



Media in Education News

Media & Learning Conference in Brussels 25-26 November 2010



The Media & Learning Brussels 2010 Conference is being organised in collaboration with the Flemish

Ministry of Education and the European Commission Directorate-General for Education and Culture and will take place in the Flemish Ministry of Education Headquarters in Brussels to coincide with the Belgian Presidency of the European Union on 25-26 November.

This conference entitled **Media & Learning: towards the era of digital fluency** will take place alongside the MEDEA Awards and will focus on three key themes; digital and media skills and competences, fostering the creation of media-based resources at all levels of education and training and use and re-use of existing media resources in education and training. The call is open for you to submit proposals to give presentations, demonstrations and/or workshops at this conference. The closing date for submissions is 1 June 2010. More information is available from the conference website at: <http://www.media-and-learning.eu>

Report on Finnish Media Education available

A recently published [report](#), **Finnish Media Education Policies**, makes interesting reading for those interested in hearing more about how Finland incorporates media education into educational provision from early childhood education through to universities and teacher training. Published by the Finnish Society on Media Education, it provides recent guidelines and practical and very concrete information about how media education is organised in Finland as well as a wealth of links to Finnish organisations and agencies active in this arena.



Schools use video to record their work with robots



Robot@School was a project funded by the Italian Ministry of Education for the 2005/2006 with the aim of building a national network of schools involved in educational robotics. It was

managed by the [School of Robotics](#) which has continued to support the project. The project now involves almost 100 Italian schools which all are connected through the [Robot@School platform](#). The project team argue that learning about robotics is important not only for those students who want to become robotics engineers and scientists, but for every student, because it provides a strong method of reasoning and a powerful tool for grappling with the world. Images and videos of the robots created by pupils are available on the project [blog](#).



NEN provides schools with access to multimedia materials



The [National Educational Network](#) is a collaborative network of regional education within the UK, providing reliable broadband connections, a safe, secure and reliable learning environment and direct access to a growing range of online services and digital content. Examples include the following resources:

[Unlocking the Archives](#) which brings together three of the UK's most prestigious collections: the National Archives, the British Film Institute and English Heritage. It also includes [British Pathe](#) enabling schools to download video from over 3500 hours of historic news clips.

Electronic music & ICT to reach young people at risk of exclusion



The European Commission (Lifelong Learning Programme) supported project E-MOTION is piloting an innovative informal learning approach based on music and ICTs to encourage young people to re-start learning activities. The pedagogical approach taken by the project team combines creativity, fun and the acquisition of key competences particularly in the area of mathematics, sciences and ICT. It aims to offer young potential drop-outs a concrete opportunity to reconnect to learning. The project partners from Italy, UK, Romania and Spain have set themselves an ambitious plan of action which includes research and analysis, piloting and evaluation and eventually dissemination of the outcomes of their work. Visit the project [website](#) to find out more about this project.



Results of study on creativity and innovation in schools

The preliminary results of a recent online survey of around 10,000 teachers from the 27 Member States of the European Union, about their opinions concerning creativity in schools have been published. In this study it is clear that European teachers believe that creativity is a fundamental competence to be developed at school and that Information and Communication Technologies can enhance creativity. An overwhelming majority of teachers also believe that creativity can be applied to every domain of knowledge and to every school subject. However, despite this, this report also finds that the conditions for favouring creativity are not always available in European schools. [Read more.](#)



Dutch information event about iTunes U

Apple is organising an iTunes U information event for the Dutch education community on 1 April. [iTunes U](#) is part of the iTunes Store and one of the world's largest collections of free educational materials for students, teachers, alumni and other interested parties. There are now 600 active customers worldwide with an iTunes U site. It takes place from 10.00 to 16.30 in the Apple Briefing Center in Amsterdam. Places are limited. To find out more and to register, go to this [site](#).

Featured Article

Online survey of educators' selection and use of video clips in their classrooms

In November 2009, we announced the launch of a survey being carried out by the [University of Hull](#) in the UK into the use of video in education.



We asked Kevin Burden who is leading this survey to let us know what the findings of the survey have been so far.



