



# Report on Project Workshop

*"Benefits, Scenarios and Guidelines for Higher Education Institutions, Teachers and Students" June 11-12th, 2013, Madrid (Spain)*

## **Author**

E. Tovar, S. Touzé, F. Truyen, S. Verbeken

## **Date of Publication**

August 2013

## Title

Report on Project Workshop

## 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 WP3. Educational innovation with OCW, in particular in the context of (Virtual) student mobility

## Author

E. Tovar, S. Touzé, F. Truyen, S. Verbeken

## Revisions

Final version August 2013

## License

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License:  
[http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/deed.en\\_US](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/deed.en_US)



## 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>

## Table of Contents

---

Date and Place of Workshop.....	4
Participants.....	4
Objectives of the workshop.....	4
Content of the workshop.....	5
First day of the workshop: focus on Workpackage 1.....	5
Second day of the workshop: focus on Workpackage 3.....	6
Preparation Phase.....	7
Deliverables Workpackage 1.....	7
Deliverables Workpackage 3.....	8
Main outcomes and Conclusions of the workshop.....	8
.....	8
Continuation of the project based on outcomes of the Workshop.....	9

## Date and Place of Workshop

Date: Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th of June, 2013. Time: 9.30-17.00 Place: Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Building A, Paraninfo room 1 (Madrid, Spain)

## Participants

The Workshop was open and free to anyone interested in the matter of OpenCourseWare and more specifically in (Virtual) Student Mobility. We aimed both at students as well as at policy makers, staff of international offices, teachers, government agencies and student organizations.

Fifty-five people registered for both the workshop days. It is, in our view, a reasonable number that proves the interest of the event produced; twelve of those effectively participated in the workshop, including the project members. The reason for this high number of no-shows is not clear to us, although some considerations can be made:

- The workshop was in June, which is in several European countries traditionally a busy month due to examination periods. This period is characterized by a heavy workload for both students and faculty.
- The workshop was streamed and could be followed online. Fifteen of them attended by this channel

## Objectives of the workshop

The main goal of this two-day event was to showcase and discuss scenarios and guidelines with regard to how OpenCourseWare (OCW) can facilitate student virtual mobility in the European Higher Education context.

Removal of barriers to mobility in Higher Education has been identified by the European Union as one of its strategic priorities. The workshop was organized within that European context. The main aim of the workshop was to showcase practices, present scenarios and recommendations for successful implementation of OCW with an aim to improve student virtual mobility. This event targeted anyone who has an interest in Student Mobility issues and OpenCourseWare:

- University Policy makers
- Managers and staff of International Offices at Universities
- Government or Regional Agencies responsible for Education & Exchange
- University teaching staff
- Students and student representatives Student mobility organizations

The workshop has been planned as part of the project “OpenCourseWare (OCW) in the European HE context: how to make use of its full potential for virtual student mobility”, carried out with the support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union. The focus of the project is the creation of preconditions for a strong European/OCW framework, a reduction of obstacles between European institutes, thus fostering an increase in real student mobility. A stronger framework, we believe, will mean closer cooperation between European institutes, which may result in mutual use of materials- Materials will enhance quality and increase the usage of online courses, therefore facilitating virtual student mobility and an increase in real student mobility. On top of that, an improved European/OCW network will improve conditions for Lifelong Learners, an important user group of OCW/OER.

## **Content of the workshop**

### **First day of the workshop: focus on Workpackage 1**

During the first day, participants had the opportunity to learn, discuss and reflect on how OCW can improve conditions for virtual student mobility. This was achieved through a number of presentations conducted by experts in their fields (see below).

Discussions following presentations allowed for:

- A better understanding of the current framework and opportunities through EU mobility programs;
- Sharing of scenarios on student mobility via OCW and a review of draft guidelines for the implementation of OCW in order to facilitate student virtual mobility;
- Engagement on the topic of student virtual mobility with Directors of International Affairs and International Offices from invited HEIs;
- A better understanding of how OCW can facilitate student virtual mobility.

The scheduled presentations were as follows:

9:30	Registration
10:00	<b>Welcome</b> by Carlos Conde Lázaro (Rector UPM) and Emilio Mínguez Torres (Vice Rector for Academic Planning and Doctoral Studies) and José Manuel Páez Borrallo (Vice Rector for International Relations)
10:15	<b>Introduction of OpenCourseWare in Europe</b> by Willem van Valkenburg (Delft University of Technology)
10:35	<b>Erasmus for all: New generation of European Education Programme</b> by Mar Duque García (Director of Spanish National Agency of European Education Programme)
11:20	<b>Break</b>
11:40	<b>Presentation of virtual mobility scenarios</b> by Edmundo Tovar (UPM) and Sophie Touzé (VetAgro, University of Lyon)
12:10	<b>Panel discussion about the virtual mobility scenarios</b> moderated by Mary Lou Forward (executive director OpenCourseWare Consortium) - <i>Alvaro Escribano (Telefonica-UC3M Chair of Economics of Telecommunications and Vice-Chancellor or International Relations of the University Carlos III de Madrid (UC3M))</i> - <i>Miguel Angel Muñoz (Deputy General Director for European Affairs, Madrid's Regional Government)</i>
13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
15:30	<b>OCW for Internationalization: the UPM's perspective</b> by Marinela Garcia (Associate Dean for International Affairs and Director of the Program of Languages for Internationalization, UPM)
16:30	<b>Concluding discussion</b>
17:00	<b>Closing</b>

## Second day of the workshop: focus on Workpackage 3

During the second day, the focus of the workshop shifted to student perspectives. Through a number of presentations and interactive discussions, participants could learn about what OpenCourseWare can mean for students, teachers and various study programmes. A Student Mobility Handbook was presented and preliminary results from a student survey on mobility were discussed. The following questions are addressed:

- How can OpenCourseWare improve student mobility?
- What are the benefits of OpenCourseWare and Networked Curricula for institutions?
- Can they serve to attract more mobile and independent students?
- Can teachers reach out to off-campus students through OpenCourseWare courses?

