



E.C.L.O.

European Consortium for the Learning Organisation

The Role of Mobile Learning in European Education



E.C.L.O., in partnership with SOL (Hungary), are pleased to invite you to participate to their 15th International Conference entitled

Never Stop Asking - The Age of LifeLong Learning

It will be held on Thursday 15th and Friday 16th May, 2008 at the internationally famous spa resort of the Hotel Gellert, Budapest, Hungary. A significant part of the conference is dedicated to hosting the dissemination of the Socrates funded project

The Role of Mobile Learning in European Education

The Project Objectives

Mobile learning is the provision of education and training on PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants), smartphones and mobile phones.

In July 2005 Ericsson announced that the number of mobile devices in the world reached 2 billion for the first time. They forecast that there would be 3 billion as early as 2010. This is for a world population of just over 6 billion. The British Broadcasting Corporation on 1 December 2004 announced that in its research of audience characteristics that the 16-24 age group 'regarded a mobile phone as a necessity not a luxury'. This is precisely the age grouping of the higher and further education market.

The objective of this project is to bring this unprecedented ownership of mobile devices into European education and training. For this reason the first target group is Commission decision makers and decision makers in the 25 EU states to whom the products of the project will be personally sent. Further target groups are the students and institutions in the partner countries, and eventually in the whole 25 countries. The problem is that students use their mobile phones constantly but not yet in their education.

The main activities, which will result in the products of the project, are: development of a policy document on the role of mobile learning, an overview of the role of mobile learning in the 25 states today, listing of achievements of mobile learning, pedagogical aspects of mobile learning, adapting ILT and e-learning materials to mobile learning, the development, adaptation, teaching and evaluation of mobile learning courseware for real students.

The Project Partners

Ericsson Education (Ireland)	Ericsson Education Ireland, as part of Global Services and Ericsson Education, is one of the leading providers of training solutions to the telecoms industry. These solutions create business value by enabling operators and service providers to develop and manage competence in an effective and efficient manner. In addition to a broad portfolio of courses, Ericsson Education provides a range of competence managed value-added services that can be customized to meet specific business needs.
Corvinno Technology Transfer Centre	Corvinno Technology Transfer Centre was born when a group of erudite people decided to create an organization that completely focuses on the exploitation of the gathered knowledge and experience. These people have demonstrated their aptitude and efficiency in leading organizations from the public and the private sector as the successors of the Technology Transfer Centre within the organisation of Corvinus University of Budapest since 1998. The common feature of Corvinno team is possessing a unique combination of innovation, management and technical expertise and above all sharing the same professional and ethical values. In accordance with the innovation life cycle, Corvinno is proud of leading prestigious research projects in the field of ICT, disseminating its results through conferences, publications and trainings, offering consultancy and solutions to its clients.
TecMinho University / Enterprise Association for Development	TecMinho, in Northern Portugal, is a university/enterprise development specialising in the training of SMEs in information and communication

(Portugal)	technologies, which has carried out extensive research and analysis in the fields of World Wide Web training and education provision in the nations of South America and in countries of Southern Europe.
NKI Bekkestua (Norway)	NKI Distance Education is with its 12,000 students (9000 students online) the largest distance education institution in Scandinavia. NKI was the first institution in Europe and one of the first world-wide to offer online learning. Mobile learning has since 2002 been part of the NKI distance education system. NKI Distance Education is a business unit within ABN Education, Norway's second largest educational corporation.
University of Plovdiv (Bulgaria)	The University of Plovdiv is one of Bulgaria's largest universities situated in Plovdiv, Bulgaria's second largest city. There are eight faculties of the University of Physics, Mathematics and IT, Chemistry, Biology, Economics and Social Sciences, Law, Languages and Literature, Education.
ECLO - European Consortium for the Learning Organisation (Belgium)	ECLO is a non profit making organisation registered in Belgium. ECLO operates as a multi-national network of companies, universities, NGOs and consultants with a common theme of learning. Learning in this context covers multiple disciplines including coaching and mentoring, e-learning, Knowledge Management, management and employee development, industrial regeneration etc.
DEIS - Department of the Cork Institute of Technology (Ireland)	DEIS Department of the Cork Institute of Technology will participate in the project as the official external evaluators of the project. They have an international reputation in educational evaluation, distance education evaluation and the evaluation of eLearning. DEIS is well placed for this role as much of the literature written by DEIS is evaluative in nature, and as it will be external to the project so it can play the role of an external evaluator.

The Conference Sessions

The Achievements of Mobile Learning Today	Desmond Keegan (IRL)
mLearning @ Corvinus University of Budapest	Gabor Kisminhok (HUN)
Integrating M-Learning within life long learning experiences	Ana Dias (PRT)
Enhancing the Flexibility of Distance learning through Mobile Learning	Aleksander Dye, Torstein Rekkedal (NOR)
Pedagogy of Mobile Learning	Ed O'Brien (IRL)
Title to be confirmed	Nevena Mileva (BUL)

In addition, we are hoping to arrange a hands-on Learning Experience Utilising Mobile Technologies. Delegates will be taken by bus to the Castle District of Buda, where they will Exercise an M-Learning Module from the Arts Faculty of Corvinus University (Budapest). This will provide a Practical Demonstration of the Context Sensitive Nature of Mobile Learning.

Other LifeLong Learning issues that will be addressed during this conference are

- Fostering Sustainable Learning
- Emerging Tools and Approaches that will shape the future of LLL
- LLL and it's Impact on Society
- Standards and Qualifications in the Context of LLL
- National Perspectives on LLL from France, USA and Hungary

HOW DO I REGISTER?

Visit the conference website from our home page www.eclo.org or contact Jim Jack (jim.jack@eclo.org) if you have any questions.