

### Media & Learning News

#### MILID conference in Barcelona attracts international interest



MILID (Media and Information Literacy and International Dialogue) supported by UNESCO took place on 23-25 May 2012 in the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) in Spain. It included reports from Europe, Brazil, Canada, China, Japan, Jamaica and Egypt on programmes in these countries stimulating dialogue and exchange in the field of media and information literacy. MILID activities continue with plans for a MILID week in 2013 in Cairo and 2014 in Beijing as well as a MILID Journal, doctorate programme, master programme, summer school and the development of a media and information literacy curriculum in different regions. Ine Vos from CANON Cultural Unit, Ministry of Education and Training in Flanders, Belgium took part to represent MEDEAnet and to present the MEDEA Awards and activities linked to the awards. There will be an article about her impressions in the July newsletter. Find out more about [MILID](#) and the [MILID Week](#).

#### New Andrew Keen book published

[DIGITAL VERTIGO: How Today's Social Revolution Is Dividing, Diminishing and Disorienting Us](#) by Internet entrepreneur and commentator Andrew Keen has just been published. In his new book, Andrew raises several important issues about social media and whether you agree with his point of view or not, much of what he raises deserves to be addressed. Andrew will be a keynote speaker in the [Media & Learning Conference](#) in November in Brussels where he will present and debate many of the topics discussed in his new book.



#### Courses and resources available on web strategies and social media for LLP Projects



Social media are increasingly important for all projects as they provide important validation and verification channels. The [Web2LLP project](#) is organising face-to-face and online courses on web strategies and social media for managers and members of projects supported by the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP). A [week long face-to-face course](#) will take place in Leuven, Belgium on 18-23 February 2013 and you can apply for funding to take part from your LLP national agency by September 2012. The online courses will be held in February-July 2013. These 10 hour courses made up of 5 modules lasting 2 hours each, will be available in English, French or Italian and

will also be backed up by an online help desk and support service. Please complete [this questionnaire](#) to provide the organisers with more information about training needs.

#### The MIT-K12 project: a student-produced educational video initiative by MIT

Ian Waitz, MIT's Dean of Engineering has launched the MIT-K12 project in collaboration with Khan Academy. This project encourages students to produce short videos teaching basic concepts in science and engineering.



The videos — aimed at students in grades from kindergarten to high school — are now accessible through a [dedicated MIT website](#) and [YouTube channel](#). In MIT+K12, MIT students produce 5 to 10 minute long videos on topics of their choosing. In the three dozen videos posted so far, students have focused on topics ranging from flying robots over basic chemistry to Earth's rotation.

#### Training course on creating educational apps in 2013



This [training course](#) about creating simple educational apps will take place on 4-9 February 2013 at the Leuven Institute for Ireland in Europe in Leuven, Belgium. The course includes guided demonstrations by an experienced trainer and will highlight techniques for app creation. It will introduce participants to the value apps have in enhancing learning opportunities for learners of every age. Funding to cover the full costs of participation is available through the European [Comenius](#) and [Grundtvig](#) programmes.

#### iCitizen 2 event in Turin

The [Produce Media Literacy: Creative Culture and Enterprise](#) conference took place on 10-11 May in Turin. It was organised by Antenna Media which represents Italy in the European Commission's Media Literacy Programme. Antenna Media focuses on the connection between media and innovation, enterprise and school. One of the highlights of this event was a round table discussion which included well-known expert on media and education, Pier Cesare Rivoltella; Luca de Biase, journalist and critical observer of contemporary society, Alberto Parola, media literacy expert from Turin University and Massimo Rosso from the Italian Television service, RAI. The conference which followed this thought-provoking session included presentations by a variety of professionals including teachers who presented their experiences on the topic of media literacy.



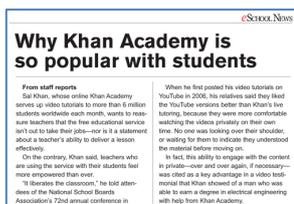
### Social documentary as pedagogic tool

[Europa 2111](#) is a European initiative that aims to facilitate critically reflective learning through the medium of social documentary. It is doing this by providing opportunities for learners to enhance their lifelong learning competences through participation in social documentary making. Europa 2111 is organising a seminar in Brussels in cooperation with the Brussels Film Festival on 12 June. The seminar, entitled **VIDEOREC YOUR FUTURE Social Documentary as a Pedagogic Tool**, provides an opportunity to see how the documentary process works in practice from a number of institutional representatives who have participated in its development.



### eSchool news report on the success of KHAN

There is an interesting [article](#) in the current eSchool news from the US about what makes the Khan Academy so successful. It seems that a



key factor is the simple one of repetition – students can simply watch video clips over and over again until they really understand what the tutorial is about. Another factor borrowed from the gaming world is the sequencing of tutorials

– “students can move through increasing levels of competency on the road to mastery”. This emphasis is at variance with the way school curricula normally work, where the timing of course delivery is the fixed variable and competence the variable – the people in the Khan Academy argue it should be the other way round.

