Making Connections:
Connecting People, Connecting Technology

ALT/SURF joint one-day conference

Amsterdam, 10 April 2003

Workshops

Workshop 1: 1045 - 1215

Train the trainer, staff development

Leader
Gerard Baars (Erasmus University)

Co-presenters
Ruth Jenkinson
Linda Creanor

Description
Part 1: Plenary introduction about two new ways of staff development from the Netherlands:
- train the trainer
- online didactics

The train the trainer seminar has been carried out twice (once last year and also this year). The seminar has been taught to a group of educational consultants from institutions from all over the Netherlands (15 participants in the first seminar and 15 participants in the second seminar). The objectives for the train the trainer seminar are:
- Exchanging knowledge and experiences between e-learning trainers in using electronic learning environments
- Exchanging educational knowledge and experience relating to e-learning between educational consultants
- Broadening and reflecting on own experiences as learner in a digital learning environment

Educational themes were chosen by the participants, and groups of participants were responsible for the design of a theme and for teaching this theme to the other participants.

Part 2: Exchanging ideas / ways of staff development and networking between the participants (plenary and in small groups).

Workshop 2: 1045 - 1215

From Learning Technology Specifications to Interoperability

Leader
Bill Olivier (CETIS)

Co-presenters
Pierre Gorissen (Fontys University)
Peter Sloep (Dutch Open University)

Description
This session will explore the tasks involved in making this transition, and in particular the scope for collaboration in carrying them out, with respect to two areas:

The support of multiple pedagogies, including both single and multiple user modes, with IMS Learning Design, derived from the OUNL's Educational Modelling Language (EML). The tasks involved are those of developing implementations, establishing interoperability, developing innovative use supporting a wide variety of pedagogical approaches in a wide variety of contexts, getting feedback and then developing the next generation of specifications and systems.

The development of lifelong learning records, seen as an integration of institutionally provided Transcripts & learner provided Personal Development Planning Records (PDR). The development of Applications Profiles based on the IMS Learner Information specification will be explored, as will the larger key issues of: ownership, control and the preferred implementation models and architectures (centralised/decentralised/etc.).

Workshop 3: 1045 - 1215

Open Archives:
Combining cultures to create an institutional e-Print archive - the information manager meets the programmer to produce a new digital academic service

Leader
Chris Gutteridge

Co-presenters
Jessie Hey
Kurt de Belder

Description
By attending this workshop you will learn about the new development of institutional open access e-Print archives and how they will contribute to a more dynamic academic service for research and teaching in a global environment. In the process you will gain a better understanding of the ways in which you can bridge cultural differences and build on the diverse skills within a project team. We will use the tailoring of the University of Southampton e-Prints archive (in the TARDIS project http://tardis.eprints.org/) from the free EPrints archive software http://software.eprints.org/as our case study.

The workshop will provide:
- A non-technical overview of what OAI is and how it can help both research archives and could also be applied to other material such as teaching and learning tools, research data, recipes etc.

- An overview of the GNU EPrints software. This will give people some idea of what it can do. It will not be intended as a comprehensive description. People can chat with me later if they want more in depth information. I will also mention the "rival" tools such as MIT/HP's DSpace and Greenstone, and try to give a (reasonably) unbiased summary of the differences.
- An explanation of the tardis project (but not in too much detail as what we're doing is, I think, more relevant to the people at the workshop than why we're doing it.) We will then discuss some of the cultural problems we have encountered - it turns out that computer scientists and librarians have different approaches, assumptions and goals with an institutional archive.

Workshop 4: 1045 - 1215
SURF Projects

Leader
Josette Donnison
Sake Jager

Description
Dynamic Patient Simulations as an inter-physician communication training aid
This project entails the development of patient simulations that are used by medical students at the Leiden University Medical Center and the Academic Medical Center in Amsterdam. Besides training their diagnostic skills, emphasis is put on the communication between physicians while treating a patient together, which is a common situation in modern medical care. For this purpose twenty cases were developed in the Dynamic Patient Simulator® (DPS), whereby one simulation lasts about a week and is 'played' (real time) by two students: one in each institution.

