
TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED LEARNING

IFIP – The International Federation for Information Processing

IFIP was founded in 1960 under the auspices of UNESCO, following the First World Computer Congress held in Paris the previous year. An umbrella organization for societies working in information processing, IFIP's aim is two-fold: to support information processing within its member countries and to encourage technology transfer to developing nations. As its mission statement clearly states,

IFIP's mission is to be the leading, truly international, apolitical organization which encourages and assists in the development, exploitation and application of information technology for the benefit of all people.

IFIP is a non-profitmaking organization, run almost solely by 2500 volunteers. It operates through a number of technical committees, which organize events and publications. IFIP's events range from an international congress to local seminars, but the most important are:

- The IFIP World Computer Congress, held every second year;
- Open conferences;
- Working conferences.

The flagship event is the IFIP World Computer Congress, at which both invited and contributed papers are presented. Contributed papers are rigorously refereed and the rejection rate is high.

As with the Congress, participation in the open conferences is open to all and papers may be invited or submitted. Again, submitted papers are stringently refereed.

The working conferences are structured differently. They are usually run by a working group and attendance is small and by invitation only. Their purpose is to create an atmosphere conducive to innovation and development. Refereeing is less rigorous and papers are subjected to extensive group discussion.

Publications arising from IFIP events vary. The papers presented at the IFIP World Computer Congress and at open conferences are published as conference proceedings, while the results of the working conferences are often published as collections of selected and edited papers.

Any national society whose primary activity is in information may apply to become a full member of IFIP, although full membership is restricted to one society per country. Full members are entitled to vote at the annual General Assembly, National societies preferring a less committed involvement may apply for associate or corresponding membership. Associate members enjoy the same benefits as full members, but without voting rights. Corresponding members are not represented in IFIP bodies. Affiliated membership is open to non-national societies, and individual and honorary membership schemes are also offered.

TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED LEARNING

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Preface

Technology Enhanced Learning (TeL) has provided tools and infrastructure to education and training disciplines for over a decade. Main research issues include pedagogical and evaluation theories, integrated learning environments, e-learning experiments, trials and overall results from TeL deployment. Relying on recent experience and prospective results from R&D projects, in particular EU initiatives (e.g. Information Society Technologies –IST, Leonardo da Vinci Advanced Training Systems, etc), the Tel'04 workshop, organized on August 22 2004 within the 18th IFIP World Computer Congress, has given educational institutions, experts, practitioners and technologists an opportunity to share their experience.

All papers contained in this volume were selected through a rigorous peer reviewing process under the responsibility of an international program committee. Altogether 18 high quality papers (among them 6 long papers, 8 short papers and 4 abstract papers) were selected in this volume out of 51 submissions from around the world.

The papers are grouped into 5 chapters, corresponding to the workshop sessions: "E-Laboratories from Theory to Practice", "E-Learning Evaluation and Usability", "New Generation Technologies at School", "E-Laboratories Experiments" and a Fast Abstract Session. These chapters cover important issues of current research interest in Technology Enhanced Learning.

We are grateful to the authors for submitting the papers, to the reviewers for their efforts in making good detailed reviews on time and to the Program Committee for establishing the final program. We are also grateful to Prof. Jan Wibe from the Trondheim Norwegian University of Science and Technology and current chair of IFIP Technical Committee 3 on Education for his invited talk on E-training in Norway. Special thanks are due to the Tel'04 organization committee and to his chair Dr. Pierre de Saqui-Sannes. Finally, we would like to acknowledge the support of the IFIP WCC'04 Organization for making this workshop possible.

Toulouse and Athens

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