



E.C.L.O.

European Consortium for the Learning Organisations

Communication to the Mobile Learning Special Interest Group 2

April 2007

The E-Learner

The Editor for April 2007 is Jim Jack (E.C.L.O. Treasurer)

New Members

I am delighted to be able to inform you that in April we welcomed 2 new members to E.C.L.O.

Corporate Member - Paragon Europe (Malta)

Paragon Europe Ltd. is a project-based enterprise formed by a group of Maltese experts, with a vision to raise awareness of, and participate in EU-funded programmes, and to provide a link between foreign partners, the local public and private sectors, and such programmes. To realise this, Paragon Europe provides consultancy services on European Union projects, knowledge economy tools and business services to both local and foreign clients. The firm has the capability to act as a consultant, promoter, project manager or participant in EU-funded, and other trans-national projects. In this context Paragon Europe utilises its networks of international experts in the administrative, financial technical, business development and research fields.

Paragon Europe works closely with public and private organisations to define their position, identify opportunities available and seek the appropriate source of funding, at a European level to make such opportunities happen. Paragon's prime objective is to facilitate the initiation, development and successful completion of business ventures in projects. Their involvement covers all stages of projects from the early project planning stages through to the project implementation.

Paragon Europe is a Maltese company and was established in January 2005 following Malta's accession to the EU in May 2004. Our services are primarily directed towards the encouragement of SME's ambition to increase their

competitiveness in the EU and other international markets by capitalising or funding opportunities. E.C.L.O. membership will help Paragon to seek for international partners needed to create consortia for particular projects. We are very involved in FP7 calls and would like to conduct a number of projects in this field. Your successful projects under FP6 proved that you are a perfect partner to cooperate with.

Associate Member - CJ Robison (USA)

Cynthia Jean, but prefers to be known as CJ, has always worked in training for global organizations - beginning as a facilitator, moved to instructional design work, and is now consulting with organizations on their strategy to move from a learning group in one region to a global learning organization. She tries to keep involved in the latest trends and challenges in the regions and feels that E.C.L.O. might be a good group to join for a community of practice.

FREE Book for E.C.L.O. Members

Thanks to the generosity of our partners in the EU funded project, "The Role of Mobile Learning in European Education" I am able to offer you a FREE copy of their book entitled "Mobile Learning – A Practical Guide". This is a hands-on, how-to-do-it guide for education and training institutions who wish to introduce mobile learning. Mobile Learning is defined as the provision of education and training on mobile devices : PDAs, smartphones and mobile phones.

The book consists of 19 chapters covering the following sections

- The Use of Mobile Devices in Educational Administration
- The Use of SMS Messages in Teaching and Learning
- The Use of Mobile Technologies for Teaching and Learning
- Goals for Mobile Learning Course Development
- Examples of Successful Mobile Course Development

If you would like to receive your FREE copy, send me an email and I will either mail it to you or bring it to Glasgow if you plan to go.

The Role of Mobile Learning in European Education

One of our partners in the above EU funded project is NKI Distance Education of Norway. NKI is one of Europe's largest provider of distance education with more than 14,000 students. Morten Flate Paulsen is Professor of Online Education and was recently interviewed by EdNews, a major online newspaper that claims to be "Internet's No 1 Source of Educational News and Information".

The focus of the interview is his theory of cooperative freedom in online education. If you would like to read his article follow this link

<http://www.ednews.org/articles/10626/1/An-Interview-with-Morten-Flate-Paulsen-Focusing-on-His-Theory-of-Cooperative-Freedom-in-Online-Education/Page1.html>

HRD and VET Research in Europe

With Thanks to Sabine Manning of WIFO

In the series on mapping HRD and VET research across Europe, a new study is available which presents thematic patterns derived from a project analysis. You can find the full text both as a web presentation and a PDF document for downloading on the page below:

Thematic patterns [_<http://www.b.shuttle.de/wifo/vet-hrd/patterns.htm>](http://www.b.shuttle.de/wifo/vet-hrd/patterns.htm)

This study is based on a selection of R&D projects compiled from 23 EU countries. It offers new insight into European HRD and VET research by

- * contrasting 'old' and 'new' EU countries with regard to their HRD and VET research patterns
- * presenting a thematic 'landscape' of HRD and VET research in comparison between national projects and EU supported projects;
- * providing an empirically based structure showing the relations between HRD and VET research areas.

The study has been prepared by the Research Forum WIFO for Cedefop, as part of the European Research Overview (ERO), drawing on country reports produced by experts cooperating in the Cedefop network ReferNet. The major outcomes of these country reports have been published in a synopsis which includes the selection of projects which have been analysed in the study. You can find details of these projects by following the steps below:

- > Go to Synopsis/ Grid [_<http://www.b.shuttle.de/wifo/vet-hrd/=grid.htm>](http://www.b.shuttle.de/wifo/vet-hrd/=grid.htm)
- > Find column [3] Issues/ projects
- > Select a country and click the link [3] leading to section 3: Annex
- > View list of projects (including links leading to full details in the ERO Base)

More information on the background of this collaborative research, coordinated by Cedefop, can be obtained from the newly updated web pages presenting the European Research Overview (ERO) and the Cedefop Research Arena (Cedra):

ERO [_<http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Projects_Networks/Ero/>](http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Projects_Networks/Ero/)

Cedra [_<http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Projects_Networks/Cedra/>](http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Projects_Networks/Cedra/)