



# OU Knowledge Network

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## KN front page news

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### CALRG Annual Conference 2010 - Call for Papers

The Computers and Learning Research Group (CALRG) is one of the CREET research groups and is located in the Institute of Educational Technology. The CALRG's Annual Conference provides a forum for staff and research students at the Open University to present and discuss their research and projects. This year's Conference will take place on the 24th-25th May 2010 in the Jennie Lee Building at the Walton Hall campus of The Open University. The Group's main objective is to investigate ways in which computers and new technologies can be used to improve the quality of education. This objective

has been interpreted broadly, giving the Group a variety of research areas including computer supported collaborative learning, evaluation of information and communication technologies, mobile technologies, and inclusiveness and accessibility. For details of how to submit contributions please visit the CALRG website at <http://kn.open.ac.uk/CALRG> Deadline for submissions of contributions is the 28th April 2010.

Published by Anna Page on 4 March 2010.

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## **eLC event: Hands-on Learning**

The eLearning Community is hosting 'Hands-on learning from MCT' on 17th March 2010 from 10:00 - 12:40 in Library Seminar Rooms 1 and 2. This event presents a selection of work from Maths, Computing and Technology Faculty with the theme of how learners can engage actively and practically with technology. Speakers include Judith Willimas (T215), Tony Hirst (T151), John Woodthorpe (TU100) and Jon Rosewell (iSpot project). As ever with the eLC, feel free to come along to all or part of this event. Alternatively, as the event is being webcast and recorded you can see it on Stadium during or afterwards. Information and the stadium link will be available on the KN website <http://kn.open.ac.uk/public/index.cfm?wpid=7947> Please let Sue Leyland (s.leyland) know if you are planning to attend as this helps us plan teas, coffees and numbers of seats.

Published by Anna Page on 3 March 2010.

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## **TLRG Seminar: Mobile Technologies in Lifelong Learning**

The Technology and Learning Research Group is hosting a seminar called 'Mobile Technologies in Lifelong Learning' on 18th March 2010 from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm in the Jennie Lee Building (Ash meeting room 5). The seminar will be presented by Agnes Kukulska-Hulme, Rob Farrow, Alice Peasgood and John Pettit. MOTILL, which stands for "Mobile Technologies in Lifelong Learning: best practices", was a four-partner project funded by the European Commission within the National Lifelong Learning Strategies Programme, from March 2009 to February 2010. The project's aim was to bring together evidence on the impact of mobile technologies on lifelong learning by considering recent mobile learning research and practice in light of a developing learning ethic characterized by increasing self-directedness and informality, and marked by states of transition. More information about MOTILL project and its outputs may be accessed from the project website, <http://www.motill.eu> Further information about this seminar can be found on the TLRG Website at <http://kn.open.ac.uk/public/index.cfm?wpid=6321#MOTILLAbstract>

Published by Anna Page on 3 March 2010.

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## IET Bidding successes

IET staff members have recently successfully won Higher Education Academy funding for the following projects: Dr Denise Whitelock and colleagues at Southampton University are running a project called SRAFTE to produce a Synthesis Report on Assessment and Feedback with Technology-Enhanced systems. The project is running from January to June 2010. Dr Linda Price and Adrian Kirkwood's project on Professional Learning and Teaching Practice (PLaTP) is running from January to August 2010 and will also produce a Synthesis Report.

Published by Anna Page on 2 March 2010.

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## Recent ESRC project contributions from IET

The following contributions to ESRC projects have been made by IET staff members recently: On the 19th of January Chris Jones presented the outcomes from the ESRC funded 'Net generation encountering e-learning at university' project at a seminar and workshop at the Centre for Lifelong Learning at the University of Liverpool. Grainne Conole attended the ESRC TEL Ensemble project steering group meeting on 15th January 2010. John Richardson and Rob Edmunds presented results from the ESRC TLRP Phase III project on the social and organisational mediation of university learning at a meeting of the SRHE Student Experience Network on "The student experience of business study" at the University of Greenwich on 27 January.

Published by Anna Page on 1 March 2010.

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## Learn About Fair 2010

The third annual '**Learn About**' Fair took place on 10th February 2010 in the Jennie Lee Building at Walton Hall, with record attendance from OU staff members for whom the fair was intended. The fair was a drop-in event and gave OU staff an informal opportunity to find out about the latest developments regarding the use of technology in education.

A wide range of topics was featured, including Accessibility, Podcasting, Blogs, Wikis, Mobile learning, Learning Design, Assessment, Open Educational Resources and Elluminate.

Additionally some course teams demonstrated how they had successfully innovated with educational technologies to enhance student learning experiences, and there were six short presentations, which were filmed.

For the first time the OU-developed Cloudworks site supported the fair by providing an online opportunity for both OU staff and colleagues from around the world to discuss the topics featured at the fair while it was in progress. You can find the 'Learn About' Fair Cloudscape at <http://cloudworks.ac>.

[uk/cloudscape/view/1963](http://kn.open.ac.uk/cloudscape/view/1963)

Published by Anna Page on 22 February 2010.

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## Publication of 'Researching Mobile Learning: Frameworks, Tools and Research Design'

A new book, **Researching Mobile Learning: Frameworks, Tools and Research Design**, co-edited by **Agnes Kukulska-Hulme**, Professor of Learning technology and Communication in IET, has been published by [Peter Lang](#).

