mLearn 2015
14th World conference on mobile and contextual learning
Venice, Italy
17-24 October 2015

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS AND WORKSHOP THEMES

The International Association for Mobile Learning (IAmLearn) (www.iamlearn.org) is the custodian of the mLearn conference series. mLearn is the leading annual international conference for researchers, policy makers, educators, developers and solutions providers in the fields of mobile, ubiquitous and contextual learning, and learning with emerging ambient and wearable technologies, attracting participants from more than 60 countries.

CONFERENCE DATE:
The mLearn 2015 international mobile learning conference will take place from 17 to 24 October 2015, on a cruise ship departing from Venice, Italy. Pre-conference Workshops will take place on 18 October 2015. This fourteenth annual conference on mobile and contextual learning is the key research and networking event for researchers, strategists, educators, technologists and industry practitioners from all over the world. mLearn attracts a large number of participants from more than 60 countries representing all continents, and is, therefore, the world's largest international conference on mLearning and emerging ambient technologies.

CONFERENCE THEME:
The mobile learning voyage: from small ripples to massive open waters

The conference will fulfil the need for stimulating critical debate on and research into theories, approaches, principles, applications and the implementation of mLearning. It will provide an opportunity for professionals and practitioners to share their knowledge, experience and research in the various areas where mLearning is applied.

The conference programme will make provision for leading, invited keynote speakers, pre-conference workshops, full and short papers, poster presentations, roundtables and debates, special focus sessions, and practical events including technology, product and service demonstrations. The conference will also host an exhibition area, where the latest trends and a series of vendor presentations and demonstrations will be available.

The objectives for the conference have been defined as follows:

- To promote the development of mLearning, globally, but especially in developing countries.
- To stimulate critical debate on and research into theories, approaches, principles and applications of mLearning.
- To share local and international developments, experiences and lessons learned.
- To promote networking and business opportunity development.
- To encourage the study and implementation of mobile applications in teaching and learning.
- To stimulate and assist personal professional development and the development of new skills for educators.
- To provide a forum for education and knowledge transfer.
- To facilitate dialogue, sharing and networking between diverse cultures with regard to the optimum use of emerging technologies.
Topics of interest are:

- From pilot projects to mainstream implementation: strategies for the large-scale deployment of mLearning
- Mobile technology to support open and distance learning (ODL)
- Mobile technology for teaching and learning support
- Assessment techniques and practices in mLearning
- Design and development of learning material for mLearning
- Learning objects and metadata for mLearning
- Informal and lifelong learning with the aid of mobile technology
- Challenges for mLearning in developing countries
- mLearning as a tool for social change
- Building and implementing mLearning strategies in educational institutions, companies and public sector organisations
- mLearning management systems (mLMSs)
- Creating interactive and collaborative mLearning environments
- Future trends in mLearning technology, including the impact of emerging technologies
- Emerging hardware and software for mLearning
- Location-aware technologies
- Contextual and situated learning
- Augmented reality
- Serious gaming and simulations
- Ambient intelligence and ubiquitous learning
- Innovation in learning theory and pedagogy

Who should attend?

This event brings together some of the leading researchers and practitioners in the field of mLearning. It also appeals to a wide range of audiences who are interested in enhancing learning with designing content and developing systems for mobile devices and wireless networks.

The list includes:

- higher education institutions
- training providers
- educators and researchers from all sectors
- industry practitioners
- commercial companies and vendors
- mobile device manufacturers and service providers
- hardware and software developers
- community and voluntary organisations
- content developers
- learning and skills councils
- education authorities
- government departments
- telecom operators
- publishers

and all others with an interest in mobile and ambient learning.
Some of the benefits of attending the mLearn 2015 conference:

- mLearn 2015 will provide researchers, academics, industry practitioners and commercial vendors all the benefits of participating in one of the premier international conferences and being exposed to the exciting and rapidly growing field of mobile and contextual learning.
- mLearn offers unrivalled opportunities for networking with key academic and commercial contacts.
- mLearn is the only conference endorsed by the International Association for Mobile Learning (IAmLearn), a membership association which promotes excellence in research, development and application of mobile and contextual learning.
- The mLearn conference series has an established relationship with the official journal of IAmLearn, the International Journal of Mobile and Blended Learning (IJMBL). This is the leading journal in mobile learning, indexed in Scopus and PsycINFO and included in the ACM digital library.

Abstract submission information:
Submissions may be made in the following participation/presentation categories: Full papers, poster presentations, panels/roundtables, technical showcases, product/service presentations and pre-conference workshops.

For further details regarding the presentation categories, submission guidelines and more information, as well as to submit an abstract, visit the mLearn 2015 conference website at: http://www.mlearn2015.org

Important dates:
- Closing date for the submission of abstracts – 27 March 2015.
- Last date for early-bird registration – 1 July 2015
- Notification of acceptance – 4 May 2015
- Full paper submission – 1 August 2015
- Full paper and/or slide show for Technology Showcases – 1 September 2015

Registration:
Information with regards to registration categories and registration fees for the mLearn 2015 conference is available online at: http://www.mlearn2015.org

Conference proceedings:
The Conference Proceedings will be published by Springer. An edited post-conference publication, that will include a selection of the most relevant and influential papers, will be published in the International Journal for Mobile and Blended Learning (IJMBL).

Venue:
Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship: Splendour of the Seas
Departure (return): Venice, Italy

Steering Committee:
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Prof Mohamed Ally (Canada)
Prof John Traxler (UK)
Prof Agnes Kukulska-Hulme (UK)

An International Review Panel and Scientific Committee will assist the Programme Committee with the double, blind, peer review process and selection of abstracts.

Enquiries:
If you have any further questions, please contact the Conference Secretariat at:
Tel: +27169103497, E-mail: info@mlearn2015.org
or visit the conference’s newly launched website www.mlearn2015.org

‘Sea’ you on the cruise!