Supporting eLearning Communities of Practice:

Dr Raquel Morales
University of Cambridge
The Wolfson Reward Programme: how RLO-CETL harnesses excellence

Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning in Reusable Learning Objects (RLO-CETL)
www.rlo-cetl.ac.uk

- £3.3M 5-year project (2005-2010)

- Multi-institutional: London Metropolitan, Cambridge University and University of Nottingham

- MAIN AIM: to develop, deploy and evaluate RLOs and make them available across UK HE
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Who we are

London Metropolitan
Tom Boyle
John Cook

Nottingham
Heather Wharrad
Richard Windle

Cambridge
Dawn Leeder
Rob Alton

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What we do

- Learning Design
- Workshops
- Partnerships
- Community Building
- Sustainability
- REWARD!
- Developing a Framework
- Evaluation Toolkit
- RLOs, GLOs, MLOs

tools ←________________________________________→ community

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The Reward Programme

enriching learning

REUSABLE
LEARNING OBJECTS

harnessing expertise

rewarding excellence

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Who attends?

Wolfson Reward programme participants (2005 & 2006)

- Academic: 40
- Student: 21
- Developer: 12
- RLO-CETL team: 10
- Other experts: 3
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What subjects?

Study skills
- Languages
- Music
- Archaeology
- History
- Classics
- Social sciences

Stats

Maths

Biological sciences
- Health sciences
- Genetics
- Ethics

Nursing

Sports sciences
- Computing
- Engineering

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Overall Aim of Programme

“The overall aim of the Reward and Development Programme is to provide a satisfying and stimulating calendar of activities and events that will harness the expertise and knowledge of excellent teachers. This expertise will be engaged to develop high quality learning objects that can be shared and reused by the partners, and ultimately throughout Higher Education. The programme will also provide an opportunity for the accreditation of continuing and professional development.”   (RLO-CETL bid, Jan 2005)
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Reward Programme Stages

- Initial local meetings (April/May)
- 3 day Summer Residence Cambridge (July)
- 2 day developers’ meeting Cambridge (October)
- 3 day Winter Residence Cambridge (December)
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Range of templates
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Facilitate collaboration
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Example Activity: Unlocking content

- Practitioner-based workshop approach
- Multi-disciplinary teams
- Poster templates
- Pro-active facilitation

The birth of a GLO tool…
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Development stages
Example Activity: Master Class

- Expert session, professional development
- Focussed group (developers, academics)
- Show and tell/walkthrough
- Question and answers
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Outputs and rewards
Supporting eLearning Communities of Practice

The overall aim of this working group will be to highlight the necessity to involve communities from the outset of any eLearning initiative to ensure its successful completion.

Working models for involving communities around Europe will be collected and made available to EUNIS members.

The long term aspiration is to seed and facilitate future Collaborations.