Preface

During the last 20 years, following the development of new technological tools, coupled with the increasing need for life-long learning, e-learning activities have drawn widespread attention. The interest towards e-learning, in turn, has given rise to a considerable amount of activities, experiences, and research on the application of technological support to learning activities - especially in higher education. Thus, Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in education have progressively become important fields of interest, both for scholars and for practitioners involved in learning activities.

The multi-faceted character of e-learning allows for a multidisciplinary field of inquiry, which includes psychology (educational, social and cognitive psychology), learning sciences (pedagogical and didactic sciences), computer science (educational technology, artificial intelligence systems), and communication sciences.

The conference was an opportunity to present the results of recent work, and to discuss research findings with other scholars.

Maria Cristina Matteucci