# Social Networking: Product or Process and What Shade of Grey?

Presentation at the Thirteenth International Grey Literature Conference (GL13)

Washington, DC

5 December 2011

**Julia Gelfand** 

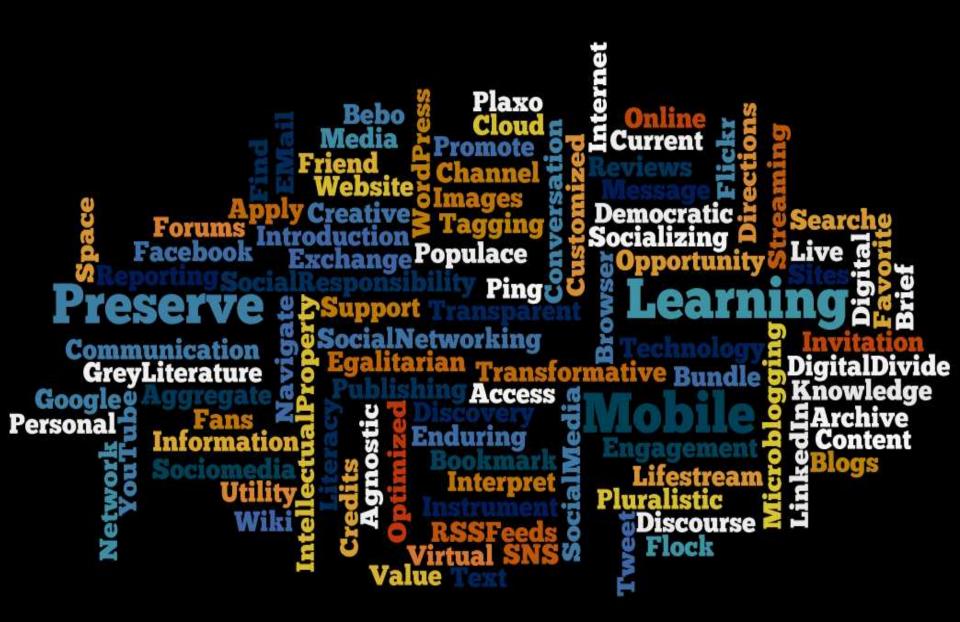
**University of California, Irvine** 

And

**Anthony (Tony) Lin** 

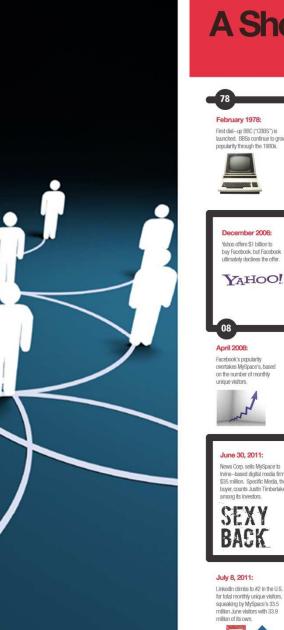
**Irvine Valley College** 





Source: Woordle.com

# A Short History of Social Media











## February 1978:

#### First dial-up BBC ("CBBS") is launched. BBSs continue to grow in popularity through the 1980s.

#### Personal home-page service Geocities is launched. Goes public in 1998 and is purchased by Yahoo! in 1999 for \$3.57 billion. Geocities is shuttered in 2009.

#### Early social media service SixDegrees.com is launched. At its height, the service claims 1 million users.

## August 1999: Blogging service Blogger launches. Purchased by Google in 2003.

#### Social media site Friendster launches. Membership peaks in 2008, then begins its steady wane.

March 2002:





## December 2006:

## March 2006: Text-based social media

## February 4, 2004:

all users 13 and over

#### Facebook launches, Initially MySpace launches. The site open only to Harvard students, is acquired by News Corp in then opens to 800 colleges 2005 for \$580 million and in May 2005 By Sentember is receiving more than 75 2006. Facebook is available to million visitors per month in

## 03 May 2003:

Corporate social networking site LinkedIn opens its doors.





service Twitter is born.

