



Higher Education Exploring ICT Use for Lifelong Learning HEXTLEARN Newsletter

February 2009

HEXTLEARN Actual

The HEXTLEARN network

You are invited to join the network and collaborate. Only few mouseclicks away an international community of Higher Education Institutions willing to share their experience related to using ICT!

In this community your will be able to:

- Get information and access to best practices on integration of ICT in teaching, learning and innovation in an academic environment;
- Share your understanding about quality management and strategies in teaching and training with ICTs;
- Add your word and be part of a community for experts and peer reviewers at European level in support of innovation and modernisation of Higher Education.

Activities in Progress

The partnership is now mapping ICT use in pedagogical, organisational or institutional context by collecting best practices and preparing for peer-reviews. Your institution is also invited.

Campus education, Corporate training, Continuing professional development, Adult education, Local and regional development, School teachers' training, Distance education, International (virtual) mobility and Prior Learning Assessment are the key areas for this **desk research in progress**. The partners established a mapping methodology to contact and invite institutions with relevant experience and share their experiences in the field.

To contribute with your best practice in one of the above fields, you are invited to visit and fill in the [online Express of Interest Form](#).

Peer review methodology for mapping ICT use in HEIs has been developed and will be used in the Higher Education Institutions. The dimensions of the peer-reviews will be established according to the needs of the institutions (e.g. an institutional or a small team's need to learn from others and improve/change the organization system approach).

If you are interested in participating in a peer review, please, contact [Begona Arenas](#).

Join us to discuss and share: If you feel that your institution has good practices to share, join the community and exchange experience! Visit and fill in the [online Express of Interest Form](#) and we add you to the contacts.

Project Diary

News from the HEXTLEARN Consortium

HEXTLEARN introduced: the project was invited to contribute to several recent conferences:

The Institutional development and technologies session of the "New Technology Platforms for Learning – Revisited" [Conference](#) was organised on 19-20 January, 2009 in Budapest on strengthening the integration of ICT research effort. The conference was the final conference of the FP6 project [LOGOS](#). The HEXTLEARN project was presented in the session about implementing lifelong learning strategy in the higher educational institutions. During the conference, several institutions expressed their interest in joining the HEXTLEARN community.

The [Institute of Applied Pedagogy and Psychology](#) of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics organised its yearly conference on Innovation in Education and Quality Development with the Strategic Integration of ICT on 21 November 2008 in Budapest. HEXTLEARN was presented in the session dedicated to Innovation in Education – Quality Development – Institutional Development.

Coming up: HEXTLEARN Seminar at the next EDEN Conference

The next time and place to meet the community: we will explore the variety of ICT use in Higher Education at the [EDEN 2009 ANNUAL CONFERENCE](#), 10-13 June, Gdansk, Poland

The workshop aims at being a meeting point for all the academic decision makers and practitioners interested on the quality in the use of ICT for teaching and learning. We will explore for following key demands in HEIs:

- What works in the Higher Education Institutions?
- Which constraints exist for the Institutions in the context of Lifelong Learning?
- Which strategies and which approaches are in place to ensure quality in Education in the use of ICT across those contexts?

News Channel – HEXTLEARN recommends

Creativity and Innovation conference and exhibition - Best practice from European Union programmes

The European Commission DG Education and Culture hosted [a conference and exhibition](#) entitled "Creativity and Innovation – Best practice from EU programmes" in Brussels on **2 and 3 March 2009**. Its aim was to demonstrate how DG EAC fosters creativity and innovation in its various fields and showcase projects which have been funded by several EU programmes. The electronic platform EVE, which facilitates the spread and exploitation of results arising from Directorate General Education and Culture's programmes and initiatives, was launched during the event.

Participation at the Conference is free of charge, but travel and accommodation will be at the participant's expense. Conclusions and Workshop presentations will be soon downloadable. The [programme](#) and list of participants is now available.

Current Research on E-learning Territories

In 2008 the [Learnovation project](#) partners have conducted a thorough research on 12 e-learning territories that compare the state of the art of the fields and the foreseen use of ICTs within them. In addition to a thoughtful analysis of selected characteristics and policies and the presentation of present challenges the studies also introduce a couple of success stories and good practices. The reports are soon going to be available on the [project's website](#).

Imagine. Create. Innovate.

The European Parliament declared the year 2009 to be the "European Year of Creativity and Innovation". [The Year](#) was inaugurated in January 2009 during a ceremony in Prague accompanied by a launch conference, where the [Ambassadors for the Year](#) presented a report on creativity and innovation in the EU. Their message is that investment in education and in the skills and creative capacity of Europe should be the top priority of EU institutions and governments. To follow the calls, latest events and activities of the European Year of Creativity and Innovation, visit <http://create2009.europa.eu>.

Buzzword: Networking

The networking plan of the HEXTLEARN project is based on The Art of Networking – European Networks in Education study which is a publication of the [EUOWEAVING project](#), co-funded by the Socrates programme. The project aimed at developing practice oriented guidance and training materials on how to design, plan and manage successful European networks in education. *Art of Networking* is a useful read for everybody who is getting familiarized with the notion of networking. A practical guide with strong theoretical background, available in English, German and French.

Second Stakeholders' Forum on EU cooperation in Education and Training

The European Commission, in partnership with the EUCIS-LLL platform, organised on 9 February in Brussels a Forum for broad consultation of the European Stakeholders representing civil society in preparation of the strategic framework for education and training. The theme was the European Commission Communication on "[An updated strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training](#)" and the 2009 European Year of Creativity and Innovation. Among the invited representatives, HEXTLEARN project partners ESU, FIM, EFQUEL, EDEN and EuroPACE contributed to the discussion.

A Finnish Key to Success: Using ICT for Innovation

The Finnish Government is on a mission to develop the world's best innovation system, in which universities play the leading role. Basic research, which is one of the cornerstones of Finnish success and the bedrock of the innovation system and innovation policy, is largely conducted in universities. As the flagship project in the reform, the new Finnish innovation university – the Aalto University – will lead the way and later on in many respects serve as an example for the other universities in Finland and internationally, as well. Learn more on this initiative by reading the [Finnish ICT Cluster Review 2009](#) (page 6-9)

The HEXTLEARN Website:
<http://zope.reu.pub.ro/hextlearn/>