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I like time. While the concept of it sort of ties my brain in knots, I appreciate the way it provides me with a tool to segment my life. As my life gets more complicated with school, work, internships I have learned to appreciate taking time for myself and my family. Everybody speaks the language of time. We know that 6:00 AM is too early to wake up, and that 11:00 AM is too early for a beer. We know when the last bus comes, when class starts and how long our breaks are. Time gives life parameters.

I chose to look at my Personal Learning Environment (PLE) through the lens of time. My life generally runs from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM. Sure I'm awake earlier and later than that, but I'm pretty selfish with those hours and not particularly interested in giving them over to my studies. For the purpose of this assignment I have segmented my life into three major categories: School, Home, Play.

#### School:

School intersects with everything that I do. My job is a work-study position within the department. My internship is for credit. School encompasses the vast majority of my learning environment. The first thing I do in the morning is check my email and respond accordingly. You will notice Apple's Mail icon spread quite liberally throughout my PLE. I stay aware of my mail throughout the day. Mornings are when I am most articulate. This is when I do most of my reading and writing for school. The icons for OpenOffice (my writing software) and Preview (where I read .pdfs) are scattered throughout my morning though start to fade somewhere between 1:00pm and 3:00pm when my brain shuts off it's critical thinking centers. Early evenings become a great time for me to do design work in the Adobe Suite. My brain enjoys the switch to a more visual thought process and I find it relaxing.

#### Home:

Sometimes I feel like Google runs my life. As long as there is a computer in front of me, my Gmail is open. I use Gmail to keep in contact with my family. My father and I email each other a few times a week but don't often talk on the phone. Email allows us to share information, pictures, and stories about our lives and travels. I open a chat with my boyfriend as soon as I get up in the morning, and we use it to communicate about plans for the day, household needs, and as a feed for interesting news stories. iTunes is another program that remains open all the time. We listen to a number of podcasts on a regular basis, learning from Stuff You Should Know, Wait! Wait! Don't Tell Me, Savage Lovecast, and This American Life. In the evenings I use iTunes to stream OPB, particularly if there is a large news story that I am interested in. This PLE uses BoingBoing as an visual representation of my internet browsing. Generally, my browsing starts at this site and veers off from there. I have placed the BoingBoing icon across school and home because it truly intersects. Generally I read BoingBoing in the evenings, during the time traditionally reserved for slippers and the evening paper. It serves the

same purpose for me, keying me into the day's events as well as providing a glimpse at culture, technology and art.

Play:

The omnipresent Facebook is another page that I keep open throughout my day. I like to know the state of my friends and keep an eye on social interactions. Facebook has also served as a news source on several occasions, keying me in on breaking news stories. I gave up Farmville when I started the AAD program, but I consider Facebook to be a bit of a game in and of itself. I often use it to organize my friends, particularly for things such as Happy Hour. The beer icon represents Happy Hour, which we try to do weekly. Happy Hour is a time for me to get together with my friends outside of the program and get the scoop on what everybody is up to. Most of the Happy Hour group works in local theatre companies, so they keep me up to date on the industry, such as it is. Some evenings I like to give over to my photography, an art which constantly keeps me learning. The Adobe Bridge icon represents this activity. While I don't get to do it enough these days, I truly love editing photographs, dissecting actions, and figuring out what Bridge and Photoshop can do for me.