Preface

Vania Dimitrova\textsuperscript{1}, Sambit Praharaj\textsuperscript{2}, Mikhail Fominykh\textsuperscript{3} and Hendrik Drachsler\textsuperscript{2,4,5}

\textsuperscript{1} School of Computing and Leeds Institute of Medical Education, University of Leeds, UK
\textsuperscript{2} Open Universiteit, Netherlands
\textsuperscript{3} Independent Researcher
\textsuperscript{4} German Institute for International Educational Research, Germany
\textsuperscript{5} Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Germany

To encourage presentations that address real world problems, the thirteenth European Conference on Technology Enhanced Learning (EC-TEL 2018) invited practitioner paper submissions. These papers address the application, commercial aspects or practical challenges in innovating education through technology, in particular in the context of the conference theme ‘Lifelong technology enhanced learning: Dealing with the complexity of 21st century challenges’.

Practitioner papers are based on a practical use of technology in a learning environment with an expected pedagogical value. Normally, they provide description of:

- Context for the project (including aims and key challenges addressed);
- Digital solution (including design rationale and practical implementation);
- Practical deployment (including description of the practical context in which the digital solution has been deployed, stakeholder involvement, evaluation, if appropriate);
- Lessons learnt (including, as appropriate, one or more positive or negative issues such as validation of the expected impact, practical constraints and enablers, user adoption, cost benefit analysis);
- Open challenges (what issues require further attention)

Long papers present substantial work that covers all points listed above, while short papers present work in progress that focuses on some points listed above. All submissions point at the value of the practical experience to the design and deployment of technologies to innovate learning.

The practitioner papers were submitted and reviewed following the EC-TEL rigorous submission process. Each paper was reviewed by three reviewers and an additional reviewer from the conference chairs. The practitioner papers will be presented during the main conference, together with research papers in similar topics.

EC-TEL2018 web site: http://www.ec-tel.eu