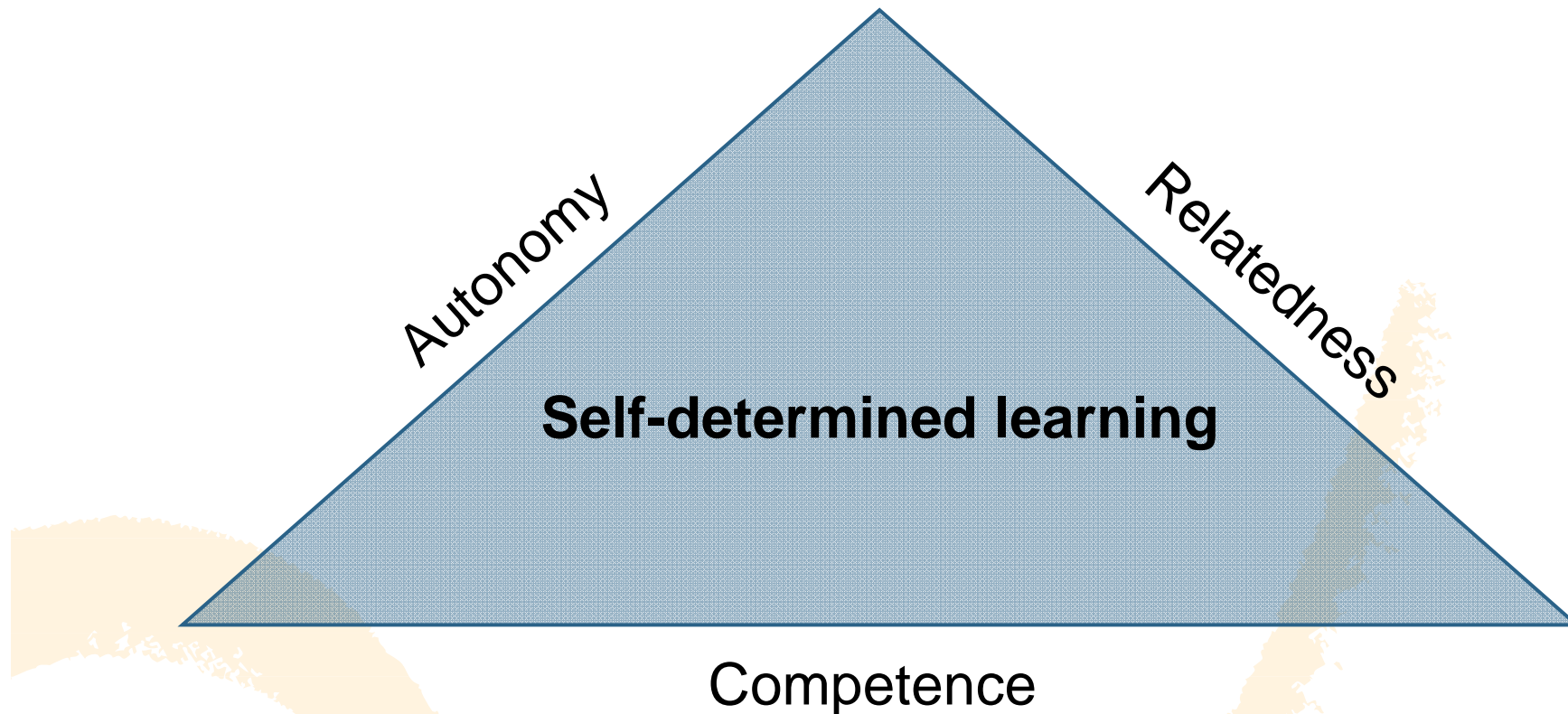
Students use ICT in their spare time – but at school?



Source: <http://blaugh.com/2006/09/01/rough-first-day/> [03.11.2009]

Self-determination theory of motivation

(see Ryan & Deci, 2000)