"Judging from the popularity of YouTube and its many imitators, there appears to be an insatiable appetite amongst teachers for the use of digital video. However, surprisingly little is known about how teachers use this kind of media object as a teaching resource, and even less about the criteria they use (if any) to select it. The



[EduTubePlus](#) video library project is one response to this issue and

staff from the University of Hull have led and co-ordinated the selection criteria strand which seeks to identify a common set of principles and criteria by which users to the library can identify video clips.

As a result of this work researchers from the University of Hull are currently completing a separate international online survey to identify how educators currently select the video clips they use in class and how they use them. Between October 2009 and January 2010 the research team collected responses from 467 respondents across the world, including a significant proportion from Europe. The results of this survey are currently being analysed and will be published later in the year. At this point in time it is interesting to note that many of the features which form the basis of the EduTubePlus selection criteria seem to be reflected in the patterns of use found in the survey sample. These include:

- A strong emphasis on the use of short clips rather than full length movies or programmes
- General support for video clips which engage and motivate learners, especially at the start of teaching sessions
- The importance of video as a teaching medium for modern foreign language teachers

In the next phase of analysis the research team are aiming to investigate how the selection of video by respondents correlates with other factors such as their teaching subject; phase; age; pedagogical beliefs and ICT literacy. It is hoped a more nuanced understanding of these various factors, allied to a stronger empirical base, will enable providers of these services, such as the EduTubePlus consortium, to identify more appropriate resources and support materials for their use in class. It is also anticipated that the final results of the survey will help to inform practitioners who currently use video clips, or are interested in doing so, to use a more varied and stimulating range of pedagogical methodologies in order to challenge learners. Full details and results from the survey (including the winner for the survey prize!) will be available on the EduTubePlus and University of Hull's websites shortly."

MEDEA News

Featured winner 2009: Traditions across Europe

Traditions across Europe, created by the school Istituto Comprensivo "Don Bosco" in Southern Italy, is one of the 2009 MEDEA Award winners having won the European Collaboration Award.





Gina Mango

We asked Gina Mango, one of the teachers leading this project in the school to tell us more about this award winning entry.

“The Istituto Comprensivo “Don Bosco” is located in Francavilla in Sinni, in the Basilicata region in the South of Italy, and includes infant, primary and first grade secondary schools. Over the last five years

we have worked to computerise the Institute. This means that in almost all the schools there are now information and language laboratories which are available for teachers and students to use. In the last year, we have also introduced several interactive multimedia whiteboards.

In the “A. Ciancia” Primary School, where “Traditions Across Europe” was developed, there are now two information laboratories. This is where students can, using ICT, create projects related to various subjects. In the information lab they use the internet to search for information and images and they use Google and YouTube to integrate video into their different curricular activities as well as Word to write different texts and Paint to produce images. In the Language Lab they use the internet to learn the English Language using online games, email, blogs and videoconferences to carry out eTwinning projects with partners from different countries. They also use tools like Windows Movie Maker, Power Point and Slide Maker, to produce videos with images and drawings related to various subject activities to share with other project partners in English.

We met the “Traditions Across Europe” partners Liliana Mihalachi from Romania and Thomas Duggan and Joe Molloy from Ireland in December 2007 while they were collaborating in another eTwinning project and we



The Traditions Across Europe Blog

decided together to start this new project. During the planning and creation phase we had plenty of contact by email as well as videoconferences and began the project in earnest on 2 February 2008. During the project we continued to interact through a blog which was created for this purpose, where students and teachers sent work and where they shared, commented and compared everything. The children and teachers also had a lot of contact via email and letter exchange as well as videoconference with the Churchfields Primary School in the UK, a partner in a previous project.



Gina, her colleague Carmelo Mario Martino and the students with the MEDEA Medal

The students who produced all our work on the blog have now

moved onto the Secondary school, but we will continue our work on “Traditions Across Europe” and on other blogs and eTwinning projects with a new class. As they are very young (first class), we’re mostly using videos combined with photos, however we also use drawings which they make and to which we add their commentaries. We also integrate small Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) activities about traditions in English, consolidating, in this way, subject knowledge and local traditions at the same time as language learning.”

You can also view a MEDEA Showcase about Traditions Across Europe [online](#).

National contact point in Austria

The Information Design Department at the Fachhochschule JOANNEUM, in Austria is a national contact point for MEDEA in Austria. Prof Maja Pivec who leads this NCP is actively promoting the idea of innovation in education within Austria and Europe-wide through her academic and research activities. We asked Maja to tell us more about her work and how she has been promoting MEDEA amongst her network.