So-called "Tweets" are

limited to 140 characters

g **GeoCities** 06







July 2003:

## April 2008:

# Facebook's popularity



overtakes MySpace's, based on the number of monthly unique visitors



#### February 6, 2009:

Facebook changes its terms of service to include broad, perpetual UGC license. Twelve days later, after considerable pressure, the changes are rolled back.



#### December 1, 2009:

advertisers



Revised FTC "Guides Concerning the Use of Endorsements and Testimonials" go into effect, impacting both endorsers and



#### December 2, 2009:

Facebook membership hits 350 million. Climbs to 400 in February 2010 and half a billion users five months later. after surpassing Google's weekly



## 10 May 21, 2010:

MySpace, Facebook, and other social networks are sending user names and IDs to advertisers along with user URL data.

010110110101010 SMITH0100110010

#### June 30, 2011: June 28, 2011:

News Corp. sells MySpace to Irvine-based digital media firm for \$35 million. Specific Media, the buyer, counts Justin Timberlake among its investors.



Google Plus launches its closed beta-in a little over two weeks, more than ten million people have joined, sharing around one billion items per day.



## May 19, 2011:

LinkedIn goes IPO, the value of its shares more than doubling in the initial day of trading. On June 3, daily deals site Groupon files to go public as well.



11

Starbucks passes 20 million "Likes" on Facebook.

#### March 15, 2011: November 30, 2010:

Facebook valued at \$50 billion based on private market transaction.





## July 8, 2011:

LinkedIn climbs to #2 in the U.S. for total monthly unique visitors, squeaking by MySpace's 33.5 million June visitors with 33.9

### July 13, 2011:

Twitter celebrates its five-year birthday-the social media giant delivers 350,000,000,000 Tweets per

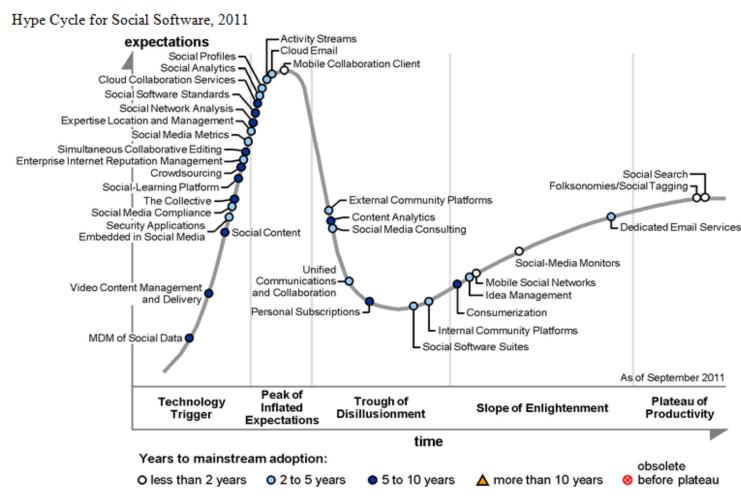
Courtesy of Socially Aware, the social media law update; to subscribe, please visit www.mofo.com/sociallyaware.