Reflection

Operational definition

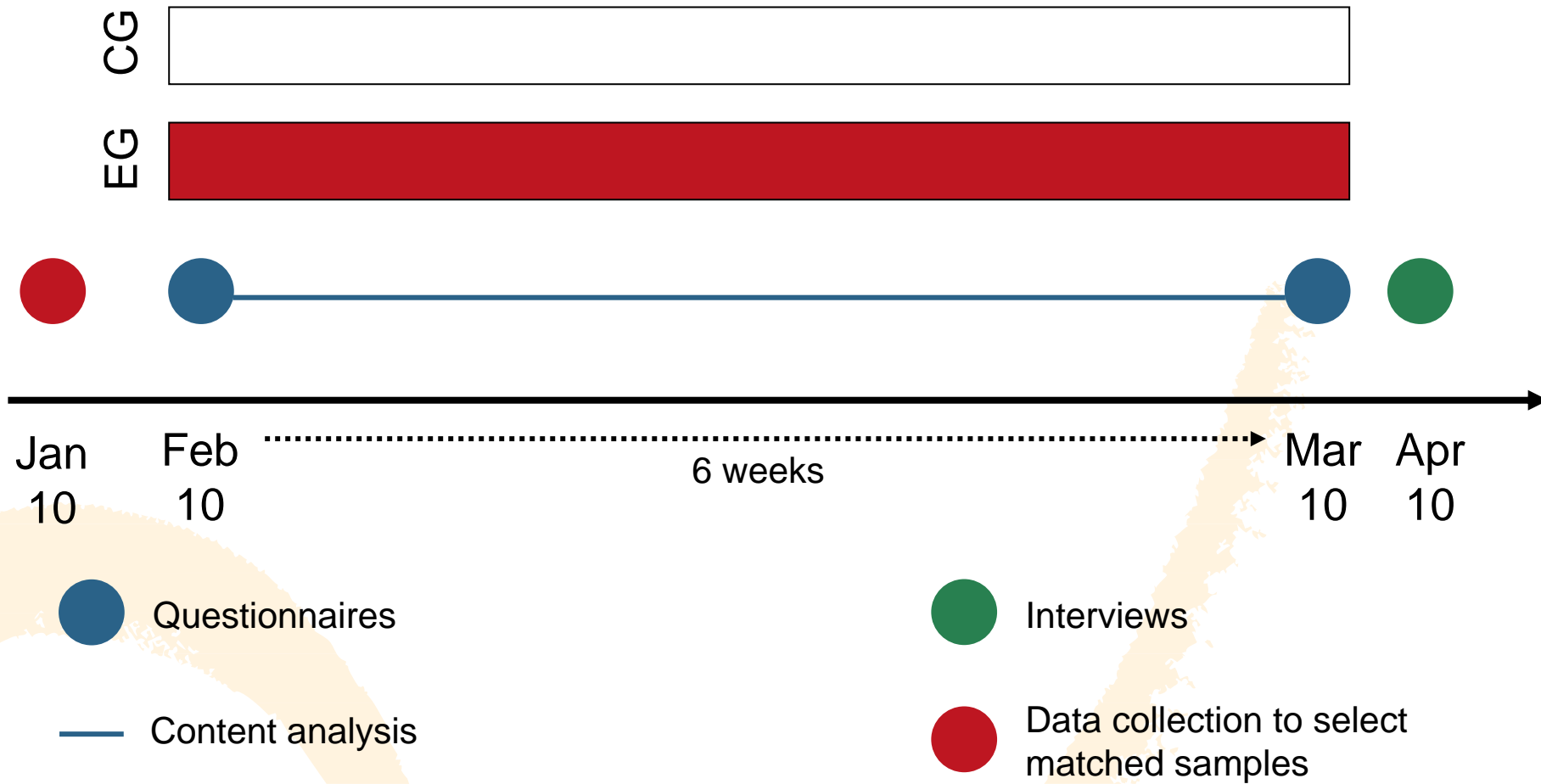
„Reflection is a process during which a person pays attention to a problem, evaluates this problem on the background of a previously set goal and of his/her past experiences, generates options for action, relates the expectable outcomes of these options to the present situation, and makes decisions for future actions with the aim of solving the problem.“

(Henninger & Mandl, 2006, p. 56)

Design of the main study

- Use of weblogs in addition to German classes
- Treatment: use of weblogs
- Variables:
 - *Control variables*: teacher, class atmosphere, interest (subject, Web-2.0-tools), media competence
 - *Independent variable*: use of weblogs
 - *Moderator variable*: motivation
 - *Mediator variable*: reflection
 - *Dependent variable*: learning results
- Methods:
 - *Quantitative*: questionnaires, quantitative content analysis
 - *Qualitative*: qualitative content analysis, interviews

