

## **Staff Development Programme**

### **Training programme for the use of VLE**

*Purpose:* To provide basic knowledge of multimedia technology, e-learning systems and educational theories, enabling staff to develop an online course using a range of features of a selected VLE.

#### **Core Curriculum**

1. General introduction
  - Ø A brief survey of the development of Internet, e-learning and VLEs
  - Ø Changes in learning strategies due to the new information and communication technology
  
2. The use of VLEs in vocational teacher training
  - Ø Preparing to teach vocational education online
    - Models of online learning in vocational education
  - Ø Managing Content
    - Preparation of content
    - File types
    - Using vendor specific formats
    - Uploading
  - Ø Managing Learners
    - Registering Learners
    - Email addresses and user names

3. Comparison of VLEs

- Ø Features of web learning environments
- Ø Learning platforms
- Ø How to choose a learning environment?
- Ø What should be taken into consideration?
- Ø Maintenance of learning platform
- Ø Challenges of learning environment
- Ø ASP or own server?
- Ø Future trends and challenges

4. Presentations regarding selected VLEs

- Ø Presentation of WebCT v. 3.1

WWW Based Learning Environment

(Teija Lehto , Educational Technology in Tampere Polytechnic)

- Ø Presentation of Blackboard

(Matthew Pearson, University of Huddersfield)

## **Flexible curriculum**

Recommendation for flexible materials to meet the local needs

### **Ø Initial reports of partner countries**

- National context
- Current VLE
- Any other VLEs in use
- Selection and implementation history
- Hardware
- Technical support
- Extent of usage
- Integration with student records
- User authentication
- Hardware and software requirements for users
- Uploading of content
- Pedagogical support
- Usage within the faculty/school/department
- Student induction
- Quality control
- Support for assessment (formative and summative)
- Summary of usage within Vocational Initial Teacher Training

Ø Developing basic skills by

- using locally developed e-learning/VLE materials
- participating in content development groups

### **Organisation of staff development courses**

Patterns for the 2003 January course:

- *One week course*  
Contact hours: 2 hours theory + 2 hours practice, daily.  
The course is extended for a week.
- *One day/week course*  
Contact hours: 2 hours theory + 2 hours practice per day.  
The course is extended for a month.

Additional individual practices are organised/available by flexible timing.