18th Seminar of Hong Kong Web Society in co-operation with IEEE Hong Kong Section Computer Chapter and City University of Hong Kong, on

Directions for new web based e-learning technologies

Maria E Orlowska

Date: 7 Dec 2001 (Friday)
Time: 5:30 – 6:30pm (refreshment will be served at 5:00pm)
Venue: Room Y6405, 6th Floor, Academic Building, City University of Hong Kong, Kowloon Tong

Abstract:
The emerging web based computing environment and generic Internet connectivity between organizations and individual users are changing the everyday services landscape and the way that we do things in almost each domain of our life. Education is particularly going through a phase of revolutionary changes – the way how the education material is accessed by students, how it’s currency can be maintained and how students get new educational services for their disposal, is rapidly reaching new grounds. As a result, the role of high education institutions is changing too. More emphasis is on Life Long Learning strategies than on a one-degree in the lifetime. There is already body of experience in adoption of new IT solutions for e-learning environments. However, not all inventions have delivered – they have failed either in the scalability of deployed systems or in the pedagogical aspects of individual learning techniques and preferences. There is still a lot to learn and experiment before we gain more confidence about the right directions in this new domain of e-education. This talk will focus on generic concepts behind Flex-eL - a new IT solution for managing learning and teaching activities - designed, developed and deployed by the DSTC Pty Ltd http://www.flex-eL.com. We will consider generic system’s features allowing absolute flexibility of time management, material access and personal consultation during the study period for students and teaching personnel. The integration of individual components of study such as enrolment, learning and assessment into one fully system supported stream of activities called the integrated study process will be demonstrated. We conclude with observations and experience gained from real deployment of the Flex-eL. This should set a good ground for discussion on new directions in e-learning and it’s future.

About the key speakers:
She is currently the Professor in Information Systems at the University of Queensland, School of ITEE in Brisbane, Australia. She is the head of Information Systems Division and a Deputy Head of the ITEE School. Since 1990 she is involved in research work at the Distributed Systems Technology Center, DSTC Pty Ltd, initially as a project leader and since 2000 as a Distinguished Research Fellow. Prof Orlowska served on many international conferences as a PC Chair and other major roles. She is currently a Visiting Professor at CS Dept, Hong Kong University Science & Technology.

Inquiry
In case of questions, please contact Dr Joseph Fong at Tel: 27888498, E-mail: csjfong@cityu.edu.hk, or visit the Hong Kong Web Society Website http://www.hkws.org for seminar registration information and/or membership enrollment.