

JTEL Workshop proposal

Workshop – Selling Your Research online

How do you 'sell' your research online. How can you communicate it effectively through Social Media.

The proposal is to organize two workshop sessions – one relatively early in the summer school and a follow up workshop on the penultimate or last day of the summer school.

The first session will discuss issues and experiences in using social media in research. This includes the use of wikis and blogs, microblogging, presentation software – including audio and video – and social networking sites and applications such as Facebook and Ning.

Issues will include

- how to use social media as a research tool
- - how to use social media for gaining feedback on research in progress
- how to use social media for collaboration, inside institutions and through wider personal learning networks
- what is the value of publishing through social media compared to traditional research publications
- developing digital identities as researchers

The second session will take the form of a 'challenge' where students will be invited to present their 'Product' - their creations of something that allows them to share and communicate aspects of their research wide and far or to use social media as part of their research design and methodology. We will then have a poll for the most creative one.

Throughout the week the workshop organizers will act as 'mentors' – providing an opportunity for summer school participants and find out how they could better appropriate what the web has to offer to raise their profile. So they would be learning by asking, listening, searching, etc.

Stellar Network Grand Challenges

The workshop proposal addresses all three of the Stellar Network Grand Challenges. For Challenge I – Connecting learners, - the workshop examines self-directed, self-managed and self-maintained learning and research environments and how researchers can create successful new forms of collaboration.

For Challenge 2 – Orchestrating learning – the proposal examines the development of collaborative competence for using, generating and exchanging knowledge in a peer-to-peer manner.

For Challenge 3 - Contextualizing virtual learning environments and instrumentalizing learning contexts - the workshop examines how tools, resources and systems can be contextualized for research.

People

The workshop will be facilitated by Cristina Costa, Maria Perifanou and Graham Attwell

Brief biographies

Cristina Costa is a Research Technologies Development Officer at the University of Salford, UK. She has extensive experience with learning technologies for learning, teaching and researching. She has been involved in national and international projects regarding with the championing of learning technologies in education. Her latest projects concern the use of social media to network researchers and PhD students, as well as a form of communicating research to a wider audience. Cristina has presented at home and international conferences and published in peer journals. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL), looking at the Networking Culture of Academic Researchers in a changing environment.

Maria A. Perifanou received her Bachelor's in Italian Language and Literature from the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, in 1999. She continued her Master studies at the University of Venice, Ca'Foscari, Science of Language Department, Laboratory ITALS (2001–2003). She is a PhD candidate in the field of Applied Linguistics since 2004 at the National Kapodistrian University of Athens, School of Philosophy, Faculty of Italian and Spanish Studies. Her research interests include Web 2.0, CALL, TELL, webquests, mlearning, blended learning, collaborative learning.

Graham Attwell is a researcher working for the independent Wales based research and development organisation, Pontydysgu. He has worked on many projects related to the use of technology for learning and knowledge development and sharing. He has published extensively in books and journals but prefers writing on his blog, the Wales Wide Web. In 2007 he established a podcast and later radio channel, the Sound of the Bazaar, and has broadcast at many conferences and events including the European Conference for Educational Research and Online Educa Berlin.