THE EDUCATIONAL MODELLING LANGUAGE IN PRACTICE: INDIVIDUALISATION OF CONTENT

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ABSTRACT

The application of the educational modeling language for individualised teaching and learning is demonstrated.

KEYWORDS

Educational Modeling Language, Web-Didactics, Individual Navigation, Teaching and Learning Models, University

1. INDIVIDUALISATION OF STANDARDISED CONTENT WITH EML

The twofold individualisation while using learning objects from a content repository in the beginning phase of a study programme for students of education is demonstrated. About 700 students in 23 lectures and seminars use content from a repository with 1.500 learning objects. The learning objectives for the beginning phase in the study programme of education in our university are basic concepts of education and basic principles of scientific work. Due to the large number of students there are two parallel lectures and 20 parallel seminars. This lends itself to a content repository with learning objects. While the learning objectives are the same for all seminars and the lectures, the actual content and the syllabus for each course are set up by the individual teacher.

Thus a knowledge base with standardised learning objects that supports adaptation while setting up individualised courses was needed. We used the Educational Metadata Language (EML) (Swertz 2004, Meder 2006) to design and describe the content. With the aid of the educational metadata vocabulary teachers set up their individualised courses. The same metadata are used by students for individualised navigation. The standardisation of the knowledge in the content repository is individualised twice, while the interplay between standardisation and individualisation is understood as a hidden learning objective.

The EML is basically a metadata vocabulary to describe teaching and learning models (covering models from behaviourists, cognitivists, constructivists and connectionists). EML provides a vocabulary on three levels: Media types, knowledge types and relation types between topics. EML guides producers to design learning objects and supports individual navigation by the learner.

REFERENCES

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