

Formamente
The Università Telematica "Guglielmo Marconi"
Association of the Global Universities in Distance Education

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FormaMente JOURNAL



Formamente is an official journal of GUIDE, the Association of the Global Universities in Distance Education. This is an international review that publishes a collection of international studies and researches in the field of the new Information and Communication Technologies. The review is dedicated to the research of methodologies and e-learning technologies, collecting articles and case histories about the evolution of didactic processes related with today's educational transformation. The journal is structured in three sections; a summary of scientific research activities, the technological applications, the analysis of exemplary study cases and the discussion of "good practice". Formamente is a multilingual

journal, published four times a year. Each article includes keywords, English abstracts and short synthesis in Italian, to better help researches. This volume offers important reflection points on bioinformatics, Information Management System Learning Design, mobile learning and flexible information models within the knowledge society. Content of this volume

RESEARCH

Learning Networks as Strategy for Sharing e-learning Capacity, **Richard A. Skinner**

eHealth: A Model for Development Countries, **Peter Drury**

New Media and Learning in the 21 st Century, **Lev S. Gonick**

What is e-Health: Perspectives on the Evolution of e-Health Research, **David K. Ahern, Jennifer M. Kreslake, Judith M. Phalen**

Aesthetics and Audiovisual Metaphors in Media Perception, **Katrim Fahlenbrach**

APPLICATIONS

Remote Access to Instrumental Analysis for Distance Education in Science, **Dietmar Kennepohl, Martin Connors, Jit Baran, Kieron Quigley, Ron Currie**

A Case Study in Integrating the Best Practices of Face-to Face Art History and Online Teaching, **Kelly Donahue- Wallace, Jacqueline Chanda**

Telehomecare: Where Are We?, **Ronald C. Merrell, Charles R. Doarn**

HIGHLIGHT

Foundations of Educational Theory for Online, **Mohamed Ally**

Tomás Maldonado, Memoria e conoscenza, Sulle sorti del sapere enella prospettiva digitale, **Anna Baldazzi**

EU eLearning Conference 2006

GUIDE International Conference 2006

The Università Telematica "Guglielmo Marconi", established by MIUR Decree, M. D. March 1st 2004, started its activities in the international scene of academic studies with a double aim: meeting the needs for research imposed by digital and communication technologies for the development of the social, economic and productive system, and creating a cooperative network of institutions, able to initiate interdisciplinary knowledge sharing processes, in order to educate human resources with considerable learning skills.

These intentions were taken in consideration for the first time at the International Meeting "*Open Universities: National Models for a European Model*" in October 2004, which hosted about 30 distance academic representatives: both well established institutions and other more recently founded. Later on, the same objectives were at the basis of the *first International Conference of GUIDE 2006, Global Universities In Distance Education*. The Conference took place in Rome on February 13th and 14th 2006 at the National Research Council CNR, and gathered approximately 100 contributions, expressions of a multiple and varied geopolitical identity, creating a sort of comparative dialogue on the main research themes and governance issues for distance universities.

The success of the Conference brought to the establishment of GUIDE Association, the definition of the Association's Articles and the procedural regulation. Both these formal acts emphasize the aim of strengthening the international cooperation between worldwide universities and institutions linked to distance education and lifelong learning.

With such a challenging project for the worldwide academic community, the Università Telematica "Guglielmo Marconi", the first Italian private Open University, adopts innovative learning modalities by developing suitable research strategies, integrating non-residential communication tools with presence activities.

The UTGM, aware of the complex role played by online universities in the current Knowledge society, by means of GUIDE Association, intends to promote an innovative approach to education and research in the sector of new technologies and learning methodologies, by encouraging a cooperation between private and public bodies, and supporting critical studies on the current research macrolines.

The main activities of GUIDE Association include the organization of *area sessions*, specially focused on the analysis of the difficulties met by every single institution belonging to a specific geographic area, with the purpose of enabling a permanent communication system, and a continuing professional interaction between its members.

The Workshops encourage a cooperation between the joining universities for the creation of shared networks and linked development programs, offering the opportunity to compare the research results achieved, at a global level, in the fields of methodologies and applications of distance learning, e-communication and networked universities. In order to improve knowledge sharing, adoption of quality standards, and cooperation for the promotion of good practices and project models of excellence, GUIDE Association has found in FormaMente an effective instrument to foster its members' scientific communication.

FormaMente is in fact the official Journal of GUIDE, the Association of the Global Universities in Distance Education, published twice a year, in collaboration with the Università Telematica "Guglielmo Marconi".

It is an international academic research publication in the field of new Information and Communication Technologies, and provides contributions, articles and reviews, selected from high-level, specialized journals, and original contributions and articles from the Association members. FormaMente harmonically combines the function of an international observatory of contributions of excellence, and of an instrument of theoretical and practical reflection.

The journal aims at disseminating valuable information and sound research materials for professionals, students, teachers and researchers, improving the collaboration and knowledge sharing on issues related to the new information age and the role of higher education institutions in the globalized knowledge society.

Research themes of FormaMente journal include distance learning methodologies and technologies, e-learning applications, case studies and best practices, new technologies for education, e-communication, mobile learning, knowledge management of contents and courses, knowledge organization and networked universities.

The journal is structured in three main sections: *Research*, which includes research articles and materials; *Applications*, which comprises case studies and best practices; and *Highlights* offering additional materials, such as interviews with outstanding professionals and researchers in the Open and Distance Learning world, book and journal reviews, also providing information and reviews on selected events, meetings and conferences.

FormaMente is a multilingual journal: articles and materials are published in their original language and are provided with keywords, a short abstract in English and an additional synthesis in Italian.

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