



KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT
LEUVEN

Setting up communication within e-learning

Some K.U.Leuven
examples that worked

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It's the simplest lesson of the Internet: **it's the people stupid**. We don't have computers because we want to interact with machines; we have them because they allow us to communicate more effectively with other people.

(Douglas Rushkoff, *Get back in the box: innovation from inside out*)



My talk

- Where do I work?
- The specific multicampus situation of K.U.Leuven
- The concept of virtual mobility
- Some concrete examples:
 - Virtual seminars
 - Virtual support initiatives for exchange students



Where do I work?



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Where do I work?

AVNet

- Audiovisual New Educational Technologies
- Central support service of the university and 11 associated university colleges



What does AVNet do?

1

Development of
multimedia and media
systems

Production team
Compression & distribution
Media systems

Expertise & Training

2

Support of multimedia in
(multicampus) education

Technical team
Innovation coach
Study centre OU

Expertise & Training



K.U.Leuven's multicampus



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K.U.Leuven's multicampus

3 groups at K.U.Leuven

1 satellite campus in Kortrijk

23 sites in the Association

17 regional hospitals

European partners & networks

Global partners (North-South)

Individual Students



The virtual mobility concept

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Learning Apart Together



A definition

“

Virtual Mobility stands for the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) to obtain **the same benefits** as one would have **with physical mobility** but **without the need to travel**

”

elearningeuropa.info

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`\$00cRr^vu1
FAH2uqr^
ZZUF00F1.^
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Benefits

- **Access**
 - Non-traditional, remote audiences
 - Democratisation of learning
- **Flexibility**
 - Any time, any place
 - Acquiring flexible ways of learning, working
- **Networking**
 - Collaboration
 - Competition



How?



Video communication

- Web conference
- Video conference



AV in web2.0 (social media)



Streaming Video

- podcasting



Video lectures



Web lectures



Research in Virtual Mobility





Some examples

- How can we connect HE institutions with each other?
 - Virtual seminars, joint virtual courses
- How can we coach (exchange) students at a distance?
 - Virtual support initiatives before, during and after the physical exchange



Example 1: Virtual seminars

- Guest lectures of international top experts
- 7 different locations linked by:
 - Videoconferencing
 - Live webstreaming
 - Moderated chat during the seminar (parallel discussions)
- Series of 1 evening seminar per month during academic year
- One full-day summer school during 1st week of September, f2f and virtual





www.venus-seminars.net



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The Venus model

- From a didactical point of view
- From a technological point of view
- From an organisational point of view



The didactical point of view

Activities taking place <i>before</i> the synchronous event	<i>during</i> the synchronous event	<i>after</i> the synchronous event
Read background reading material before the seminar.	Participation in live session, listening to the lecture given by the international expert and engaging in discussion with other sites.	Visit the seminar or summer school recording and make a summary of the session as an assignment.



The technological point of view before – online platform, blog

Venus Seminars
Venus Online Module

Navigation

- home
- seminars: Europe in Focus
- summer school
- training materials
- Locations
- tac
- evaluations
- how it works
- venus project
- legal and privacy

User login

Username: *
Password: *
Log in
Create new account
Forgot your password

Welcome to the VENUS Platform! This online Platform is created to support the main outcomes of the Venus project. You can find here three main pages. In the **online module "Seminars Europe in Focus"** you can find the recordings, background materials of the Venus Seminar Series "Global issues for the European Citizen". In the online module "summer school" you can find all background materials and the five recorded seminars of the 5-day summer school on web 2.0 in education and business". In the third **Online Module Training Materials** you can find the Training materials the venus Consortium. Created on how to organise these kind of virtual and international seminars.

VENUS offers seminars "Global issues for the European Citizen" for interested citizens and students all over Europe, in a virtual way. The seminars are broadcast through videoconferencing to **6 different locations in Europe** and through the online streaming to the whole world. Last Autumn and Spring we organised a seminar series on "Global issues for the European Citizen". People who attended **The VENUS Seminars, Europe In Focus**, though sometimes skeptic beforehand, returned very enthusiastic, both about the contact with the famous speaker and about the European feeling caused by an audience spread over several European countries: "The delivery is virtual, the experience is real!" You can find more information and watch the **Recorded VENUS Seminars Series here**.

