

# Supporting Lifelong Learning

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## Workshop Description

Traditionally, lifelong learning has been accomplished through job training, short courses, and self-directed learning [1]. However, these approaches do not scale beyond the immediate learning needs of the learners. With the proliferation of social media, several knowledge resources and computer-mediated technologies exist that support lifelong learners in their day-to-day activities. Therefore, millions of these lifelong learners turn to online learning communities (OLCs) to help them overcome problems they may encounter in their day-to-day activities. In an OLC the challenge of supporting the evolving learning needs of learners is acute.

The goal of this workshop is to provide a forum for researchers to critically discuss ways to advance research in supporting lifelong learning beyond the walls of traditional educational systems. The workshop will provide an opportunity to discuss areas like social recommendation, adaptive technologies, collaborative tools, persuasive strategies, learning analytics and educational data mining to support lifelong learners; to look at enhancing lifelong learning through collaboration, educational games, personalized recommendation and educational diagnosis of lifelong learners; and to review literature addressing lifelong learning. Time will be allotted for presentation and questions; and at the end of the workshop, there will be a brainstorming session for overall discussion of the workshop presentations, challenges and the ways forward.

At the end of the workshop, we will develop a co-authored reference document, which summarizes the state-of-the-art, challenges and ways forward in supporting lifelong learners in online learning environments. Also, the workshop will provide an opportunity for researchers, both in industry and academia, to establish long term collaborations that can help expand on studies that support lifelong learners.

## Reference

1. Bruce, C. S. (1999). Workplace experiences of information literacy. *International Journal of Information Management*, Vol. 19(1), pp. 33–47.