

Project name: SURF WBL
Region: West Midlands (Wales and Northern Ireland)
Brief description of project: The project is designed to exploit the work done by NIIMLE (Northern Ireland Integrated Managed Learning Environment) as part of the JISC MLEs for Lifelong Learning Programme, and in particular, the work on developing the use of uPortal and the Enterprise web services. This will be in order to deliver personalised information and resources to learners via a portal. The work will be further developed for use with the Staffordshire University Regional Federation (SURF) and the Welsh eTraining Network (WETN). The project is also investigating using Shibboleth to provide single sign-on solution to access the portal.
What aspects are you currently working on? Technical Developments: Staffordshire University and SURF Have now extensively developed XML, uPortal, Java web services skills. A uPortal channel prototype has been implemented for the for the display and editing of learner personal information. Work to storyboard and prototype uPortal screens in order to define the portal interface for the use cases is well underway in conjunction with WETN. WETN: The Use Cases exercise is now complete and the project is investigating the implementation of uPortal to access resources, personalised data and institutional VLEs. WETN has also begun storyboarding in order to define the portal interface. Dissemination Good contacts have now been established with the JISC COVARM and XCRi projects, and it is hoped that the work of these projects can be exploited in future work. Bolton College have also contacted us regarding Shibboleth. Data Protection The project is trying to develop a model of a Data Processing contract with reference to existing models for use by project partners. Shibboleth This has been scoped and the requirements have now been captured. The implementation plan is being drawn up with deployment to follow.
Have you produced any studies, reports etc that other projects might be interested in? All of the following are available on the WIKI access can be provided on request: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Storyboarding Exercise• Portal interface prototypes
What are your current challenges? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data protection: finding and creating a model to meet our needs in relation to data processing• Occasionally communication across geographically and culturally disparate partners• The nuts and bolts of collaborating on the storyboarding activities with multiple teams of developers (e.g. sharing and updating the prototypes).
What areas of work would you like to discuss with other projects? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data protection
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