



Document title:	Report on Study Visit to <i>Universidad Politécnica de Valencia</i> and <i>Centro de Formación Permanente</i>	 
Study visit host:	Carlos Ripoll, Valencia University of Technology Centre for lifelong learning, Project Manager	
HR participants:	‡ Zoran Nebić, University of Rijeka	
Duration of visit:	July 8-17, 2008	
Report prepared at	August, 2008	
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I GENERAL REMARKS

Study visit to *Universidad Politécnica de Valencia* (<http://www.upv.es>) and *Centro de Formación Permanente - CFP* (<http://www.cfp.upv.es>) were realized within the framework of the EQIBELT project. This visit was performed in second round of study visits which are directed to visit of the EU consortium members e-learning centers with purpose to learn best practices, to have on-site practical overview and experience on organization and delivery of support in field of e-learning. This visit was planned as a hands-on experience for University of Rijeka teaching and technical staff. In process of establishing e-learning support center at Croatian consortium members universities of great importance are all experiences and knowledge on operational, technical and pedagogical issues on e-learning support centers gathered from EU consortium member institutions.

The host of the study visit and the organizer of the program was **Carlos Ripoll, Project Manager at Valencia University of Technology Centre for Lifelong Learning**. He welcomed me at **CFP** and presented projects that I was to participate during the visit.

Topics covered during my visit were: management of a lifelong learning organization, especially in the area of web and e-learning, project envisioning, developing and management, software development for lifelong learning organization and e-learning, hardware requirements, legislative and institutional framework, methods of selection of e-learning systems.

Special attention was paid to using new technologies, including multimedia in education.

The program included presentations prepared and delivered by employees of **Universidad Politécnica de Valencia** (CFP and IT support center) involved in the e-learning and lifelong learning, as well as developing and supporting software and hardware systems.

Projects were presented by by:

- 👤 **Victor Manso**
- 👤 **Javier Morant**
- 👤 **Michael Padfield**
- 👤 **Carlos Ripoll**

Visit was well prepared and organized by **UP Valencia**, providing contacts with high competent experts and very useful discussions on topics relevant to project goals and objectives.

II FACTS FROM PROJECTS & REFLECTIONS:

Victor Manso: Introduction to IT services of CFP

Centro de Formación Permanente (CFP) has organized its own IT department in addition to the services rendered by the IT department of the University. They do development of services tailored specifically for the field of continuing education, both within their home institution and for other clients in the country and abroad. Their products include:

- ❖ Web site of the Centre (information management and content management done through in-house systems: Poseidon and Buddha)
- ❖ E-bulletin custom tailored for each individual based on their interests

POSEIDON is an Information Management System developed at Continuing Education Center as a tool developed to ease managing the Centers with primary purpose of providing continuing education. Its main functions include managing clients, education products, managing documentation, finances and security.

BUDDHA is a content management system that runs above Poseidon as a friendly user interface for Center's clients.

I was also introduced to the strategic management of software development at CFP and presented reasons for choosing specific technology and application of technology to specific problems.

Javier Morant: Tools for development, version control and bug tracking

With custom software development being one of the crucial tasks for the IT services at CFP special attention has to be paid to choosing the right technology and tools for the job. CFP has strategically made the following choices

- ❖ Java as the programming language
- ❖ NetBeans - Integrated Development Environment (IDE)
- ❖ Subversion – version control system

All of the aforementioned tools are open source with a large user base. This phase of my visit included working with those systems and doing some software development and debugging for e-bulletin application.

Michael Padfield: Developing a project proposal; CFP structure and organization

University of Technology (UPV) manages a substantial amount of projects and grant funds and is very agile in developing projects proposals. This phase of my visit included working on an international project in the field of e-learning and lifelong learning.

Additionally I had a chance to learn about the internal organization of the Centre for lifelong learning, their IT department, and cooperation and synergic relationship with their host institution – Technical University of Valencia.

Carlos Ripoll: eLearning as a key European strategy

UPV and CFP are investing substantial effort into developing and sustaining e-learning at the University, and as such are interested in participating in policy making at the EU level. While

working at UPV I had a chance to examine, comment and amend several EU policy documents concerning e-learning and lifelong learning, especially geared at making Europe more competitive and its workers more skilled in a changed business environment.

During the visit I also had a chance to meet with the University's IT department and discuss their hardware and software choices, especially in the field of e-learning.