Design of the main study



Explorative pilot study in summer term 2009

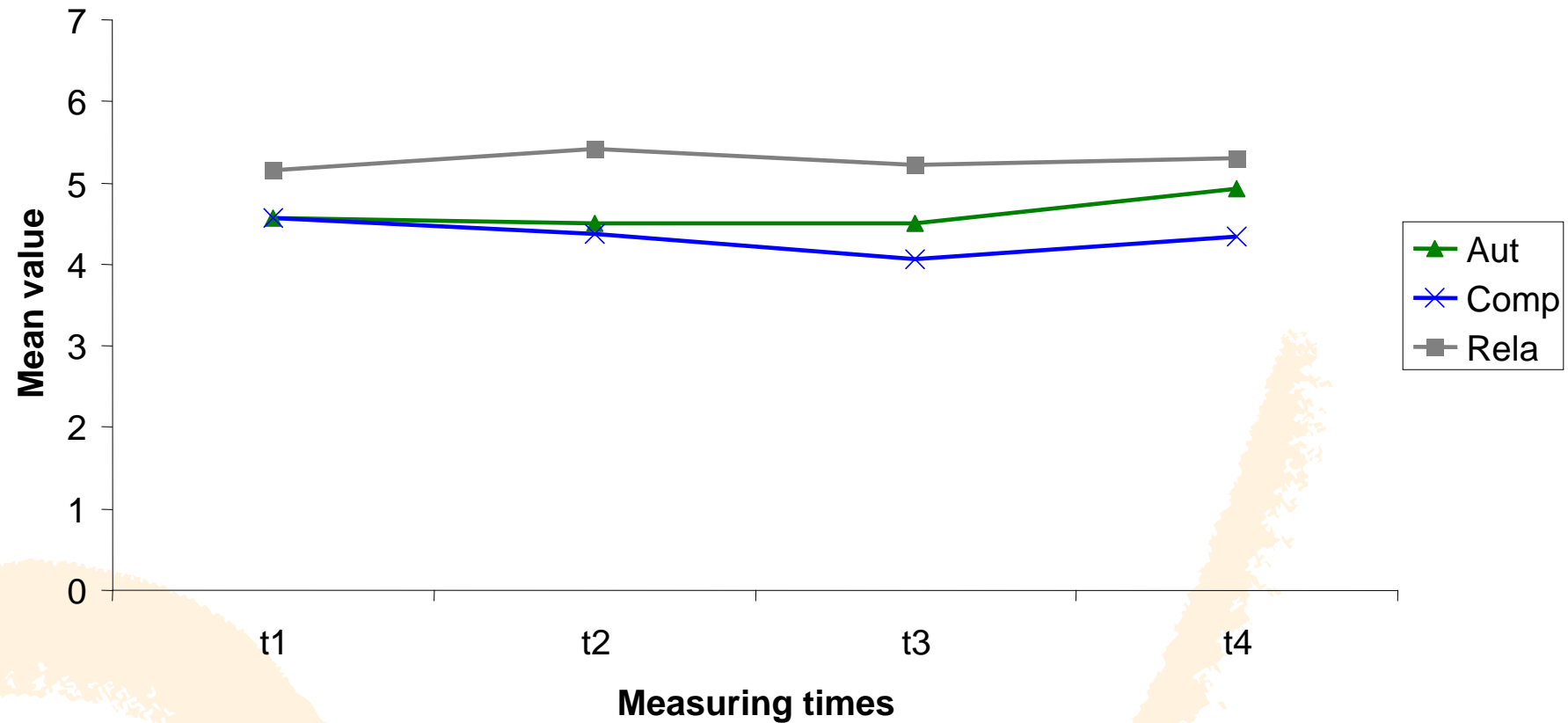
Use of weblogs at a media law course

- Goals of the pilot study:
 - How will students use their weblogs?
 - How will students appraise the use of weblogs?
 - How will students' motivation and students' interest develop during the course?

