Beyond MOOCs: Recent Trends in Open Education

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Ruhr West University of Applied Sciences

Mülheim/Bottrop

JYVÄSKYLÄ
Hochschule Ruhr West
Ruhr West University of Applied Sciences

History
• Founded in 2009
• Public institution, regional development
• 2600 students, 60 professors and growing 😊
• Western Ruhr area (Bottrop, Mülheim)

Focus Areas
• Civil Engineering
• Business Administration – International Trade Management & Logistics
• Mechatronics
• Human-Machine-Interaction
• Business Information Systems
• Master Programme Business Administration
Business Information Systems@HRW

Focus areas
• Business Information Systems
• Process Management
• Supporting globally distributed workgroups
• Open Educational Resources
• Reference Modeling

E-Learning
• Supporting international education settings
• Cultural adaptation
• Standardization & Quality Management
• Mobile & Ambient Learning
• Innovative tools and solutions

Some of my previous projects
• EAGLE: E-Learning in Public Administration
• Play4Guidance: Business Games for Entrepreneurs
• Open Educational Ideas and Innovations (OEI2)
• Nordic Open Education Alliance
• OpenDiscoverySpace: OER for Schools
• OpenScout: OER for Management
Open Education

• Open Education contains concepts and approaches allowing and providing free access, re-use and adaptation of educational artefacts using an appropriate license

• Amongst them...
  – Open Educational Resources: Learning Objects, Simulations, ...
  – Open Educational Practices: Scenarios, Lesson Plans, Experiences
  – Open Access: Publications
  – Open Source: Systems and tools, e.g. LMS, authoring, ...
The current situation

- Only marketing or recruitment tool
- No true openness = re-usability
- Drop outs
- Didactically poor approaches
- Trends towards commercial use
- Massive Open Online Colonialism...
- Lack of quality = fitness for context
- Barriers
  - Lack of policies
  - Lack of knowledge
  - Lack of rewards / recognition
  - Lack of contributing users
  - Lack of sustainable networks

Picture Sources:
(2) http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/b/b3/OERLogo.png
....MOOCs are not open, Open Education does not work....

...so how to realize those ambitious and valuable concepts?
Re-Thinking Open Education

• From one way transfer and export to **mutual collaboration**

• Make resources **truly open**

• **Focus on quality**
  – Contents
  – Didactical scenarios
  – Added value

• Start from **requirements**

• Do not share with everybody...create like-minded **networks**
OE Processes / Lifecycle

- Imperfect Design
- Idea Sharing
- Find collaborators
- Find (curated) OER
- Validate OER
- Negotiate Licensing
- Collaborative Development / Virtual Mobility
- Collaboratively develop OER
- Improvement Reputation Management
- Create Improvement Ideas
- Create and share OER and OEP
- Run courses
- Test OER
- Collaborative Teaching

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sharing Space</th>
<th>Repository</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tool Library</td>
<td>Social Network</td>
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Focus on collaboration

- Create small but trusted networks
- Provide collaboration and networking tools instead of repositories
- Bring people together with similar requirements and needs
- Develop internationalization / adaptation / contextualization tools
A short sample

- Collaborative Development for course on E-Learning

- Bachelor students, computer science / human-technology interaction, 6th semester

- No background in educational sciences, strong in programming / development

- Collaboration setting and roles
  - University professor
  - Practitioner
  - Community
  - Students

http://www.idea-space.eu/
Further Barriers and Solutions

• Lack of policies
  – Create policies for public institutions and publically funded projects!

• Organizational barriers
  – Create rewarding systems (OER as part of tenure processes or performance measurements)

• Individual barriers
  – Create immediate benefits
  – Provide trainings and experiences

• Tools
  – From repositories to social environments
  – More research on global collaborations
  – Support tools: translation, contextualization, design adaptation
Implications and Follow-Up

- MOOCs are useful but only as part of Open Education scenarios (if, and only if they are truly open!)

- Open Education needs to be supported
  - Politically
  - Organizationally
  - Individually

- Let us create the future of Open Education, not following the main-stream!
Thank you for listening!

Questions? Comments?
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