



HoTEL Holistic Approach to
Technology Enhanced Learning

Hosting Innovators, Rooms for Success.

Summer 2013
Newsletter

HoTEL (Holistic approach to Technology Enhanced Learning)

HoTEL is a support action of the Seventh Framework Programme which aims to design, develop and test a support model for innovation in the area of Technology Enhanced Learning.

The assumption based on which the project was conceived is that the innovation cycle (idea -> prototype -> test -> innovation -> market) in the field of TEL is so long that it seldom leads to exploitable innovations and often traps potentially disruptive innovations into the chronological limits of EU-funded projects in the field.

HoTEL tries to address this challenge by designing and testing an innovation support model (specific for TEL) in three labs – the HoTEL Learning Exploratoria – that will be officially launched in September 2013. The Learning Exploratorium Labs will act in the field of adult learning covering respectively: the higher education setting, the corporate setting, the informal learning setting within professional networks.

To learn more about the project please go to <http://hotel-project.eu>



Emerging Technologies Landscape in the field of TEL

One of the objectives of HoTEL is to provide an overview of technologies already in use, or successfully piloted, that are believed to have an impact on learning in the coming decade. A first approach to this overview, Emerging Technologies Landscape Report 1, is now publicly available and can be downloaded from the project website: <http://hotel-project.eu/content/d112-emerging-technologies-landscape-report>

The first step has been to carry out desk and field research, identifying and clustering emerging technologies researched and developed within the EU. We have then individuated areas of learning where these technologies can be applied, and spotted generic ICT that can be – among other uses – used to support learning.

Finally, the report assesses the relevance of those technologies and their possible impact on the learning practices in each of the educational sectors addressed by HoTEL (higher education, corporate training, and informal learning). Our analysis also took into consideration visions gathered during personal interviews with 25 experts in different technological areas and in Technology Enhanced Learning.

The open call for TEL innovators gives voice to finest innovations – and the people behind them

The Open call aims at spotting "innovations" which deal with concrete technology-enhanced learning activities: ideas, research results, teaching practices, and any other innovation that deal with using ICT for education at large.

The most interesting innovations will be validated and tested from October 2013 within three virtual Laboratories (Learning Exploratorium Labs) in the fields of Higher Education, Corporate learning and Informal learning through professional networks, that HoTEL project has set up.

The objective of the exercise is to transform bright new ideas and research results into mainstream practices and to disseminate them throughout Europe.

The possibility of testing "innovation" in real world settings through the Laboratories is only of the appealing features of the call. The Open Call is also a great opportunity to showcase one's own creativity and invented solutions to a large audience of innovation experts and stakeholders .

Don't miss the announcement of the selected innovations on October 1st!

The call has closed BUT you can keep in touch by joining the TEL Innovation Laboratory LinkedIn group which will be the hub for related discussion: <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/TEL-Innovation-Laboratory-5044261/about>

Good Practice of Innovative Applications of Learning Theories in TEL

At Brunel University, Richard Millwood has been working on a review of Learning Theories as part of the deliverable D2.2.1 – 'Report on Good Practice of Innovative Applications of Learning Theories in TEL'

The work was produced as a hypertextual concept map using CMap Tools with links to Wikipedia and InFed for further detail and references: <http://goo.gl/twtmr>

Here is an extract from the full report:

"Learning theory has been a contested scientific field for most of its history, with conflicting contributions from many scientific disciplines, practice and policy positions. With the continuing and disruptive influence of technology on information, knowledge and practice in all sectors of society it is no wonder that innovators, drawn to the interactive potential that computers bring to learning, are challenged by the theoretical basis for their innovations.

Formal education is also a high stakes, culturally & institutionally conservative activity, which serves more than one societal purpose, including:

- learner development and fulfilment;
- child care;
- preparation for citizenship, parenthood and retirement;
- preparation for work;
- selection for jobs.

Even in the higher, informal and professional sectors of education, complexity of education is matched by complexity of learning outcomes which may include:

- skills development;
- knowledge acquisition;
- improvement in strategic, analytic and creative capacities;
- attainment of competence;
- establishment of attitudes and values.

Each of these societal purposes and these learning outcomes demand different approaches and understandings for the theorist and may develop at varying rates or found to be diverse in relation to context, location and culture."

The map has produced considerable interest and some of the comments on Richard's blog at <http://blog.richardmillwood.net/2013/05/10/learning-theory> enhance the discussion with useful updates and perspectives.



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