'Mobile learning: Crossing boundaries in convergent environments' Conference

March 21st to 22nd, 2011, Bremen (Germany)

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The 'Mobile learning: Crossing boundaries in convergent environments' Conference builds on a series of mobile learning research symposia hosted by the WLE Centre for Excellence at the Institute of Education, University of London between 2007 and 2009. It will focus on the challenges of developing new pedagogic approaches and on the potential of mobile devices for learning in formal and informal contexts. As mobile learning is not only about learning with mobile technologies, but also considered to be "new" learning, the conference will look at challenges for research and practice in understanding the changing social and technological structures allowing the use of technology for learning that are present in our personal lives, in school and in work places. Thus mobile learning crosses the boundary of institutional learning and looks at practical fields like work-based learning and medicine, too. Also, the conference will look at the latest developments in hardware and software which can support personalised learning. By focusing on theory and practice, development and use, teaching and learning, formal and informal contexts, the conference intends to offer spaces for researchers, practitioners, developers, the industry and policy makers to exchange ideas, experiences and research around issues and approaches to mobile learning, including sociological and educational issues and their effectiveness and desirability as learning spaces as well as the design of environments.

The conference is preceded by the **EduCamp**, a BarCamp for people interested in media and learning, which will take place in Bremen from March 19-20, 2011. In collaboration with **MirandaNet**, the conference is running a **MirandaMod** on March 21-22, 2011 which addresses teachers and practitioners who are interested in teaching and learning with new technologies.

The conference is hosted by the University of Bremen, run by the Department for Media Education and Design of Multimodal Learning Environments and by the Institute Technology and Education (ITB) in association with the London Mobile Learning Group (LMLG), Pontydysgu and MirandaNet.

ABOUT MOBILE LEARNING

Recent years have seen an increasing interest in the potential of mobile learning: Project orientated research, theory building, technological developments and pedagogically informed approaches to mobile technologies in a range of educational and work-based contexts are evidence for a fast growing discipline. The current transformations in social and technological structures, changing cultural practices of learning as well as changing institutional cultures pose new challenges for learning - be it institutional (e.g. school, university) or work-based, formal or informal. Mobile, networked media play an increasingly important role for meaning-making and appropriation in users' life-worlds which calls for new understandings in, and approaches to formal learning. As mobile devices offer flexible access to the internet and communication tools for learning within and outside of the classroom, and as they support learning experiences that are personalised as well as collaborative, accessible and integrated within the world beyond the classroom, mobile learning can open up new contexts for learning, with ubiquitous connectivity allowing interactive and connected learning in school and university, in the workplace, in the home and in the community. As for technological developments, the rise of an 'app culture' marks a large commercial market, driving a new wave of creativity in the design of learning applications.

REGISTRATION

Registration for the conference is open from October 31st, 2010 to March 6th, 2011.

IMPORTANT DATES

October 31, 2010: submission opens
January 7, 2011: submission closes
March 6, 2011: registration closes
March 21-22, 2011: conference

Further **dates**, **deadlines** and **information** can be accessed via http://bremen.londonmobilelearning.net.

Universität Bremen

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