

DIRECTOR

Tempus Workshop of the EQIBELT project Jef Van den Branden & Wim Van Petegem Leuven, 10 February 2006



Overview

- Backgrounds of the use of ICT for education and K.U.Leuven's position herein
- K.U.Leuven's strategy, starting with its 1990
 Mission Statement and the resulting pedagogical concept "GIL"
- Implementation of the strategy at organisational and pedagogical level
- Professional Development at K.U.Leuven
- Conclusions

ICT backgrounds



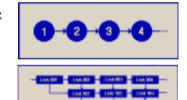




- Pressey 1920: no feedback
- Skinner 1954: "reinforcement" to create operand conditioning



Skinner 1954 and 1958: linear PI =



- Crowder 1958: branched PI =
- Auto Tutor 1960



- PLATO system 1960-1980+: mainframe based CAI (and CAL)
- PCs / Macs / Ataris....: 1980+

K.U.Leuven and ICT

- 1968: University Study Bureau, with educational research unit aimed at development of models for instruction in HE
- 1974: AV-Service for production and delivery of instructional materials
- 1978: "DUO" (University Education Support Office)
- 1980: forerunners start with CAI
- 1990: new mission statement, aimed at
 - Teaching that enhances student's independent learning
 - Adequate evaluation to ensure didactic qualities of teaching staff and use of new teaching methods and technologies

Implementation of innovation

Infrastructure



- High speed fibre network (2 Gbit)
- ERP system (SAP)
- 3 PC classes (500 PCs) Leuven + 2 PC classes (50 PCs) Kortrijk
- Kotnet: connection of students' dormitories and rooms to the university's intranet (and Internet)
- PC leasing offer
- TOLEDO platform ("effectively support testing and learning)
 - » Blackboard ™
 - » Question Mark Perception ™
 - » ARIADNE
 - » Interconnection with ERP system



Implementation of innovation (cont'd)

Support

- LUDIT
 - » IT services, including IT helpdesk and training of "tools" (general tools, general production tools, Toledo)
- DUO ICTO
 - » Support for overall Educational Policy, teacher training, pedagogical support of teaching and learning materials and tools, implementation of innovation support
- AV Net
 - » Support for multi-media production of educational materials and for distance education (international networking)
- Communities of practice
- Faculty/School based support units
- Coordination: Vice-Rector for Education

Incentives

Internal Ol-grants

- OI programme (Education Innovation projects programme), each year since 1997
- Competition for didactical teams (or groups) of teachers
- Conditions:
 - » Applying projects need to be supported by the Educational Board(s) of their Faculty(Faculties) / School(s)
 - » Projects must address innovative approach to a concrete element of education
 - » Last for max. 2 years and results need to be implemented
- Max. Of € 60.000 /year and project
- Per year ± 13 projects awarded (>130 projects financed so far)
- Effective dissemination of results
- OOF (Education Development Fund for the Association) since 2003 - 18 projects approved

Guided Independent Learning

- Proposed by University Educational Council as instantiation of university's Mission Statement
- Total (comprehensive) concept
 - Pedagogical, technological, organisational
 - Emphasising on gradual *in*crease of student's independent learning, supported by a *de*creasing teacher's guidance
- Changing the roles of teachers and students
- Reaffirmation of necessity to build on scientific research, in which students need to participate
- Not forcing a specific pedagogical scenario

GIL implications

At Faculty/School level

- Concept needed a faculty-specific, programme-specific and discipline-specific elaboration
- At central level, 3 initiatives were taken
 - Structural regulations, e.g.
 - » Empowerment of chairs of programme committees
 - » Evalutation of teaching achievements for career development
 - » Financial incentives
 - Instruments development, e.g.
 - » For quality assurance and monitoring
 - » For course description and curriculum revision
 - Professional development

Professional development

- Aimed at different target groups:
 - New faculty members
 - Teaching assistants
 - Members of educational innovation teams
 - Faculty members at large
- Building on (adaptation and extension of) existing training in lecturing and testing for newly appointed teachers
- At the time of the Toledo implementation: a large training with a (quite) theoretical part as well as a practical component, supported by an extensive group of experts and tools, offered to all teaching teams and teaching staff

Professional development (cont'd)