The project and the program will be briefly explained, after which we will try to treat one of these patients.

Implementing ICT in the Language Classroom: Developing Strategies that Work
The potential of the web for computer-assisted language learning (CALL) is widely acknowledged, but the contribution that virtual learning environments (VLEs) can make towards untapping this potential is still largely unexplored. This is one of the questions addressed by the SURF Project Digitalenklas ("Digital Language Classroom") which aims to promote the use of ICT for language learning in Dutch HE institutions. During this session a number of key aspects from the project will be highlighted. These include:
- General-purpose VLEs in relation to specific language-learning applications;
- Language learning methodologies and the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages;
- Implementation strategies: staff training, support and facilitating the exchange of web-delivered language learning materials between HE institutions in the Netherlands.

Although focusing primarily on the use of ICT for language learning, the session should be of interest to anyone trying to find a balance between subject-specific ICT applications and general-purpose VLEs.

Workshop 5: 1330 - 1500

eLearning in the wider policy debate: shaping the character of life in the Internet space and wider society

Leader
Ian Kearns (IPPR)

Co-presenter
Ton Verschuren
Lisa Corley
Sarah Currier
Alex Reid
Vashti Zarach

Description
This workshop aims to set the phenomenon of the widespread encouragement by government for the uptake of computer mediated learning programmes (e-learning), into a wider policy debate. It is argued that computer programs embody values and that code is a key new tool of regulatory power. This debate has implications for privacy, security, surveillance and will influence equity of civic participation. However, the debate most often takes place out of sight of learners and teachers, in forums dominated by large manufacturers of software and publishers of e-learning content. The proponents of e-learning standards and specifications often assert the pedagogical neutrality of, for example, IMS conformant e-learning platforms. The e-learning standards debate is not only a debate about pedagogically appropriate platforms, applications or content, it is arguably one of the most important forces shaping the character of life in Internet space and wider society for years to come.

Workshop 6: 1330 - 1500

The wireless future?

Leader
Jeroen van de Lagemaat (University of Twente)

Co-presenters
Paul Bacsich (UKeUniversities)
Ted Smith (JISC TechLearn)

Description
In this workshop we will develop together a better insight in the possibilities and limitations that wireless and mobile technologies offer for (academic) education. After a short introduction on the subject and the experiences so far at the University of Twente, we will embark into a debate among the participants of the workshop. Participants will be actively involved in the discussion as well as in the appreciation of the different statements made. After a lively and highly interactive session we will have a better understanding of the ideas, thoughts and experiences of the different participants. Participants are invited to send their specific question and ideas to Jeroen van de Lagemaat at jeroen@ndix.net.

Workshop 7: 1330 - 1500

Streaming media and the remediation of broadcasting

Leader
Maaike van Leijen (University of Amsterdam)

Co-presenters
Alison Hudson
Linda Purdy
Andres Steijaert

Description
The goal of the workshop is to interest people in streaming video projects and to bring together Dutch and UK-colleagues working on similar streaming video projects in order to exchange ideas and experiences.

Workshop 8: 1330 - 1500

Assessment and computer aided assessment (CAA)

Leader
Geke Walpot (CITO Group)

Co-presenter
John Phelps

Description
The aim of the workshop is to examine current state of play and potential developments of Assessment and CAA. Participants will explore the future of assessment and CAA including the purpose, advantages and disadvantages of CAA and how CAA techniques and technology may evolve. These questions will be examined from the student perspective, the quality perspective, the perspective of institutions and staff, and from the technological perspective. Groups will be asked to prioritise issues in order of importance in order to address global questions, such as: "What do we want as staff, students, employers from assessment in the future?" and, "How do we get the technologies to do what we want?". These global questions will be presented in feedback to the plenary session.