We also organised **The VENUS Summer School**, a five days seminar series in September 2007 on Social Software and its uses in Business and Higher Education. It was a succes. Find all the recordings, slides and more **in formation on: The VENUS Summer School**

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The technological point of view during – video conference



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The technological point of view during – livestreaming and chat

Venus Seminars
Prof. Wolfgang Wessels
Q&A
Prof. W. Th. Wessels
Future of the European
Integration
Please fill in the Evaluation
Form
If you want to ask a question to the
[17:51] <Moderator> There we go!
[17:51] <Moderator> Does anybody have any remarks, comments, criticisms?
[17:51] <sverjans> I didn't see the lecture, so it's difficult to ask relevant questions...
[17:52] <Moderator> Ok, I will ask relevant questions, and you can give answers ;)
[17:52] <Moderator> DO you think the constitution is dead and buried?
[17:53] *** sverjans has left the chatbox
[17:54] <Moderator> And if it is dead, would you mind?

Venus Seminars
Prof. Stephen Downes
00:05:57
Discussion
Stephen Downes
Knowledge 2.0: Towards a Future
Knowledge Society
Please fill in the Evaluation Form
Februari 14th, 2007.
[20:48] Guest953 has left the chatbox.
[20:48] <sverjans> Formal knowledge = shared vocabulary?
[20:48] Guest850 has left the chatbox.
[20:48] <francescofedele> agree sverjans, but you end up by picking up the standard "view" of a city
[20:48] Guest360 has joined the chatbox.
[20:48] <Guest421> just wander around on first visit, or quickly drive through and get touched by something
and then come back and ask someone to guide you for some time and ...
[20:48] <Pierre Gorissen> I'm not in de back of the room! :-)

User list
Anna-Kaarina
Kairamo
apypen
calu
francescofedele
geerti
griens
Guest123



The technological point of view after – online platform > video lecture

Herbekijken

- video en presentatie
- presentatie

Abonneren

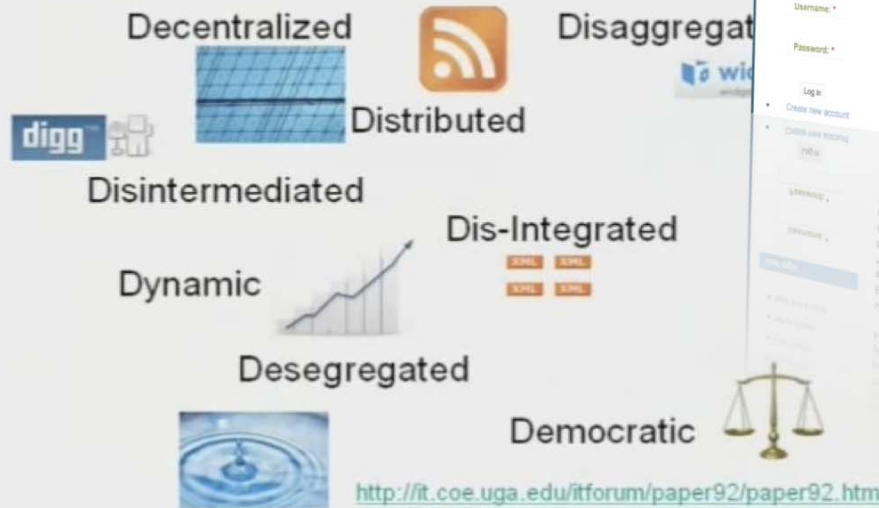
- video en presentatie via iTunes
- video en presentatie via RSS
- presentatie met audio via iTunes
- presentatie met audio via RSS



