

ACoRD NEWSLETTER



ACoRD

The 6-monthly newsletter for ACoRD Project



What's interesting in this issue:

Welcoming speech
January Training in Nottingham
Context of e-learning in Malaysia
Highlights of our partner university

AIMS

To introduce innovative digital pedagogy methods that will benefit healthcare and biomedical science students in Malaysia.

By sharing existing expertise and training academic staff and technologists in those European university partner countries about how to develop high quality, peer reviewed multimedia digital tools and resources and integrate them into existing traditional curricula.



WELCOME TO ACoRD

Professor Heather Wharrad
ACoRD Project coordinator

On behalf of the six universities involved in ACoRD, I welcome you to this first newsletter of our European Union funded Erasmus Plus Capacity building in Higher Education project.

ACoRD stands for **A**dvancing **C**o-creation of **R**eusable Learning Objects (RLOs) to **D**igitize Healthcare Curricula. ACoRD is being led by the University of Nottingham (UoN) who has pioneered the use of RLOs in healthcare education for over 20 years.

Our partners from University of Stavanger (UiS), Norway and Karolinska Institute (KI), Sweden are also leaders in use of digital technologies for students of healthcare. In this exciting and innovative project we will be sharing our expertise with colleagues and students at the University of Malaya (UM), Universiti of Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Taylor's University.

ACoRD provides us with a wonderful opportunity to exchange cross cultural knowledge about using digital techniques to benefit all our students.

FIRST MEETING AND TRAINING

14th - 18th January 2019
University of Nottingham (UoN), UK

The cold weather of Nottingham did not impede the spirit of the ACoRD project members to attend a 5-day long first ever meeting and training in the lovely campus of UoN. 14 members came all the way from Malaysia and three from Norway and Sweden to join the host members in UoN.



In the first two days of the Nottingham meeting, the ACoRD teams got to know each other and each university gave presentations on their use of digital technologies in their healthcare curricula.

The 3-day RLO training workshop started with UoN, UiS and KI providing examples of their expertise creating learning objects. UoN presented their work on RLOs, UiS talked about their development of e-compendiums, and KI on virtual patients.

The hands-on workshop trained the members from Malaysia about the ASPIRE of creating RLOs starting from designing the storyboard and specification.

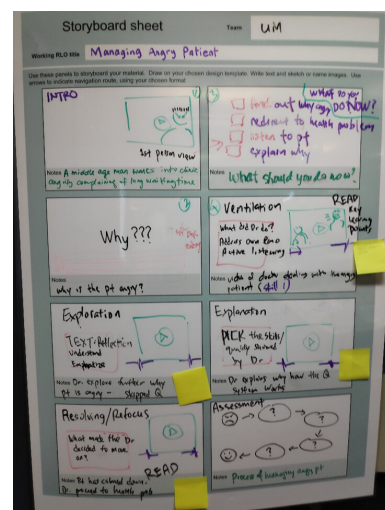
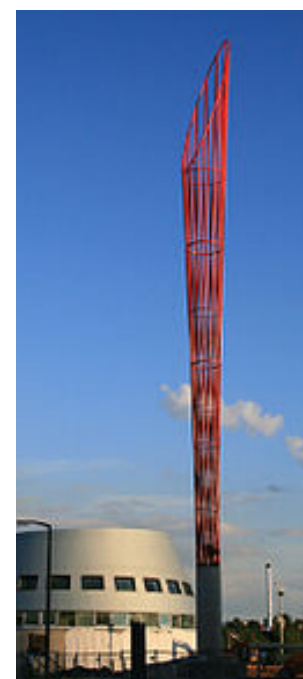
All the groups from Malaysia succeeded in creating the storyboards of the selected RLOs and presented them for feedback and suggestions.



What are RLOs?



- Small in size (5-15 minutes)
- Focused on single learning goal
- Uses a mix of media
- Sequence of pages
- Standalone
- Interactive
- Led by communities



CONTEXT OF ELEARNING IN MALAYSIA



The Malaysian National E-Learning Policy has been established since 2011 with the aim to transform Malaysian higher education institutions (HEIs) to become globally competitive by building a high quality and sustainable e-learning framework.

National e-Learning Policy

ENCULTURATION



CURRICULUM & E-CONTENT



INFRASTRUCTURE



PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT



ORGANISATIONAL
STRUCTURE

To achieve the aim, the Ministry of Higher Education work with HEIs in Malaysia to build capacity within the academic community, to establish a national e-learning platform, and to coordinate and spearhead the content development.

Key initiatives taken included launching massive open online courses (MOOCs) in subjects of distinctiveness, making online learning integral, and establishing the required cyber infrastructure for higher education and lifelong learning.

One of the Malaysian Education Blueprint (2015-2025) objectives is to encourage globalised online learning so that it will widen access to good quality content, enhance quality of teaching and learning, lower cost of delivery, and bring Malaysian expertise to the global community.

In this ACoRD project, the development and dissemination of reusable learning objectives fit well into this remit of the Malaysian Education Blueprint.

Ref :

1. Atan, Hanafi & Embi, Mohamed & Hussin, Supyan. (2011). *e-Learning in Malaysian Higher Education Institutions: Status, Trends, & Challenges*.
2. *Malaysian Education Blueprint 2015-2025 (Higher Education)*, Ministry of Education, Malaysia

ACoRD Partner University series

UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA



University of Malaya (UM) is the oldest university in Malaysia situated in the southwest of Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia.

In line with the Malaysian National E-learning Policy's goals of 'nation of lifelong learners' and 'globalized online learning', UM embraces blended learning in the curriculum which was led by the Academic Enhancement and Leadership Development Centre (ADeC).

ADeC is a one-stop centre in UM to improve and promote innovative and scholarly approaches to educational development among students and staffs. It acts as the central department that is in-charge of e-learning development, implementation and evaluation in the local context of UM.



Key activities organized by ADeC regularly include "Web 2.0 tools for teaching", an e-learning training by internal trainers to the lecturers to use and embed technology in delivering their lessons; "Technological pedagogical content knowledge" (TPACK); Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) development and Moodle Learning Management System.

ADeC also responsible in developing UM e-learning policy



UM has great experience in collaborating with international partners in implementing projects with research and capacity building. For instance, UM team has been working with EU partners and

Thailand in an ERASMUS Plus project to build capacity in the field of early nutrition in Southeast Asia (ENeA SEA).



ACORD@CONFERENCE

Dr Cherry Poussa presented the HELM experience in “Exploiting the synergy between the digital curriculum and funded digital development projects for embedding professional expertise and experience” at the Teaching and Learning Conference at the University of Nottingham in May 2019.

ACoRD was one of the main features of her presentation as an example of a large multi-partner project aiming to facilitate capacity building in e-learning in the Malaysian partners HEIs.



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