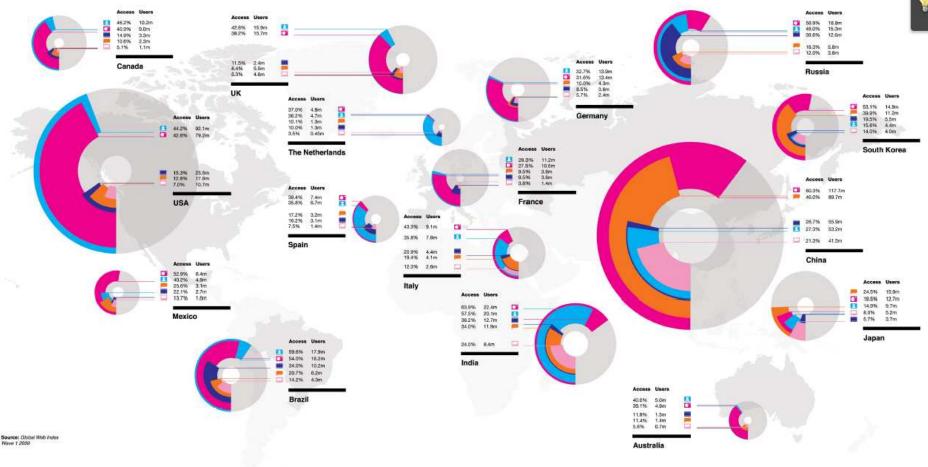
FOERSTER

Source: Morrison | Forrester

# **Gartner Hype Cycle for Social Software**



Source: Gartner, September, 2011(captured October 30, 2011)



# **Social Web Involvement**











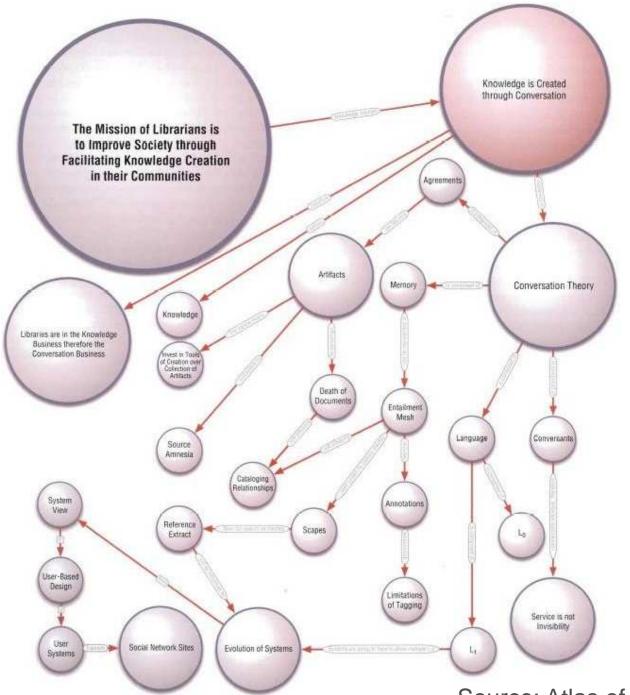


This map provides a global snapshot of active social web inof the arch's, represents the audience volume in millions. Visit globalwebindex.net to find the reasons behind the trends, how different demographics are involved, what motivates web users to get online and the quantification of how brands should with Lightspeed Research. be active in social media.

## More about the study

We interview 32,000 web users in the 16 countries represented volvement by market. The charts show the percentages those in this chart to provide a unique international perspective on web who are active by each form of social involvement. The size behaviour and social media involvement across the world. More importantly we explore the impact on consumer behaviour, the power of social communications and the role for brands. The Global Web Index was created by Trendstream in partnership





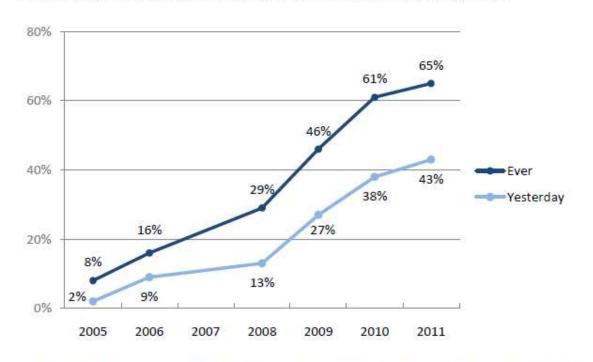
Source: Atlas of Librarianship



# **Social Network Use at All Time High**

# Social networking site use by online adults, 2005-2011

The percentage of all adult internet users who use social networking sites since 2005



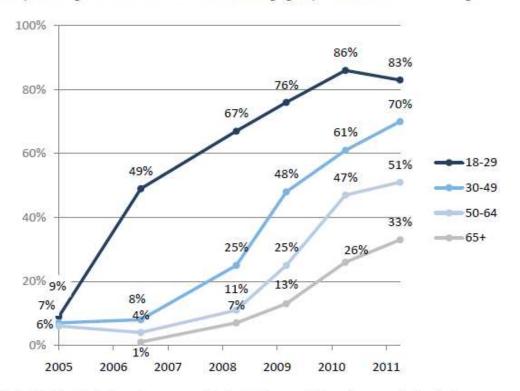
Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project surveys: February 2005, August 2006, May 2008, April 2009, May 2010, and May 2011.