Prof. Stephen Downes
Knowledge 2.0
14-02-2007

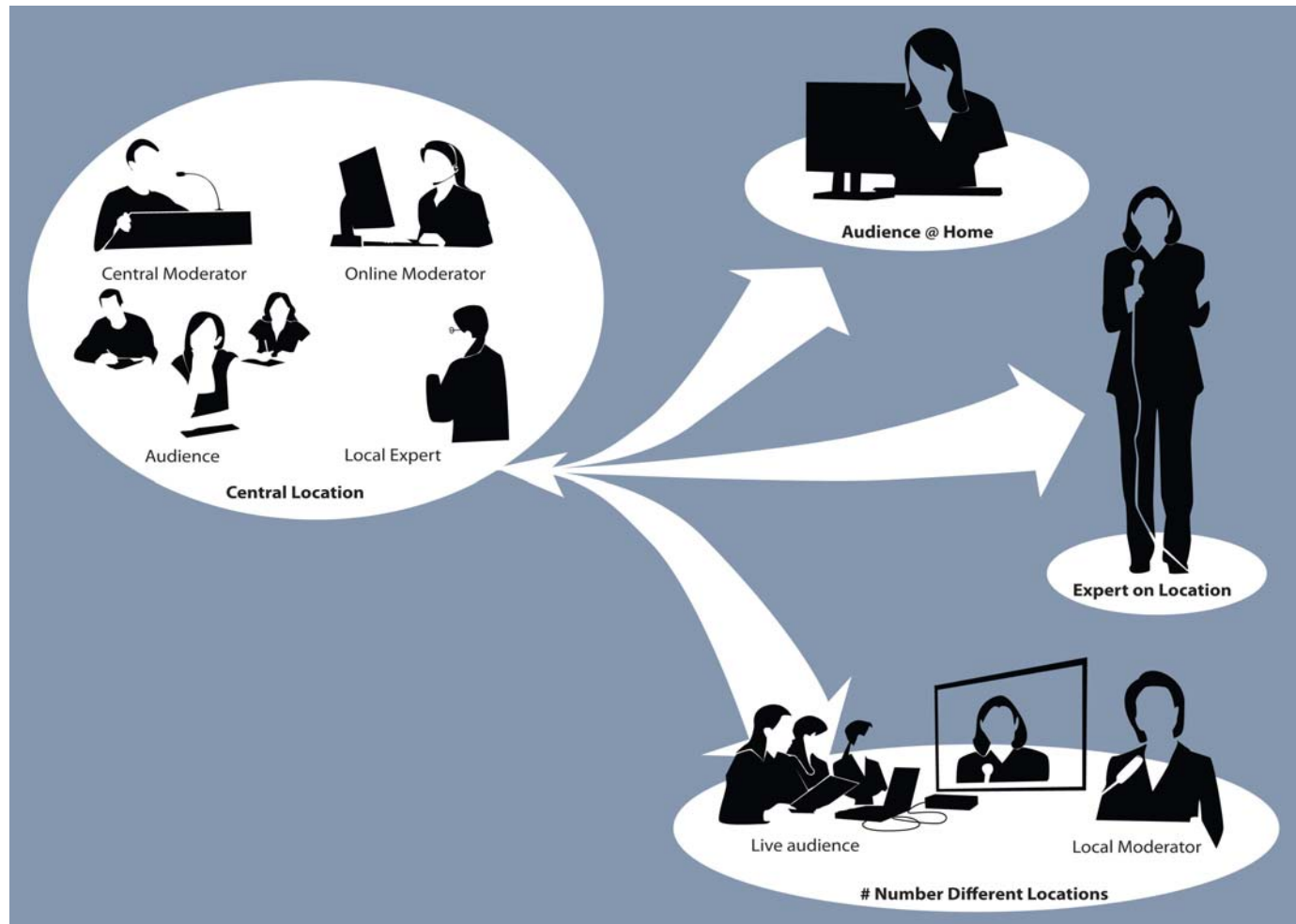
- Introduction
- Lecture
- Q & A

Effective networks are...





