

Interim Reporting Template

Project Name	LD4P Liverpool Hope University
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Reporting period	First interim report 20/10/06
Section One: Summary	
<p>Effort so far has focused on the recruitment of practitioners and staff development events for them. The team are currently gathering user requirements for the LD editor user interface, and early learning designs from practitioners are beginning to emerge. Activity focussing on evaluating the Reload editor is ongoing has been strengthened through the recruitment of additional practitioners specifically for this purpose.</p>	
Section Two: Activities and Progress	
<p>Recruitment of practitioners</p> <p>A number of practitioners have been recruited within the lead institution (LHU) and St Helens. There has been some attrition at LHU as the two practitioners (English and Law) have now left the university. Fortunately, the project had additionally recruited a Psychology lecturer, and the project has now recruited at least one practitioner (possibly 2 or 3) from the Media subject area.</p> <p>We are currently in the process of recruiting a larger number of practitioners to participate in workshops to evaluate the Reload user interface (both as is and the new prototype UI). This is in response to a discussion that took place during the first project visit by the programme team. This process will not necessarily result in the production of learning designs. The first of these workshops will take place during November 2006.</p> <p>Staff development</p> <p>A workshop has been developed to introduce practitioners to IMS LD and the Reload authoring tool. This has been run with practitioners at LHU and is due to be run at St Helens in November. The workshop to be run at St Helens is designed to be subject specific. This is because the workshop that has been delivered to date has been developed from one produced by CETIS which was perceived as being too generic in subject matter. This is to be followed by regular meetings between the project team and the practitioners to support them in drawing up learning designs.</p> <p>Learning designs</p> <p>A number of learning designs are being drawn up both as part of this project and the D4LD project. After discussions with the programme leader, there is now a more firm commitment to run learning designs than was made in the project proposal.</p> <p>User interface development</p> <p>The project is currently undertaking the gathering of user requirements for a prototype user interface. A meeting is planned with the Reload team and Phosphorix in December to review progress.</p>	
Section Three: Outputs, Outcomes and Deliverables	
<p>Some feedback has been gathered on the existing Reload user interface. It is too early to report this as the process is not yet complete.</p> <p>Practitioners are beginning to produce outline learning designs. Again, It is too early to report this as the process is not yet complete.</p>	

Section Four: Dissemination

The project has taken part in two dissemination activities delivered at Alt-C 2006. A workshop was delivered "Using IMS Learning Design: a practical introduction". A member of the project team sat on the panel for the symposium "Design for learning: a new paradigm?"

The project is to deliver a demonstration at the IMS Global Learning Consortium Quarterly Meetings and Learning Design Summit 6- 9 November 2006.

The project team are planning to submit a paper to the 2nd TENCompetence Workshop on Service Oriented Approaches and Lifelong Competence Development Infrastructures.

Journal paper: Martin Weller, Patrick McAndrew, Mark Barrett-Baxendale (2006) "LEARNING DESIGN AND SERVICE ORIENTED ARCHITECTURES - A MUTUAL DEPENDENCY?" Journal of Learning Design, Vol 1 Issue 3

The project is maintaining a blog on the website

Section Five: Evaluation

The first output is due January 2007, which is an evaluation of the Reload tool. Satisfactory progress is being made towards this, and it is anticipated that through the recruitment of additional practitioners specifically for evaluation of the Reload tool this output will be enhanced.

Section Six: Issues and Challenges

The project is running according to plan so far. Since the first project visit there has been a clarification of roles between LHU and Phosphorix in the creation of user interface designs. This requires a certain amount of shuffling of resources at LHU, but so far has not impacted on progress against the plan.

The loss of the two LHU practitioners was a potential problem, but the project has recovered from this situation, and now has at least one practitioner from Media and one practitioner from Psychology. This has had a minor impact on progress, but is not expected to impact on project outcomes.

Section Seven: Support

Discussion of project plan with programme leader.
Meeting with programme team in September 2006.

No specific training needs.