Prof Maja Pivec

FH JOANNEUM [“FH JOANNEUM - University of Applied Sciences](#) has currently 36 career-oriented degree programmes

in the four subject areas of Health Sciences, Information, Design & Technologies, International Business, and Life, Building, Environment and one Postgraduate programme in the area of management. FH JOANNEUM is one of Austria’s leading universities of applied sciences. International cooperation and exchange programmes with partner universities help to maintain the international profile of FH JOANNEUM. The Degree program for Information Design within FH JOANNEUM is the national contact point for the MEDEA awards in Austria.



What is Information Design? Information Design ensures that the right information is presented to the right people at the right time, comprehensible and easy to handle. Information designers are experts in the visual representation of information. They are the people who plan and optimise communication processes in the print and audiovisual media and in the new media based on digital technologies. More information on activities and student projects of the department can be found on our [website](#).

Part of the activities carried out at the Information Design is focused on the research, development and application of innovative learning approaches; game-based learning is being one of them. How to spark the creativity of young talents and some of



their excellent work is documented in the video of a [Role Play of Game Design course](#) taken by Bachelor of Information Design University students at FH JOANNEUM.



[ENGAGE](#) is an international portal on game-based learning where such innovative approaches can be shared with other practitioners. The portal also fosters dialogue amongst teachers and practitioners, game-design students and game industry around the topic of game-based learning. Activities for students will culminate in the [Game Design Summer School](#) organised in August 2010 in Spain. [The ENGAGE project and portal](#) is financed by the EC LLP program.

I have been promoting MEDEA in the way I normally promote such initiatives by trying to “cross fertilise” everything that I do. This means that I have distributed information about MEDEA to national and international networks of people that I work with, like in the project ENGAGE and with other projects. I also promote MEDEA at relevant conferences like [F.R.O.G.](#) and via ministerial institutions, for example, the [Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft, Familie und Jugend, Bundesstelle für die Positivprädikatisierung von Computer- und Konsolenspielen.](#)”

Growing MEDEA YouTube Channel



Have you visited the [MEDEA YouTube Channel](#) yet? If not, then we would like to really encourage you to do so. This channel includes recorded interviews with the 2009 award winners, finalists and participants in the Highly Commended category as well as excellent examples of media use in education and is building into a really useful resource for practitioners and experts alike. You can embed the interviews on your own website or blog and by logging in you can subscribe to our channel, rate the interviews and let us know what you think of them by adding your own comments.

Related Award Schemes and Events

SciCast submission deadline in April

Planet SciCast, one of the MEDEA2009 finalists, is an online repository that shares videos, sent in by children and adults in the UK, related to Science,



Technology, Engineering or Maths (STEM) and awards the best videos in the annual SciCast Film Awards. The deadline for submissions to the SciCast Awards 2010 is Friday 16th April 2010. The Awards Ceremony will be held shortly before the summer break. Find out more from the Planet SciCast [website](#).

Game Based Learning Conference 2010



GBL 2010: Video Games, Social Media & Learning takes place in London, UK 29 – 30 March and is all set to explore how video games, digital and social media are having a positive impact on learning while developing essential skills that learners and the industry require to compete in the 21st century. Find out more from the conference [website](#).

Learning on Screen Conference 2010

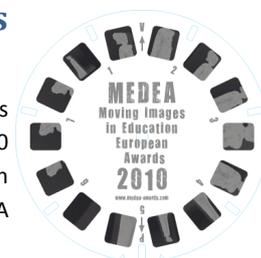
This annual event takes place in [learning on screen 2010](#) 27th - 28th April Milton Keynes, UK on 27-28 April

2010 and is organised by the British Universities Film and Video Council. This year conference participants will explore; how to take lecture capture beyond the mundane? how best to use video conferencing and online meeting spaces in teaching, assessment and collaboration while retaining the energy of live discussion? how can existing resources be reused and released openly and sustainably? and how ‘open’ can universities afford to be with course content that may be subject to licensing and copyright? Find out more from the conference [website](#).

MEDEA Secretariat

Leaflets and posters available

If you would like to receive leaflets and/or posters promoting MEDEA 2010 which are available in French, German and English, please [contact](#) the MEDEA Secretariat.



Contact information

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