- Original training too costly and labour intensive; replaced by:
- Digital chalk
 - Originally 4 modules, aimed at *insights and competencies* needed for an optimal use of Toledo:
 - » Introduction: features of the Toledo platform
 - » Design: integrate the different functionalities of the platform components into each other and into the global learning environment, including sound decision making
 - » Information delivery: making instructional and learning materials in the GIL concept's perspective
 - » Communication facilities: learn to effectively use them
 - Each module 3 hours, as a mix of demos, reflection on the own teaching in relation to students' learning, and assignments that need the use of the Toledo platform

Professional development (cont'd)

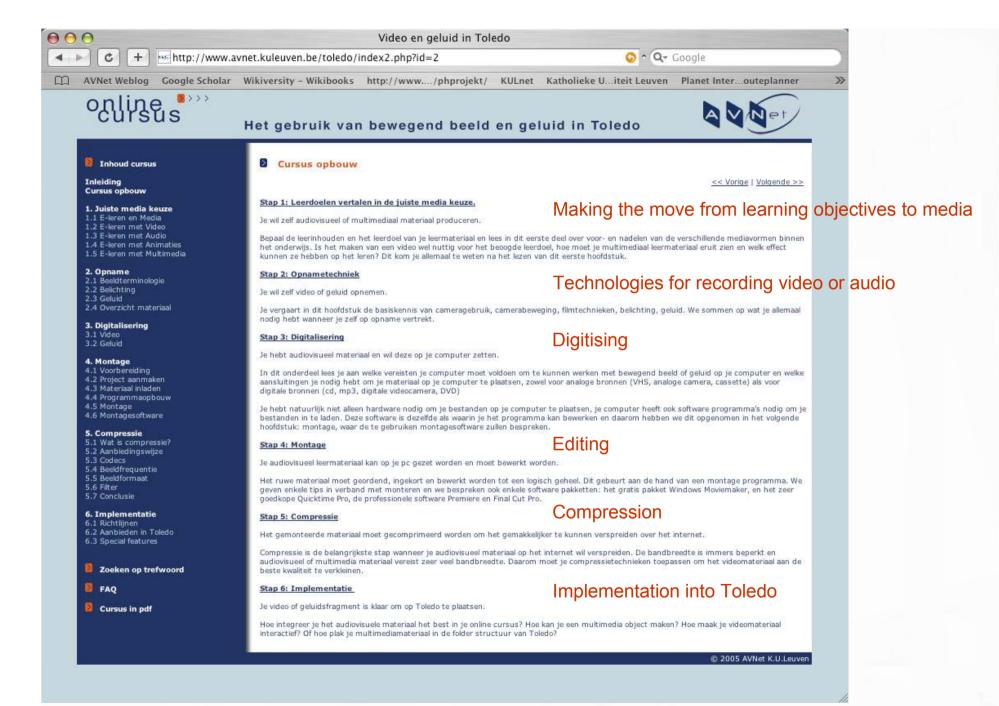
Evaluation of original Digital Chalk

- Participants have basic computer skills, and come with instrumental interests ("how to...") that are instruction (not learning) oriented
- Complexity of Toledo needs more training than provided by the original version
- Systematic reflection on one's own educational practice is essential, and includes a number of competencies that must be acquired, e.g.
 - » Having insight in the learning process
 - » Understanding the GIL concept
 - » Being able to design different educational learning environments, in relation to students' characteristics, to the level and nature of education, to the potential of the platform tools, etc.

Professional development (cont'd)

Actual stage:

- Name "Digital Chalk" dropped (training not only oriented towards exclusively to the use of e-learning)
- Series of modules (seminars and workshops), lasting at least half a day and focussing on a specific issue, e.g.
 - » Coaching assignments
 - » Using adobe software
 - » Embedding audio-visual materials in Toledo
 - » Communication tools
 - » Making students active in lectures
- Also shorter information sessions, e.g.
 - » Measuring study load
 - » E-portfolio
- Specific sessions for advanced users
- Online course AV and MM: http://www.avnet.kuleuven.be/toledo/index2.php



Conclusions

- Professional development and teacher training is grafted on GIL
- Fits in a longterm, systemic and comprehensive approach of university education, integrating pedagogical, structural, technological and organisational elements
- Professional development of teachers, teaching assistents, technical (and administrative) staff and students
- More info (in Dutch only):
 - http://www.kuleuven.be/onderwijs/vormingsaanbod/index.htm
 - (duo) https://www.kuleuven.be/duo-icto/inschrijven/rooster.php
 - (avnet) http://www.avnet.kuleuven.be/seminaries/
 - (ludit) https://icts.kuleuven.be/cursus/



Thank you