

Project for Open Content Knowledge Exposition and Teaching

POCKET

Introduction

Open content is an increasingly important area of educational development, however, previous work on the Open Learn project at the Open University has observed that the conversion of existing materials into open content is a challenging and potentially resource-intensive endeavour.

We believe that learners at HEIs across England and the rest of the UK would benefit from more stand-alone educational resources designed for HE study that can be freely accessed.

In addition the creation of new courses, whether campus-based or distance learning, could benefit from an enlarged pool of Open Content HE-level resources.

This Project aims to investigate the potential of migrating open content approaches in a range of disciplines across a number of different higher education institutions.

The project will run from November 2007 until March 2009 and will be led by the University of Derby.

Project aims

POCKET aims to build upon the OpenLearn approach by extending it to other HEIs.

Specifically it will:

- capitalise on the investment in OpenLearn to build a wider pool of quality assured HE-level Open Content
- provide support for learners adopting independent learning strategies
- explore the potential of Open Content for HEIs, both as providers of it and as users
- promote effective mechanisms for converting existing course materials into stand-alone educational resources
- determine the cost of creating Open Content from existing course materials
- create a new module with all materials developed for it designed as Open Content
- demonstrate seamless interoperability between Open Content and other repositories
- add a significant resource to JORUM Open



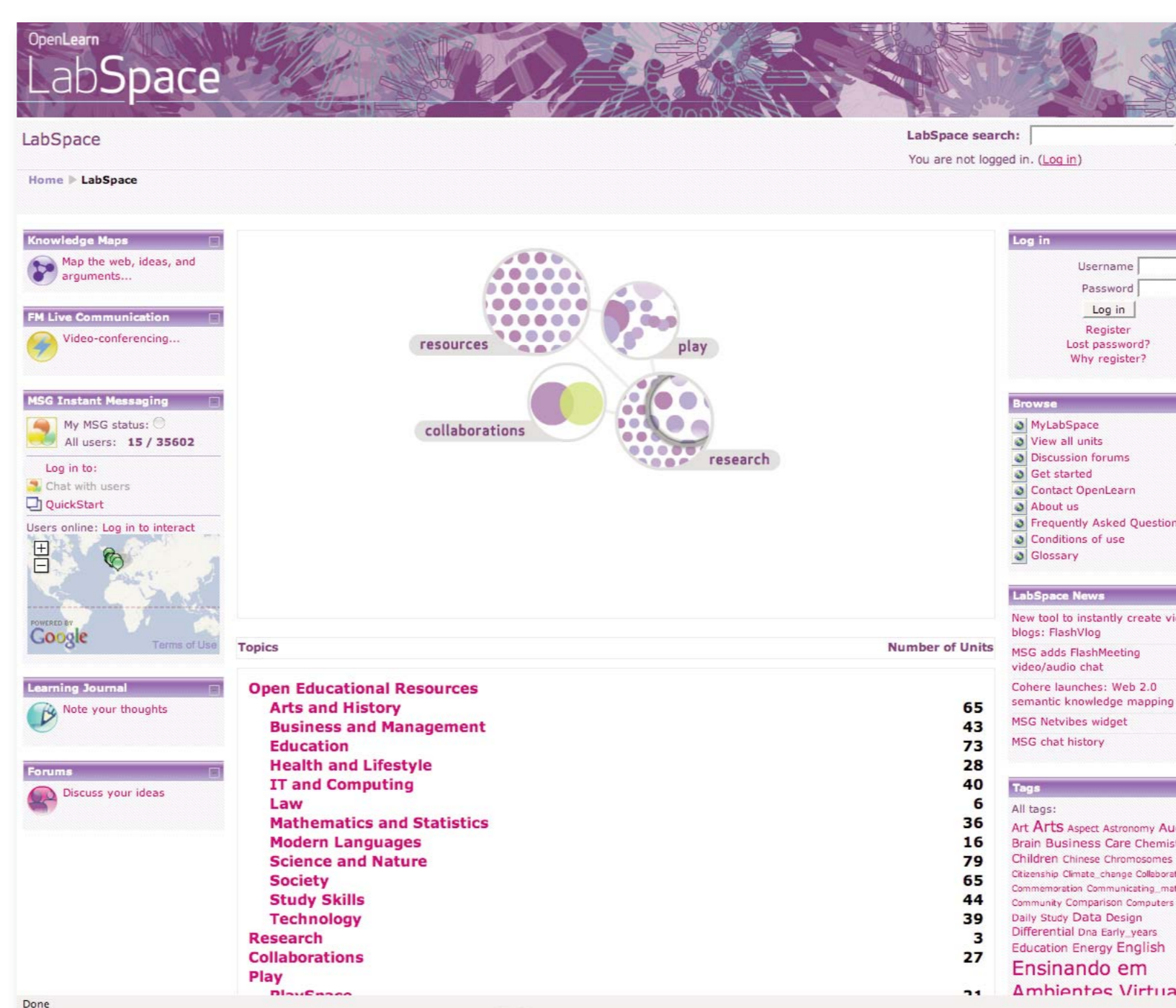
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Professionals in Practice



Benefits for students

- POCKET will create freely accessible stand alone educational resources
- Provides students with an insight into a variety of courses offered by leading UK HEIs
- Widens participation by supporting independent learning through the expansion of online stand alone learning materials

Benefits for staff

- Offers a unique opportunity to showcase modular content on the global OU OpenLearn platform
- Transforms existing learning materials into engaging interactive online resources
- All staff engaging in the content development process have the opportunity for personal development; to learn new skills and processes whilst fully supported by technical expertise

Benefits for University

- POCKET will act as a pilot which will help identify strategies for extending the development and use of open content within the university
- POCKET will provide a model of production for online open content with in-built clearQA processes
- Generating awareness of courses offered by the partner HEIs through the OpenLearn platform