# Social Network Use by Age Group

# Social networking site use by age group, 2005-2011

The percentage of adult internet users in each age group who use social networking sites

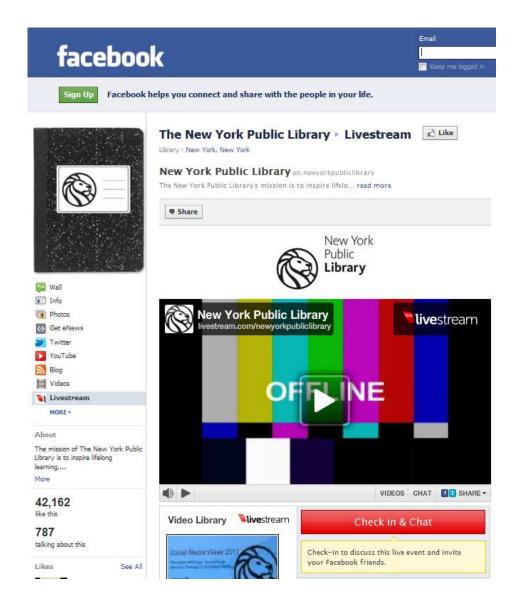


Note: Total n for internet users age 65+ in 2005 was < 100, and so results for that group are not included.

Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project surveys: February 2005, August 2006, May 2008, April 2009, May 2010, and May 2011.