### Featured Articles

#### On Air, a European project on media education

By *Alberto Parola, MED and University of Turin and Maria Ranieri, MED and University of Florence, Italy*

Over the last ten years the European Union has promoted several initiatives in order to encourage the development of digital and media literacy in European Member States. Groups of experts have been formed to define actions, surveys have been carried out, and sets of recommendations have been published. At the same time, impressive research projects providing a better understanding of the impact of digital media on the life of young people have been conducted. One of the most important references in this respect is the research project



Alberto Parola



Maria Ranieri

[EU Kids online](#), which focuses on the relationship between the media and young people both in terms of protection and empowerment.



[www.eukidsonline.net](http://www.eukidsonline.net)

However, despite this level of interest there is still a lot of investigation required to take into account this ever-changing landscape particularly in respect to pedagogy and assessment. The focus of the [On Air](#) research project is on educational practices in terms of media literacy. Funded by the European



Commission under the Lifelong Learning Programme 2008/2010, OnAir was promoted by the Faculty of Communication of the University La Sapienza in Rome and by the

[Italian Association of Media Education](#) (MED) and included partners in 4 other countries.

There are two characteristics of this partnership that are worth mentioning. First of all, it involves Eastern European countries where media education (ME) does not have a long tradition. However despite this, several extremely interesting initiatives are starting up. One good example is the [ActiveWatch-Media Monitoring Agency](#), a human rights organisation that advocates free communication in the public interest and, which amongst other activities, engages in developing media consumers' critical sense in relation to media messages.

Secondly, one of the promoters of the project is the Italian Association of Media Education (MED), a non-profit organisation established in 1996 in Rome, which involves academics, media professionals and a number of teachers with the aim of promoting research, study and experimentation in the field of media education, media studies and pedagogy.



The work carried out by MED in these past fifteen years has provided the basis for the very conception of the project, whose aims can be summarised as follows:

- *on a theoretical level:* to consider media educational practices as research objects, reflecting on the pedagogical models and teaching instruments that are used in the field of ME, and defining tools for the documentation and evaluation of such practices.
- *on a developmental level:* to improve teachers and schools' attitudes about research and experimentation through the promotion of already existing ME practices and involving teachers in the design and development of new ME materials;
- *on a training level:* to foster teachers' capacities to “exploit” the potential of digital media, mainly for the appeal they have to younger people: with and through new media, teachers should be able to motivate younger people to rediscover and in appreciate the importance of writing abilities and of the ability needed to become more aware users of media.

At the end of the project, more than 300 ME practices were collected and published in a freely available [online database](#). Furthermore, a

number of teaching materials and tools were developed, tested, and published on the project [website](#).

Currently, MED is engaged in several national and international initiatives. From 7 to 12 July 2012 the MED Summer School will take place in Corvara, involving teachers, educators and practitioners for a week in an intensive workshop on digital media production. MED is also partner in the European project [Energy-Bits](#) and promoter of the action-research programme "[The Chinese Way to Media Education](#)".

### TransLectures: transcription and translation of video lectures

Online educational repositories of video lectures are rapidly growing, a well-known example of this is [VideoLectures.NET](#): a free and open access educational video lectures repository and a major player in the development of the widely used [Opencast Matterhorn platform](#) for educational video management. Nowadays although repositories like this can be reached by people all over the world, they cannot be understood by everyone because of language barriers. Most lectures in VideoLectures.NET are neither transcribed (speech-to-text) nor translated (text-to-text) because of the lack of efficient solutions.

[TransLectures](#) is an EU Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) research project aimed at developing innovative, cost-effective solutions to produce accurate transcriptions and translations in VideoLectures.NET, which can be used in other Matterhorn-related repositories. Coordinated by the

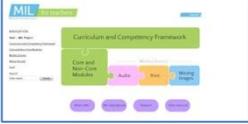
**trans Lectures )))** Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV) in Spain, it started in November 2011 and will run for 3 years. Alfons Juan, project coordinator, explains: "Our starting hypothesis is that there is only a relatively small gap for the current technology on automatic speech recognition and machine translation to achieve accurate enough results in the kind of audio-visual object collections we are considering." To close this gap, the *transLectures* work plan has been designed to achieve three main scientific and technological objectives. First the project team will carry out work to improve transcription and translation quality by massive adaptation. The idea is to develop an automatic translation system that makes use of models with lecture-specific knowledge such as the speaker, topic and, more importantly, time-aligned slides to make automatic translations. Nevertheless a high-quality translation is unlikely to be obtained by the use of fully automatic methods alone. This means that human interaction is needed. Therefore a second aim is to improve transcription and translation quality by intelligent interaction with users, that is, by using innovative, truly interactive models in which the system immediately learns from, and reacts to, each user that adapts the translation. It is not the goal to produce a system prototype that is only evaluated in the lab and can barely be used in real-life settings. Instead as the third and last objective the developed intelligent translation system will be transformed into a version that can be used in the Matterhorn community.



