



Re.ViCa : AN INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE VIRTUAL CAMPUS PHENOMENON

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Topic: Technology Enhanced Learning

Keywords: Virtual Campus - Lifelong Learning – Inventory - Case Study

Research paper - empirical/case study

Purpose

Throughout the last decade, numerous initiatives have been set up to experiment with the establishment of Virtual Campus activities in various structures and to varying degrees of success. While numerous Virtual Campus initiatives in the past decade have gained experience and know-how, there is a striking lack of validation and dissemination of this knowledge. Detailed and consolidated information on Virtual Campuses is hard to come by. In this context the Re.ViCa (“Reviewing (traces of) European Virtual Campuses”) project has been set-up. This project is creating an inventory and reviewing institution-wide and cross-institution Virtual Campus initiatives of the past decade within higher education at Global, national and regional levels.

Approach

To facilitate cooperation between partners engaged in this research, project activities are managed by a collaborative team of editors working together on a wiki which pulls all research activities together.

Findings

This wiki currently contains about 25 country reports on higher education e-learning and a rapidly growing list of brief entries on major Virtual Campus programmes. Furthermore, a round of case study reports including open universities, national initiatives and blended learning programmes including those from private providers is being worked on. Parameters used in these descriptions include the history and current state of the institution, the external environment as well as information about the strategies in place, (meta) learning and teaching processes as well as descriptions of staff, students, technology.

A panel of experts has been set-up to review the outputs of the ReViCa Research. The partners are also looking at success indicators for community building in order to find a way in which the wiki can become a self-sustainable objective source of in-depth information on the Virtual Campus phenomenon. The Re.ViCa partnership plans to officially open the ReViCa wiki to the public during the ICDE/EADTU Conference.