The scheduled presentations were as follows:

9:30	Registration
10:00	<b>Introduction to the second day</b> by Frederik Truyen (KU Leuven)
10:15	<b>Keynote: Networked Curricula</b> by George Ubachs (EADTU)
11:00	<b>Presentation of student mobility videos</b> by Stephanie Verbeken (KU Leuven)
11:30	Break
12:00	<b>Virtual mobility</b> by Mariet Vriens (KU Leuven)
12:20	<b>Presentation of the Student Mobility Handbook</b> by Stephanie Verbeken (KU Leuven)
12:40	<b>The LACE Networked Curriculum</b> By Fred Truyen (KU Leuven)
13:00	<b>Presentation of the OCW EU Student Mobility Survey</b> by Frederik Truyen (KU Leuven)
13:30	<b>Discussion on the survey with participants/student representatives</b>
14:00	Lunch
15:30	<b>Interactive discussion on the Handbook</b>
16:30	<b>Closing Remarks</b> by Willem van Valkenburg
17:00	Closing

## Preparation Phase

Different materials were elaborated and several meetings were planned to prepare the workshops. For both workpackages several of the deliverables of the aforementioned project (or in some cases the draft versions of the deliverable) were presented in the workshop. These were obviously prepared in the months prior to the workshop.

### Deliverables Workpackage 1

*A map of Scenarios for the promotion of student virtual mobility via OCW (Deliverable D1.2)*

This map in three dimensions, from the viewpoints of the students, teachers and institutions, and based on a typical cycle of an Erasmus exchange, allows to organize and refine the scenarios previously elaborated and to make them helpful for the student.

*A SWOT analysis of typical student virtual mobility via OCW (Deliverable 1.2)*

This SWOT analysis has been useful to select the most relevant scenarios from the view point of the student, the teacher and the higher education institution. We have identified current weaknesses and threats to student mobility. For each of these problems, we show that OCW can offer solutions.

*Draft updated of guidelines and recommendations for successful implementation of OCW (Deliverable 1.3)*

Draft guidelines have been presented in tis workshop. These guidelines target the institution level, whereas the handbook (see below) targets more the individual teachers and students.

## Deliverables Workpackage 3

### *The Handbook on OpenCourseWare in the Context of Virtual Student Mobility (Deliverable 3.1)*

The handbook itself is still in a draft version, but its most important focus are the scenarios of the use of OpenCourseWare in a context of student mobility, whether it is virtual or actual. These scenarios have been presented from a student perspective.

### *Video materials demonstrating ways of student-teacher interactivity (Deliverable 3.2)*

Two video productions have been presented in the workshop. The first is an animation video in which the main focus is on OCW in the context of student mobility. The second video contains the message of "OpenCourseWare: anytime, anyplace, any pace". In the film scenario we have been looking for a number of various situations in which OCW has an added value. These situations have been recorded.

### *Survey on the use and perception of Open Education*

In the workshop we were able to present the first few results of the survey we launched in May 2013. This survey focuses on four main questions: (1) what are the respondents' experiences with and knowledge about Open Education? (2) What are the respondents' (potential) motives for participating in Open Education? (3) How do respondents assess the scenarios as presented in the handbook? And (4) what is their opinion on the future of Open Education? A new call for participation in the survey has been launched as well.

## Main outcomes and Conclusions of the workshop

The need for language learning was one of the priorities that emerged during the workshop. Students should be empowered to broaden their views on education in such a way that they are aware of the fact that taking an (Open) international course has an added value to their study. However, students' language skills are not always sufficient to do so.

Secondly we experienced that communication at a global level is another issue to be taken into account. Several sensitivities arose, for instance during the presentation of the video. Because some cultural differences can be latent, it is a challenge to deal with them.

Also the presentation by Mar Duque García was clarifying: she made clear what the plans are that the European government has with education in general and more specifically with (virtual) student mobility. It was obvious that the strength of OpenCourseWare in this latter context can hardly be overestimated. The need for a European OpenCourseWare framework has thus been expressed.



## **Continuation of the project based on outcomes of the Workshop**

For the deliverables of both Workpackages we received feedback from the participants on the Workshop giving us the opportunity to adapt our deliverables to the opinions, needs and wishes of the target group we are producing them for.

### **Regarding WP1:**

- We organize and refine the scenarios according to a map considering the view of the three main actors to improve the student virtual mobility via OCW: students, teachers and institutions. Final scenarios, D1.2, will be presented in September.
- This workshop let show results of previous coordination between partners of this project involved on WP1 and WP3 to agree a common set of families of scenarios.
- Guidelines for successful implementation of OCW will be reviewed according to the scenarios SWOT analysis presented in this workshop. Final guidelines in D1.3 will be presented in December 2013

### **Regarding WP3:**

- We will cut out a religiously tinted scene from both the video productions.
- The scenarios have been reviewed positively by the participants. We will therefore continue our work on the Handbook.
- There were already some surprising conclusions from the survey (of course this has partly to do with the relatively small number of respondents until that point in time). It made us confident that the survey has an added value for us in order to gain more insights in the use of Open Education. The survey will be re-launched in October, targeting more specifically students.