

DOCUMENT:	6TH WORKSHOP REPORT AND CONCLUSIONS
WORKSHOP TITLE:	"Course Development in E-learning Environment"
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DATE:	Thursday and Friday, September 25-26, 2008
WORKSHOP SITE:	Faculty of Engineering, University of Rijeka, Vukovarska 58, 51000 Rijeka, Croatia / Lecture Hall P1
ORGANIZED BY:	Faculty of Engineering, University of Rijeka
PURPOSE:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⊙ to learn and to collect experience from EU universities about development of e-learning courses ⊙ to analyze and discuss different issues related to the e-learning course development ⊙ to help university teachers and teaching staff in development an e-learning course ⊙ to present and discuss good examples, good or bad experiences in design of e-learning course
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AUDIENCE	👤 68 registered participants

(PARTICIPANTS):	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ University teachers involved or interested in e-learning✓ Teaching staff involved or interested in e-learning✓ ICT or other support staff involved or interested in e-learning✓ Members of EQIBELT project team and university's e-learning teams
REPORT PREPARED AT	☞ October 2008
REPORT PREPARED BY:	Marta Žuvić-Butorac

I General remarks on workshop

6th EQIBELT workshop was held in Rijeka, 25th and 26th of September 2008 at Faculty of Engineering, University of Rijeka, Croatia.

The workshop has been organized as the last one on the EQIBELT project, with the purpose to gather experts from EU universities (EQIBELT project partners) and experts and practitioners from HR universities and partner institutions, university teachers, teaching staff, ICT or other supporting stuff involved or interested in e-learning and members of EQIBELT project team and university's e-learning teams to present and discuss experiences from EU universities about development of e-learning courses, to analyze and discuss different issues related to the e-learning course development, to help university teachers and teaching staff in development an e-learning course and to present and discuss good examples, good or bad experiences in design of e-learning course.

A warm welcome speech was held by the host, professor Tonči Mikac, dean of the Faculty of Engineering. On behalf of University of Rijeka spoke vice-rector professor Pero Lučin, also project coordinator for EQIBELT for University of Rijeka, who congratulated all the project partners on the achieved project goals. He also presented the strategic planning of University of Rijeka, current activities in e-learning implementation and near future vision.

During the opening of the event, the organizer, Marta Žuvić-Butorac shortly presented the main objectives of the project, listed the activities performed so far and specified the achieved outcomes of the project. She announced the workshop agenda, consisted of series of lectures and presentations, linked and intervened with discussions during the lectures, Q&A sessions and general discussion sessions.

The workshop had 68 registered participants; 35 from University of Rijeka, 14 from University of Zagreb, 9 from University of Dubrovnik, 2 from CARNET, 1 from Ministry of Education, Science and Sports and 8 from EU partner universities. Complete list of workshop participants is available as separate document, published on workshop web pages.

The workshop was organized by Marta Žuvić Butorac (Faculty of Engineering, University of Rijeka) in collaboration with Zoran Bekić and Sandra Kučina (University Computing Centre, University of Zagreb). Workshop sessions were chaired by Marta Žuvić Butorac and Branimir Barišić (Faculty of Engineering, University of Rijeka) on Thursday 25th of September and by Alka Korin-Lustig (Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Rijeka) and Božidar Kovačević (Department for Informatics, University of Rijeka) on Friday 26th of September.

II Conclusions of the workshop

The main goal of the workshop was to provide the opportunity to exchange ideas and experience between the EU and Croatian universities in the field of e-learning course development. The main questions to be answered were:

- ∴ How to start the development of an e-learning course from classical, classroom course?*
- ∴ What is the new role of teacher in e-learning course?*
- ∴ What are the organizational aspects of an e-learning course?*
- ∴ What kind of activities and communication could be achieved online?*

- ∴ How quality is assured?*
- ∴ How to perform assessment?*
- ∴ How to motivate students and help them in management of their time?*

Development of an e-learning course

The workshop offered many examples of good practice concerning development of an e-learning course and possible support offered to academics in development of e-learning course.

- ∴ Establishing and supporting of educational technologists at Faculties as a key persons in help and motivation of teachers to develop e-content*
- ∴ A holistic approach to course development which includes students, teachers and technology and teacher-student partnership in e-learning*
- ∴ How to start the development of e-content: main aspects and questions to be answered before starting the translation from classroom to online environment*
- ∴ Blended learning approach: definition of some key aspects related to structuring and management of an e-course*
- ∴ Experiences with ready-to-use e-course content developed somewhere else - how to decide on whether to adopt or adapt the content and activities*
- ∴ Experiences in technical and methodological support of teachers in development of an e-course*
- ∴ The role of library service in development of e-course (e-literature service)*
- ∴ Series of short presentations of the “freshman’s” experiences in the online environment*

New role of teacher in e-learning course

Some nice examples and practices were offered concerning the change of teacher role and teacher support for the students in online environment: there were the examples of how to use and manage some communication tools in e-courses that have large student groups and some examples of using Web 2.0 technologies as well as using multimedia in enhancing learning activities.

Organizational aspects of an e-learning course

The topic of organizational aspects of an e-learning course was covered by presentation of activities and experiences in organization of the e-course development that is shared on several faculties and/or universities, how this development is realized and necessary collaboration stimulated.

New activities and communication tools online

The development and accessibility of new collaboration tools and technologies (wikies and all kinds of Web 2.0 tools) is offering teachers new possibilities in enhancing learning; presented were many examples of good practice. Also, some new types of activities can be setup using collaboration tools and technology, such as Virtual seminars, shared and participated by different stakeholders in the e-learning community.