There are many questions surrounding the suitability of traditional research methods to investigate and evaluate new learning experiences arising from the use of mobile technologies and learning in increasingly informal contexts. This book sets out the issues and requirements for mobile learning research, and presents recent efforts to specify appropriate theoretical frameworks, research methods and tools. Leading researchers in the field present their experiences and approaches to key aspects of mobile learning research such as data capture and analysis, and offer structured guidance and suggestions on adopting and extending these approaches. The book also sets out Future Directions in researching mobile learning.

**Researching Mobile Learning: Frameworks, Tools and Research Design** is available in the UK from [Amazon](#).

**Full reference:** Vavoula, G., Pachler, N. and Kukulska-Hulme, A. (eds) *Researching Mobile Learning: Frameworks, tools and research designs*, Peter Lang Verlag, Oxford, 2009 ISBN 978-3-03911-832-8.

### About the editors:

- **Giasemi Vavoula** is RCUK Academic Fellow in Learning and Visitor Studies at the Department of Museum Studies, University of Leicester.
- **Norbert Pachler** is Reader in Education and Co-director of the Centre for Excellence in Work-based Learning for Education Professionals at the Institute of Education, London.
- **Agnes Kukulska-Hulme** is Professor of Learning Technology and Communication in the Institute of Educational Technology, The Open University.

Published by Graham Healing on 16 December 2009.

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## 'Mobile learning' & 'e-Portfolios': new Learning and Teaching Guides available

Two new Learning and Teaching Guides have been published on the subjects of [Mobile learning](#) and [e-Portfolios](#).

They join the three existing titles:

- [Accessibility](#)
- [Developmental testing](#)
- [Assessment and course design](#)

The Learning and Teaching Guides are aimed at supporting academic practice within the University. Each one concentrates on a specific aspect of course design or curriculum development and provides practical advice and guidance to course teams, programme committees and learning and teaching boards.

They have been designed primarily as hardcopy documents in booklet form to provide quick reference signposts to essential information.

For copies of any of the booklets, send an email request to [iet-epd@open.ac.uk](mailto:iet-epd@open.ac.uk).

All of the guides are also available in electronic form. (For an electronic version, please click on the title of the guide you are interested in.)

Published by Graham Healing on 8 July 2009.

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**CALRG 30th Anniversary and Annual Conference – 18th, 19th and 20th May,**

## CALRG Annual Conference 2009 and 30th Anniversary

The Computers and Learning Research Group (CALRG) is celebrating its' 30th Anniversary with a one day event on 18th May 2009 in Jenny Lee Building, The Open University. There will be presentations from past and present members, including Professor Ann Blandford, University College London; Professor Diana Laurillard, The Institute of Education; Professor Tim O'Shea, University of Edinburgh; Professor Mike Sharples, University of Nottingham, Professor Claire O'Malley, University of Nottingham; Professor Karen Littleton, University of Jyväskylä; Professor John Cook, London Metropolitan University and Professor Andrew Ravenscroft, London Metropolitan University. Presenters from the Open University will include Professor Eileen Scanlon; Dr. Patrick McAndrew, Dr. Adrian Kirkwood, Dr. Richard Holliman, Professor Gráinne Conole and Dr. Ann Jones.

The talks will be short and aim to illustrate what CALRG members were interested in when they started working in the group and what they are doing now. Over an extended lunch period, the CALRG will showcase some of its' existing projects with interactive posters in the Nexus.

All former CALRG members are warmly invited to join in the celebration. Please send an email to Sara Crowe (S.Crowe@open.ac.uk) confirming your attendance. We look forward to catching up with you and hope you will take this opportunity to come and say hello. If you need instructions to our new Jenny Lee Building (JLB) upon arrival at The Open University, please [check directions](#).

### [Provisional anniversary programme](#)

## CALRG Annual Conference – 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> May, 09

### [Book of abstracts](#)

## The twitter tag for the conference is #calrg09

CALRG's Annual Conference will take place after the Anniversary Celebration. Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> of May will have an Argumentation theme and presentations on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> of May will focus on CALRG research themes. CALRG Conference is open to all.

We are looking forward to seeing you at CALRG-C 2009.

Details can also be found on the CALRG web site. <http://kn.open.ac.uk/public/index.cfm?wpid=5403>

Published by Mariano Rico on 14 May 2009.

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## 'The Net Generation: A critical and international perspective' - Webcasts available

This event took place on Monday 11th May 2009 at Walton Hall and included contribution from guests researching the 'Net Generation' from the USA, South Africa and Australia as well as the UK.

A series of 6 Webcasts are now available from Stadium featuring:

- Judy Caruso (Educause): [Results of the 2008 ECAR Study of Undergraduate Students and Information Technology](#)
- Laura Czerniewicz and Cheryl Brown (University of Cape Town): [The mobile net generation: reconceptualising the digital native](#)
- Sue Bennett (University of Wollongong): [Beyond the idea of the 'Net Generation': Understanding student experiences of technology](#)
- Gregor Kennedy (University of Melbourne): [Digital experiences and preferences: Seeking meaningful differences between students and staff](#)
- Rebecca Eynon (Oxford University): [Digital natives: who are they and what do they look like?](#)
- Dr Chris Jones (OU): [A new generation of learners? What are the characteristics of first year students](#) arriving at university?

Published by Graham Healing on 8 May 2009.

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