

GUIDE INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP 2008

"E-learning and Multicultural Education: Digital Divide and Digital Opportunities"

**15-16 May 2008 –
Università Telematica "Guglielmo
Marconi", Rome (Italy)**

GUIDE International Workshop 2008 is the third meeting of excellence conceived to promote and enhance a new system of cooperative relations in higher education and ODL systems. The representatives of different geographical areas are involved in the Workshop, coming from Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia and Middle East.

The Workshop:

- represents an opportunity to review the research activities of the Association members as well as to define the future objectives of GUIDE in order to involve academic, institutional and private sectors in the sharing of information and technological resources;
- will contribute to the sharing of best practices and experiences between the field operators, connecting higher education with the new global, social and cultural context and in developing and implementing the internationalisation of higher education institutions and curricula, also through the participation to international research projects;
- will help in advancing the practice of e-learning by comparing the results achieved in the field of new methodologies and applications for distance learning in different educational contexts.

Read more at:

<http://www.guideassociation.org/InternationalWorkshop/tabid/65/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

UDL R&D

VALUE INNOVATIONS AND MEDICI EFFECT IN ODL

The article presents the outcomes of the research work conducted during the organization and conduction of interdisciplinary and cross-university curriculum "Creativity Tools and Innovation" for students of Lviv National University named after Ivan Franko, Ukraine from various departments, like the departments of journalism, applied mathematics, philology, biology, economics etc., combined in a common virtual environment organized by Mälardalen University (Department of Innovation, Design & Product Development), Eskilstuna, Sweden, and supported by the Ukrainian Distance Learning System (<http://www.udl.org.ua>). The purpose of this course is to supply students with knowledge and practical abilities in creative, innovative and entrepreneurial processes. The basis of the distance learning model is comprised of students' cultural and background diversity (Medici Effect), their social and cognitive presence in virtual learning environment, motivation management (Attraction, Actualization, Action, Assessment) for constructing new knowledge driven by the idea generation process.

In the course of the learning process students not just got familiarized with the main tools of creativity or innovation management, but they also were personally involved in creativity action and idea generation as a source for value innovation, by thinking differently and getting out of the box, emphasizing one's cultural identity (<http://www.idea4life.org.ua>). After the course, students were able to understand and have developed insights in creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship – in theory and practice – for individuals, social groups, organizations and nations.