

September 06 e-Learning circular

Technology supported learning environments:
demonstrators supporting user owned technologies

- Up to 4 projects which demonstrate the use of personal learning environments and explore the issues around the integration of user-owned technologies with institutionally-owned educational systems.
- March 2007 - March 2009
- Total of £400,000 available for this work
- Up to £100,000 per project

- The aim of the projects funded under this section is to gain a better understanding of the implications for HE institutions of the wide-scale adoption of user-owned technologies by their learners and staff. In particular, an understanding is sought of how education providers can effect a transition from being the primary providers of technology tools to being a provider of technology services that support personally-owned and managed tools.

i3

I have added one of the points from the second context slide, then deleted context slide 2 - i think you have made all the key main points here on this one.

ishjw, 04/10/2006

- Projects will be expected to implement a small-scale demonstrator of the use and integration of student- and/or practitioner-owned technologies. This will need to:
 - Have a **technical adoption strategy**
 - Involve a **study group**
 - Address **activity co-ordination** issues

Technical adoption strategy

- Projects will need to demonstrate the use of web services to support the access to institutional information and functions by student and/or practitioner-owned technologies.
- This will involve the use of one or more strategies to bridge between personal learning technologies and institutional technologies – examples of these can be found in the call
- Projects should attempt to support a diverse range of technologies within the test group. Proposals that dictate which technology is to be used or propose supplying a pre-defined PLE to the test group will not be funded

- This group will need to pilot the bridge between personal learning technologies and institutional
- Made up of a cohort of students and/or group of practitioners.
- It should extend outside of a traditional closed and complete course, for example:
 - part-time study interleaved with work-based learning
 - a programme of continuing professional development that includes taught-course module elements alongside peer-group and self-managed learning

- Projects will need to address co-ordination issues with regard to personal technology, for example by:
 - providing guidance on user technology specification (e.g. that a weblog is required) rather than providing specific tools
 - defining outcomes and evidence criteria for learning activities in a manner which better supports personal choice of technology
 - Implementing a strategy to manage risks related to the use of personal technologies, including measures concerning the IPR, availability, and reliability risks of third party commercial services

Projects funded under this section will be expected to:

- Employ appropriate standards (e.g. common web specifications, APIs and institutional service specifications)
- Refer to, use, and build upon previous development activity in this area especially the Personal Learning Environment project
- Organise the project work plan in two phases:
 - Year 1 focussing on exploring usage scenarios and user needs, and on the development and set-up of technology.
 - Year 2 focussing on trialling and evaluating the implementation with a pilot study group.
- Implement existing technologies, rather than undertake new technical development work.

- A demonstration implementation of an integration of user-owned technologies with institutionally-owned educational systems.
- If any software development is undertaken by these projects, the deliverables will also include that software, tested and documented to a high standard and made available through an open-source licence
- A report / case study
- Contributions, as appropriate, to the e-Framework

- E-Learning Focus page on Personal Learning provides links to projects and overview articles at <http://www.elearning.ac.uk/subjects/PLE>
- PLE reference model - <http://www.cetis.ac.uk/members/ple/>
- All enquiries regarding this section of the call should be sent to Heather Williamson
h.williamson@jisc.ac.uk, 07810 814468
- Information on submission process from Lesley Hawkins, l.hawkins@jisc.ac.uk, 0117 931 7277