The SE@M’08 workshop was held on September 17, 2008 in conjunction with the 3rd European Conference on Technology Enhanced Learning (EC-TEL’08), Maastricht School of Management, Maastricht, The Netherlands.

CONTEXT AND MOTIVATION

Creating good, pedagogically sound and effective learning resources incurs substantial costs, so avoiding duplication of development efforts is important. The TEL community has been and is still dedicating a lot of energy to the creation of better and more reusable learning resources. Some of these efforts in the sphere of reusability have matured enough to lead to the creation of standards such as the IEEE Learning Object Metadata, the IMS Content Package, or the IMS Common Cartridge. Nowadays, the number of reusable educational resources available online, for free or by subscription, is huge but most of these resources are “hidden” in repositories and cannot be easily found, hampering their potential use and reuse.

Over the past few years, researchers and practitioners have started to address these issues. Several initiatives worldwide (such as the EUN Learning Resource Exchange, GLOBE, CORDRA) are developing solutions for federating e-learning systems and unlocking the educational content hidden in repositories. Started last year, the work of the IMS Group on Learning Object Discovery & Exchange aims at supporting these initiatives by developing a set of specifications that facilitate the discovery and retrieval of distributed learning resources.

The main goals of the international workshop on search and exchange of e-learning materials are to bring together researchers and practitioners working in the field of learning resource retrieval, facilitate the exchange between them and foster future collaborations. It aims at offering a forum where these researchers and practitioners can discuss theoretical aspects, open issues, and innovative approaches and share the latest advances in the state of the art and practices for discovering and exchanging learning content.

PROGRAM

Refereed papers:

- **Creating a unified digital content supply network for global education: the Global Grid for Learning story so far** by Theodore Lynn, Samuel DiGangi, and David Hanney
- **Analysis of Lithuanian LOM Repository Strategies, Standards and Interoperability** by Eugenijus Kurilovas and Svetlana Kubilinskienë

1 Note: It has been decided to rename the workshop: “international workshop on search & exchange of e-learning materials (SE@M)” to avoid any confusion with the work of IMS on Learning Object Discovery and Exchange (IMS LODE).
• **Capture of Lifecycle Information in Proprietary Office Applications** by Lasse Lehmann, Christoph Rensing, and Ralf Steinmetz
• **Cross curriculum search through the GeoSkills Ontology** by Paul Libbrecht

Discussion:

• **Interoperability of Federations of Learning Object Repositories** by Frans Van Assche and David Massart

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