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## BLE-Bulletin

Rounding up e-learning news for the Bloomsbury Colleges

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### 1. Bloomsbury News

#### i) BLE migration to Moodle



Since the start of this term, the RVC's MSc in Veterinary Education, LSHTM's Distance Learning and Birkbeck's Politics, Biology and Humanities programme have been using their brand new Moodle instances. Early indications of use have not revealed any major issues; in the world of e-learning, no news is definitely good news!

A migration project website and blog have been set up to keep all Bloomsbury staff and students informed about the process. Documentation will also be available on the website.

Website: <http://www.bloomsbury.ac.uk/moodle>

Blog: <http://blemoodlemigration.blogspot.com>

To find out more information at this stage, you can always contact the Project Manager, Sarah Sherman - [s.sherman@bloomsbury.ac.uk](mailto:s.sherman@bloomsbury.ac.uk)

#### ii) Bloomsbury Media Cloud



The Bloomsbury Media Cloud platform, developed by the JISC funded project, is now available for all the Colleges to use.

Neal MacInnes and Sarah Sherman from the project team will be visiting marketing, media and library staff in all Bloomsbury Colleges during 2012 to demo the platform. The Media Cloud can be used to store, manage and catalogue media content, whether it is already stored elsewhere (e.g. on iTunes or in YouTube) or if a storage facility is needed. Content can then be very easily embedded on to websites, blogs or into the VLE. For more information, please visit: [www.bloomsbury.ac.uk/cloud](http://www.bloomsbury.ac.uk/cloud) (the project website).

### iii) Libraries 2.0? Web 2.0, Social Media, Learning



The 3rd Annual Conference of the Bloomsbury Libraries & eLearning Group was held back in the summer at the Institute of Education. Following the success of the previous years' meetings, we again brought together library staff and learning technologists from the Bloomsbury Colleges. This year's event was based around the use of social media and how libraries are making use of web2.0 technologies such as blogs, wikis, Twitter and Facebook.

To listen to all recordings from the event and to see the PowerPoint presentations from the day please visit the link:  
[http://tiny.cc/BLE\\_Library](http://tiny.cc/BLE_Library)

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## 2. Other News

### i) 'Google Generation' is a myth, says new research

A new report, commissioned by JISC and the British Library, counters the common assumption that the 'Google Generation' – young people born or brought up in the Internet age – is the most adept at using the web. The report by the CIBER research team at University College London claims that, although young people demonstrate an ease and familiarity with computers, they rely on the most basic search tools and do not possess the critical and analytical skills to assess the information that they find on the web. The report 'Information Behaviour of the Researcher of the Future' also shows that research-behaviour traits that are commonly associated with younger users – impatience in search and navigation, and zero tolerance for any delay in satisfying their information needs – are now the norm for all age-groups, from younger pupils and undergraduates through to professors.

[Podcast: 'The Google Generation' - myth or reality?](#)

**ii) The 19th international conference of the Association for Learning Technology will be held at the University of Manchester, UK, 11-13 September 2012.** The conference title is "A confrontation with reality" and the conference themes are Problem solving, Mainstreaming, Openness and sharing, sustainability, and Entrepreneurialism.

To access the detailed call for Abstracts go to <http://goo.gl/YgY5>.

To access the detailed call for Proceedings Papers go to <http://goo.gl/btuIr> .

The submission system will open during January 2012.

**iii) Southampton Solent University are co-ordinating the International Conference of Information Communication Technologies in Education**

ICICTE 2012 will be on the island of Rhodes, from 5-7<sup>th</sup> July, and welcomes both delegates and presenters. The event brings an international community of scholars and practitioners together and is renowned for the high level of academic excellence. The friendly atmosphere creates camaraderie and inspires academic interaction, and this global conference promotes development of innovative projects and networks. The conference will look at the effects that technological innovation has on education in all its formats.

