



Workshop on "Guidelines for the Use of OpenCourseWare for Virtual Mobility"

Berlin, November 27th, 2012

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Date of Publication

17 Januari 2013

Title

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This report is part of workpackage:

WP1. Pedagogic and cultural issues: analyzing successful modes for the promotion of virtual mobility through OCW, including best practices

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Revisions

First draft 17 Januari 2013

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Project

OpenCourseWare in the European Higher Education Context:

how to make use of its full potential for virtual mobility with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union



Partners

- Delft University of Technology (TUD)
- Universidad Politécnica Madrid (UPM)
- Universitat de Barcelona (UB)
- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven)
- Université de Lyon, VetAgro Sup
- OpenCourseWare Consortium (OCWC)
- Creative Commons (CC)
- European Association of distance Teaching Universities (EADTU)

Website

<http://opencourseware.eu>

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1. Date/Place of Workshop



18TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TECHNOLOGY SUPPORTED LEARNING & TRAINING
THE LARGEST GLOBAL E-LEARNING CONFERENCE FOR THE CORPORATE, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC SERVICE SECTORS

- Pre-conference workshop M3 "Guidelines for the Use of OpenCourseWare for Virtual Mobility"
- ONLINE EDUCA Berlin
- Date: November, 27th
- Room:
- Time: 10:00 – 13:00.

2. Information about participants

Workshop was open to all participants in Online EDUCA 2012 Conference, specially to those ones with experience, knowledge or interest in mobility and about the preconditions for a well-functioning OCW program, or who are considering the use of OCW for virtual mobility (for example people involved in joint degree programs).

One week before the event the maximum number of participants, 29, were registered in the workshop. However, only 12 finally participated. Those ones registered but not attended produced the frustration that people who wanted to be but they found the registration process was closed.

Final list of participants was the following:

Sophie Touzé, Edmundo Tovar, Fred Truyen, Willem van Valkenburg, Lee Casier, Stephanie Verbecken, Uwe Kranz, Mihaela Tausercu, Irma Manty, Francois Muller, Lee Know Cheong, Ali Arya

Participants' profiles let us a good representation in two of the groups prepared for the brainstorming activity: governance and students

Attendees showed interest in a European initiative on Open Education OCW/OER.

3. Aims/Goals/Objectives of the workshop and agenda

The objective of this seminar was to present and discuss with the participants a first version of guidelines for the successful implementation and use of OCW for virtual mobility. Scenarios, narratives describing what people do when engaged in particular activities, have been the baseline to elaborate these guidelines. Successful scenarios, existing and new, were previously defined for the implementation of OCW in order to provide a clear understanding of the different OCW uses to reach virtual mobility between HEI in the EU. These scenarios are based on a previous analysis of existing research and best practices and a brainstorming session with experts in the field.

Agenda

10:00 - 10:30	Introduction: – General presentation of the project "OpenCourseWare (OCW) in the European HE context" carried out with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union. http://opencourseware.eu/welcome – Objectives of this seminar
10:30 - 11:15	Presentation of Scenarios, and examples of guidelines to different OCW uses to reach virtual mobility between HEI in the EU
11:15 – 11:30	Coffee Break
11:30 – 12:30	Work in groups organized by specific scenarios. Discussion of potential guidelines
12:30 – 12:55	Pooling of guidelines
12:55 – 13:00	Closing

4. Main outcomes

Different materials were elaborated to prepare the brainstorming session. Besides templates for list of attendees and for description of scenarios, an agenda was distributed at the beginning of the meeting along with the presentation that lately were done in the seminar:

- "Introduction to the OpenCourseware".
- An explanation of the "Types for the use of OCW Mobility Scenarios" by every one of the categories that were identified previously in this Work Package (Brainstorming session Seminar, in the Global OCW Conference, Cambridge, April 2012):
 - teaser course
 - language OCW - support for language learning = vocabulary building
 - bridging (subject area)
 - cultural/practical information (new country, new institution)
 - intercultural communication improvement
 - online community as social preparation
 - OCW for content learning ahead of time
 - OCW for transparency/comparison - credit transfert
 - same open license
 - students translate OCW (for lang. learning - content mastery)
 - new assessment + methodologies - business/companies give professional credits -
 - earn credit by exam from content learned through OCW
 - link low enrolled classes for a larger inter university program
 - OCW allows access to prestigious university courses, can help with preparation, application
 - OCW to facilitate physical - virtual mobility - experiences at center of interactions
 - to improve the spirit of mobility - emotional aspects
 - Open environment can maintain bond to home university
 - Student interactions online become archives
 - OCW can provide context to courses - advising + pathways
 - Places course content in cultural context
- Examples of Guidelines of how to define new scenarios. Guidelines were illustrated with two examples elaborated by the International Affairs Office of the UPM, represented both in text and in cartoon, and corresponding, respectively, to the "OCW for transparency/comparison – credit transfer", "OCW to facilitate physical - virtual mobility - experiences at center of interactions", "Bridging", and "Teaser courses" families of scenarios.

The guidelines pay, among other things, attention to:

- Didactics, learning styles (through meetings between the institutions).
- Added value of OCW
- Didactics, learning styles , modular design
- Linguistic aspects
- Cultural aspects including the use of technology in different circumstances
- The production model for OCW materials through a collaborative model that builds communities of teachers and learners (social software).
- Local adaptation of the material
- The definition of learning outcomes and competences also with a view on transnational employability
- Quality assurance of OCW
- Actual use: how to support and guide students
- Assessment /certification/recognition: offering credits (ECTS) for student studying through OCW
- Reference to existing technical toolkits

After the presentations by the promoters of this seminar a work in groups was held organized by specific scenarios and to discuss the potentiality of the guidelines.

Two groups were formed to work around cases of Governance and Students:

- Group 1 for governance composed by directors or members of CA. This group imagined a scenario of a manager in a small tech company who needs to provide training to their employees. OCW allows creating a package of learning with existing open learning. Governance seen in Open education meaning for collaboration with industry offering customized professional training. The added values of OCW expressed were low cost, customizable and full availability. The compatibility with professional certificates is needed and will be a good sign of success.
- Group 2 for students composed by Direction of students life and ICT people. This group imagined a scenario of a student enrolled at a small college in a remote geographical area. Through an OCW she could receive cultural diversity awareness. And she will be able to see more opportunities for her curriculum. For this group OCW is a meaning for enlarging vision of students, giving them cultural competencies and collaborative competencies.

Lessons learned of this work in groups will help to refine the guidelines up to now elaborated.

5. Based on the outcomes outline of next steps

Once we have elaborated examples of scenarios and elaborated examples of guidelines we will apply this knowledge to:

- Scenarios for the promotion of student virtual mobility via OCW (D1.2). The scenarios will be refined further with a final version of scenarios available.
- Guidelines and recommendations for successful implementation of OCW (D1.3). The scenarios from D1.2 will be tested with students and teachers in a number of countries. Lessons learnt/feedback will be used to modify draft guidelines for successful implementation of OCW.

Acknowledgments: Thanks to the notes taken by Sophie Touzé