- Panel study: 4 measuring times at intervals of approx. 4 weeks

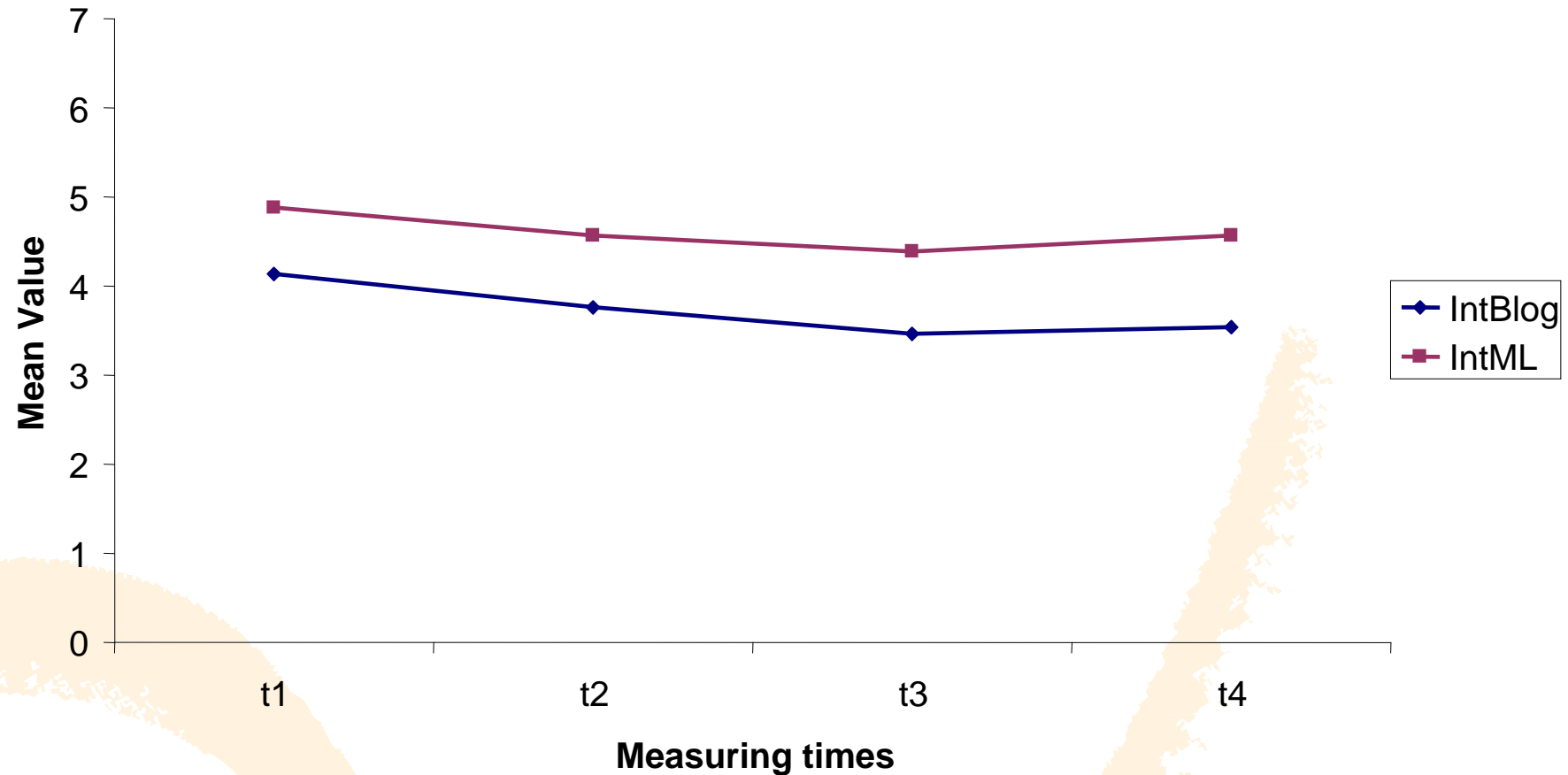
- Research tools: questionnaires based on
 - Basic Psychological Needs Scales
 - Interest scale from the “Intrinsic Motivation Inventory” (adapted to the subject media law and to weblogs)
 - Self-formulated control items (at first and last measuring time only)

Results: Basic psychological needs



No significant differences between measuring times

Results: Interest in media law and weblogs



No significant differences between measuring times

Summing up

- The competence to handle information and knowledge is a basic skill in today's society that becomes more and more important for our (professional) everyday life.
- Schools can benefit from imparting knowledge management competence to their students as well.
- Using weblogs at school seems to be a promising method for training knowledge management and so to prepare students for their future.
- More studies in these fields of research are necessary to create optimized learning settings.

Thank you for listening



Contact

Christian Schmidt
University of Education Weingarten
Kirchplatz 2
88250 Weingarten
Germany

Tel. +49 (0)751 5018576

E-mail: schmidt@ph-weingarten.de

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/Crossyard>

Blog: <http://crossyard.wordpress.com>



<http://www.ph-weingarten.de/medien-und-bildungsmanagement>

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