The organisational point of view



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The organisational point of view

Duration	Activity	By whom?
30min	(before start) Connection of all sites via VC and stand-by	Technical staff
10min	Introduction	Central moderator
25min	Lecture	International speaker
5min	Pause	
30min	Local discussions at all participating sites	Local moderator and local expert
40min	Open discussion with all sites on VC/online	Central moderator
10min	Concluding remarks	International speaker and central moderator
	Close session	



Handbook

- Handbook 'Virtual Seminars'
 - Model
 - Examples
 - Technical guidelines
 - Roles and tasks
 - Budget
 - Evaluation, accreditation





Example 2: virtual support initiatives

BEFORE

- Orientation guidelines
- Course information
- Pre-selection tools & student selection
- Preparatory courses (language, culture, digital literacy)



AFTER

- Virtual assessment and evaluation at a distance
- Virtual Alumni





Before > virtual buddy system

- A '**matchmaking service**' to link incoming students (before their arrival) with local students from KHLeuven
- to **support** the process of getting information about the cultural, educational and practical aspects of the exchange.
- Advantages not exclusive to incoming students
- Technology: website, e-mail, Skype, MSN



Before > virtual buddy system

KHLEUVEN

KATHOLIEKE HOGESCHOOL LEUVEN

KHLEUVEN
JE WERKT VOOR JE HET MERKT

--- KHLeuven Sites --- Go

actueel | KHLeuven praktisch | KHLeuven onderwijs | opleidingen | student | onderzoek | internationalisering | links | **english pages** | sitemap

KHLeuven > english pages > need a buddy |

english pages

- about Leuven
- about KHLeuven
- Erasmus programme for exchange students
- undergraduate studies
- need a buddy**

BLIJF OP DE HOOGTE

Zoeken

zoek

Quicklinks

- Portaal
- Bibliotheek
- Toledo
- Forum
- Fotoalbum
- Mail
- e-Joblijn
- Studentenportaal
- Sport
- Cultuur
- Straffe Studentenservice

First steps in Leuven? Ask for a Flemish Buddy

Are you afraid of feeling lost while arriving in Leuven? Would you like to have an answer to all your questions? Do you want to see more of Belgium than just your classroom?
For this academic year (2007-2008), you can **apply for a 'personal buddy'**: a Flemish student who will answer all your practical questions, who can guide you through Leuven and our way of life. Don't miss this unique opportunity! Interested? **Fill out the form at the bottom of this page** and a Flemish student will contact you. Maybe we won't be able to match all your given preferences, but we will try.

Need a buddy

* required

Family name *

First Name *

Birthday day month year dd/mm/yyyy *

Gender male female *

E-mailaddress *

Country *

Field of study at KHLeuven *

I will arrive in: *

would like to have a Flemish buddy

N/A

male

female

In the field of study

<http://www.khleuven.be/index.php?page=288>





Some reactions...

“This is an excellent way to enlarge your circle of friends and to develop friendships across borders.”

“A great way to get inside information about the country and the institution you are going to!”

“An Erasmus experience at home!”





After > E-assessment

- **Master European Social Security** (Faculty of Law)
 - one-year international study programme in English
 - Blends regular with distance learning
- **2007-2008**: need for oral examination at a distance
- Set-up of **e-assessment** through webconferencing



An impression...

07-01-08 Vasileios Tziakos - Master examination

⚡ snaps files urls chat list

00:34 Vasileios Tziakos
01:16 Vasileios Tziakos
03:31 Klaus
03:41 Vasileios Tziakos
03:49 Klaus
04:12 Klaus
04:16 Vasileios Tziakos
04:37 Klaus
04:49 Vasileios Tziakos
05:08 Klaus
06:05 Klaus
07:16 Vasileios Tziakos

Vasileios Tziakos

see URLs open snaps

00:01:24 ◀ 00:34 ▶ 01:10:08

Vasileios Tziakos
Paul
Klaus



Some reactions...

- Quality similar to F2F
- Recordings are added value
- F2F meeting for authentication
- The technology should disappear
- Time consuming
- Connectivity, crucial for timing



More information

- <http://vmbase.europace.org>
- Coming soon: manual on blended mobility



What did we learn?

- **Organisation**
 - Clear valuable tasks
 - Clear planning, clear roles, balanced timing
 - Agreements and legislations: tutoring conditions, (ac)creditation, languages, expectations (objectives, needs)
- **Pedagogy**
 - Didactical model?
 - Student motivation, loneliness
- **Technology**
 - E-literacy (support and training)
 - Access and interoperability ICT tools



Many thanks for listening!

Contact

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