

PROWE

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Personal Repositories Online Wiki Environment

An investigation of use of online personal repositories within **Wiki** and **Blogs** by part-time tutors for sharing and storing resources

Summary

Exploring an innovative informal environment to support collaboration and learning amongst part-time tutors on distance education programmes. Informal repositories such as Wiki and Blogs will be used to engage these users in interacting with other repositories within the context of two large distance education providers, The Open University and The University of Leicester.

Outputs

- A demonstrator community of practice based on Wiki and Weblogs.
- A Repository Management Toolkit for sharing good practice and guidelines on integration of informal networks.
- A report on piloting of the demonstrator and the toolkit.
- Tools for storing and sharing resources such as case studies, accounts of action research, personal library resources, personal development plans and portfolios.
- An extensible Metadata Application Profile for 'E-Learning Professional Development' for use within personal and informal repositories.
- An evaluation report including two use cases and a critical examination of the potential of these tools.

Outcomes

- To inform the educational community regarding the role of personal digital repositories within a social network supporting learning and the related cultural issues and impediments to their use.
- To enhance the quality of teaching and learning through better prepared teaching staff.
- To improve the uptake of shared resources.
- To make available the toolkit and the learning to other communities of practice e.g. those reliant on discussion lists.

Benefits

The Project's use of new ICT tools which encourage communication and both formal and informal repositories will support and develop a networked community of practice. The project's outputs will be transferable to any group in the FE/HE sector, enabling them to enhance teaching and learning quality and improve the uptake of shared resources.

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