

Collaborative OpenCourseWare Authoring: The SlideWiki Platform

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Aims:

At the end of this session, participants will have acquired:

- An awareness of the different approaches in producing and sharing multi-lingual OpenCourseWare (OCW) with the open education community.
- A good overview of the range of technologies that can be employed to deliver OCW via multiple educational platforms.
- An insight into best practices for designing OCW for delivery via different learning platforms and for different learning contexts.

Main topics:

A major obstacle to increase the efficiency, effectiveness and quality of education in Europe is the lack of widely available, accessible, multilingual, timely, engaging and high-quality educational material (i.e. OpenCourseWare). The creation of comprehensive OCW is tedious, time-consuming and expensive with the effect that often courseware employed by teachers, instructors and professors is incomplete, outdated, inaccessible to those with disabilities and dull.

With the open-source SlideWiki platform,¹ the effort of the creation, translation and evolution of highly-structured remixable OCW can be widely shared (i.e. crowdsourced). Similarly to Wikipedia for encyclopaedic content, SlideWiki allows to collaboratively create comprehensive OCW (curricula, slide presentations, self-assessment tests, illustrations etc.) online in a crowdsourcing manner:

- to semi-automatically translate this content into more than 50 different languages and
- to improve the translations in a collaborative manner and
- to support engagement and social networking of educators and learners around that content.

The open-source and open-access platform SlideWiki.org won the OpenCourseWare Consortium's Excellence Award in 2014 and is used by hundreds of educators and thousands of learners. Several hundred comprehensive course materials are available on SlideWiki in dozens of languages.

The SlideWiki large-scale trial project² is further maturing the SlideWiki platform by integrating it with a state-of-the-art MOOC delivery platform and performing four large-scale trials in:

¹ <http://slidewiki.org>

² <https://slidewiki.eu>

- secondary education,
- vocational and professional training,
- higher education and
- community-driven open education.

Each of these large-scale trials is performed with hundreds of educators and thousands of learners in countries all over Europe. A particular focus of the technology development and testing in the trials is the suitability for academics, teachers and learners with disabilities.

Target Group:

The intended audience of this session consists of:

- *Educators* who want to find existing OCW and reuse or translate it, or develop new OCW collaboratively with their peers.
- *Informal learners* who want to find OCW and connect with other learners.
- *Researchers* in the open education community who want to learn more about collaborative OCW authoring and crowdsourced translation of open content.
- *Technology enthusiasts* aiming to broaden their knowledge on learning technologies for collaborative OCW authoring and distribution of content via different educational platforms.

Background knowledge expected of the participants:

No previous knowledge is expected.

Workshop Activities:

This session will introduce participants to the SlideWiki platform and its functionalities for collaborative authoring of OCW, crowdsourced translation of educational content, as well as social networking. Participants will also be introduced to the latest technological developments behind SlideWiki, regarding its integration with different educational platforms. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to try the SlideWiki platform and perform a range of OCW-related tasks, including finding OCW, reusing existing OCW, as well as authoring new OCW in collaboration with other participants. Participants will be able to offer their feedback via a plenary discussion and complete a questionnaire evaluating SlideWiki in terms of its usefulness and usability.

The Presenter:

Dr. Alexander Mikroyannidis (PhD, MPhil, BEng) is a Research Associate in the Knowledge Media Institute of the Open University. He has more than 10 years of research experience in the field of Technology-Enhanced Learning (TEL) and specifically in personalised learning, self-regulated learning, inquiry-based learning, open educational resources and rich interactive learning materials with applications in teaching and learning Data Science, Future Internet, and Linked Data. He has authored over 100 articles that have been published in peer-reviewed journals, conferences and books.