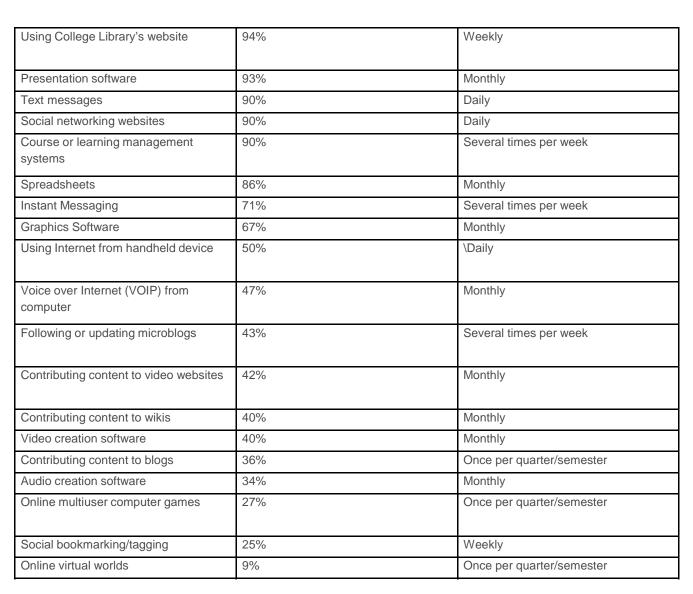


# Facebook Livestream - NYPL



Source: NYPL Facebook Page

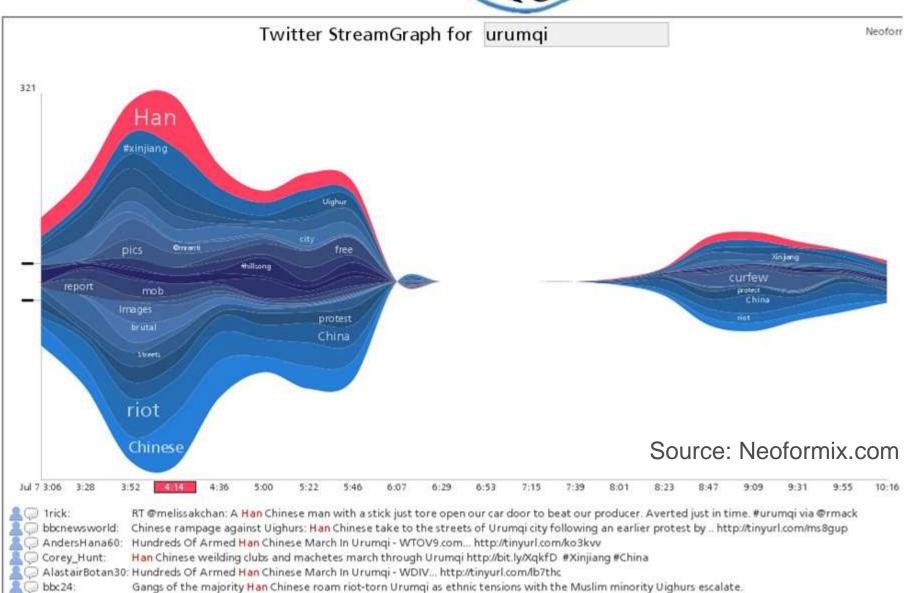
# 2010 Educause Student Internet Activities





Source: Educause

# Twitter StreamGraphs





# **Social Networking Data**

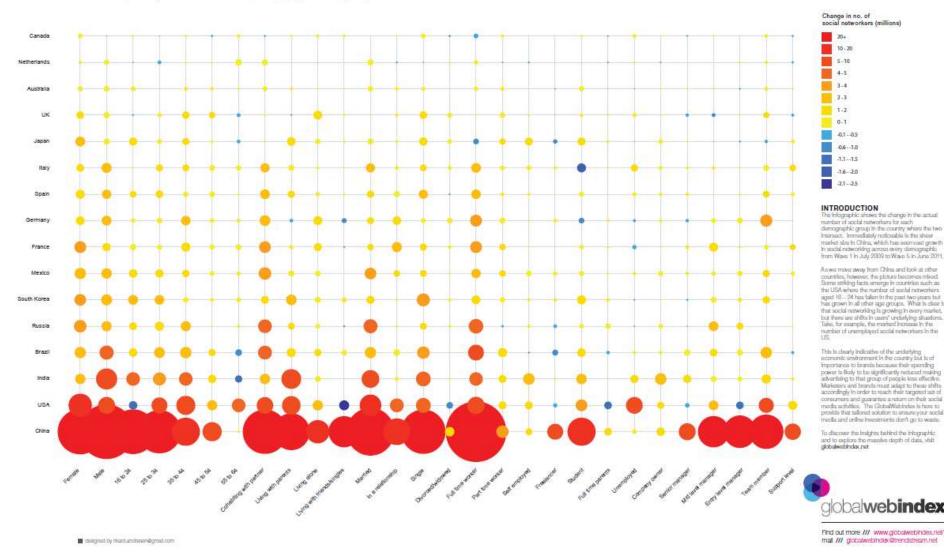
- Average Facebook user has 130 friends
- Over 25 billion pieces of content shared on Facebook each month
- Over 200 Million active users of Facebook via mobile phones
- In late 2010, Twitter had over 100 Million registered users with 300,000 signing up each day
- Twitter received 180 Million unique visitors monthly with over 600 million searches daily
- Twitter averages 55 Million tweets daily; 637 tweets a second
- YouTube gets 2 billion views a day; 3rd most visited website
- 24 hours of video being uploaded to YouTube every minute

Source: Discovery Research Group

# THE GLOBAL DIVERGENCE

# OF SOCIAL NETWORKING

Area and colour represent change in the number of social networkers per demographic group in each country (millions)



Source: Global Web Index

# Thanks for your interest!

Julia Gelfand (jgelfand@uci.edu)

Anthony (Tony) Lin (alin@ivc.edu)