Please submit proposals for presentations, posters and workshops by January 13<sup>th</sup> 2012 to: <http://www.icicte.org/ICICTE12Papers.htm>

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### **3. Training & Events**

#### **3.1 Bloomsbury Events**

##### **i) Xerte hands-on session in January: date & time TBC**

This is a hands-on session with Xerte. During the training session participants will learn how to:

- get started with Xerte
- adding different page types to a learning object
- use the hotspot and other types of interaction
- deploy your projects

For more information please contact: [y.nedelcheva@bloomsbyry.ac.uk](mailto:y.nedelcheva@bloomsbyry.ac.uk)

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#### **3.2 Regional & National Events**

**08/02/12 Turnitin User Group** - Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh. This event is FREE to User Group Members (non members £50 per person)

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### **4. Resources**

##### **i) Open Educational Resources: The value of reuse in higher education**

Open educational resources (OER) are materials which educators make available online to learners and also to other educators, to share, re-use and remix. This report summarises the findings of a recent JISC commissioned study. It is written primarily for teaching staff and those supporting curriculum delivery processes who may not have considered the potential value of OER. The report is available as a PDF from:

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/media/documents/programmes/elearning/oer/OERTheValueOfReuseInHigherEducation.pdf>

##### **ii) JISC Legal responds to cloud computing developments**

JISC Legal has responded to a growing demand for guidance on cloud solutions by creating a comprehensive "Cloud computing and the law", toolkit. The aim of this resource is to guide educational professionals through the legal aspects of implementing cloud computing solutions in their institutions. The toolkit is available from:

<http://bit.ly/o4EMb0>

##### **iii) UCISA Best Practice Guide**

The UCISA Academic Support Group, which has members from the M25-LT group, has

put together a Best Practice Guide on engaging academics in the use of Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL). The guide contains ten case studies which look at a variety of methods for engaging academics such as:

- setting up communities of practice
- developing intensive training and support programmes
- incorporating TEL into Postgraduate Certificate courses
- encouraging academics to publish their research in TEL.

Each case study describes the activity and the approach taken, provides an evaluation of the activity and discusses future developments and transferability.

Best Practice Guide: <http://www.ucisa.ac.uk/publications/engaging.aspx>

#### **iv) JSTOR - Early content free for everyone**

JSTOR - An electronic archive of 2000+ core scholarly journals - has now made some older content available free to all. The content includes 500,000 articles from more than 200 journals, and dates from 1879 for non-US publications and 1923 for US publications.

<http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>

#### **v) FOTE11 – The movies**

Following the recent, highly successful Future of Technology in Education (FOTE) Conference, the media files have now been made available online.

Videos and Slides: <http://fote-conference.com/wordpress/2011/10/fote11-slides-videos/>

Pictures: <http://flic.kr/s/aHsjvGkjXM>

#### **vi) Little Guides from JISC Digital Media**

A new series of 'Little Guides' addressing some **common queries and questions about digital media** are the latest offering from JISC Digital Media. The first subject areas covered are:

[The Little Guide to Finding Digital Media Resources](#) (PDF)

[The Little Guide to Copyright](#) (PDF)

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## **5. Funding Opportunities**

### **5.1 JISC**

<http://www.jisc.ac.uk/fundingopportunities/futurecalls>

### **5.2 The Higher Education Academy**

#### **International Scholarship Scheme – Higher Education Academy**

The HE Academy's international scholarship scheme has been designed to benefit the UK Higher Education (HE) sector by bringing back interesting, challenging and innovative learning and teaching practice to the UK. Guidelines and how to apply:

<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/international-scholarship-scheme>

**Deadline: 31st January 2012.**

#### **Further opportunities from the Higher Education Academy**

<http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/ourwork/learning/elearning/elro>

### **5.3 Higher Education Academy Subject Centres**

<http://www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/funding/tdf/>

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*Please forward to colleagues who may be interested.*

*Comments and contributions for the next BLE-bulletin are invited*