Alfons Juan is convinced that "upon successful achievement of the objectives, *transLectures* innovative solutions will rapidly spread over many educational repositories in Europe and worldwide, enabling them to overcome language barriers and reach wider audiences while supporting linguistic diversity." To find out more about the *transLectures* project, please visit the [project website](#).

### Resources of the Month

This section includes a selection of resources from the Media & Learning [Resources Database](#).

- [MIL for Teachers](#) is a website that gathers together the MIL (Media and Information Literacy) Curriculum for Teachers as well as some teaching resources organised in media libraries. The website is available in 5 languages. 
- [MIT-K12 project](#) encourages MIT students to produce short videos teaching basic concepts in science and engineering. Students produce 5-10 minute-long videos on topics of their choosing. Videos are aimed at students in grades from kindergarten to high school. 
- [Adobe Story](#) is a script-creation tool which can help new and experienced film and video writers to create scripts with correct formatting in various ways (film, video, 2-columns) as well as outputting it into practical schedules. The Story tool is a very handy and powerful tool for script and scenario creation. 
- [i-create](#) is a multimedia platform connected to social networks which offers students and teachers the environment and the tools to design and create their own multimedia projects. It's an open collaborative learning environment of youth creation, supporting experimentation, creativity, exchange and production of ideas. 
- [WeVideo](#) is an online video-editing platform, easy to use and for collaborative working. It allows users to directly create and co-create storylines and edit them 'in the cloud'. The platform also works well on tablets and smartphones. 

### MEDEA News

#### Keynote speakers for Media & Learning Conference

The first keynote speakers for the [Media & Learning Conference](#) taking place on 14-15 November have been announced. They include Andrew Keen, well-known Internet entrepreneur, author, broadcaster



and internationally renowned critic of social media; and Edith Ackermann, Professor of Psychology at the University of Aix-Marseille, France, and Visiting Scientist at MIT. The [keynote line-up](#) will also include Educational Scientist Pedro De Bruyckere who is well known for his opinions on youth and popular culture; and Industry expert Marci Powell and Chair Emerita and Past President of the United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA). The European Commission will be

represented in the opening plenary by Xavier Prats Monné, Deputy Director-General for Education and Culture.

### Stands available at the Media & Learning Conference 2012

The conference organisers are currently inviting relevant organisations, initiatives and projects who would like to have a small stand at the event. These stands can be used to share materials and to put on demonstrations of activities related to the conference themes and topics. They are available for free to registered participants. If you are interested, contact the [conference organisers](#).



### Webinar on Games in the classroom



Join the first MEDEAnet webinar "How to integrate gaming in the classroom" on Monday 25 June 2012, at 16.00 CET. This webinar will focus on the practicalities of introducing gaming in

the classroom and will include inputs from Innovative Teacher Europe 2011 and previous MEDEA Award winner, Steven Ronsijn and MEDEA Highly Commended entrant, Jolanta Galecka from Young Digital Planet. During this one hour webinar you will be given tips on how to successfully integrate games into your classroom. Although participation in the webinar is free, please register your interest in participating beforehand [here](#).



### Related Awards Schemes & Events PATCH2012MM call for papers is open

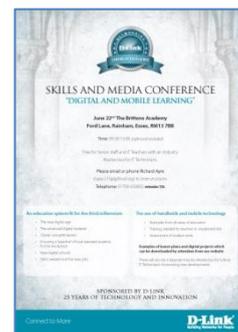
The Call for Papers for the [PATCH2012MM workshop](#) is open until 1 July 2012, submissions are possible through [EasyChair](#). In addition to full research papers, submissions of position papers, short papers and demonstrations are also encouraged to facilitate an active discussion

of open challenges and issues. The workshop will take place in Nara, Japan, from 29 October to 2 November 2012. The goal of this event is to bring together researchers and practitioners from different fields (e.g. multimedia retrieval, user interaction, arts and heritage curation, interface design and user modelling) in order to showcase novel applications and discuss opportunities that grow out of the connections that can be made between users and multimedia systems in the cultural heritage domain.



### Digital and Mobile Learning

The Skills and Media Conference ['Digital and Mobile Learning'](#) will take place at The Brittons Academy, Rainham, UK, on 22 June 2012. It includes a keynote by John Botham OBE focusing on an education system fit for the third millennium, followed by a speech on the use of handhelds and mobile technology in education by Ray Weaver (Apple Distinguished Educator). The conference is free for senior staff and ICT teachers. There will be an Industry masterclass for ICT technicians featuring new developments in networks and networking.



### 60 second science video competition



Create a short video that explains an invention, an experiment, a science concept or an idea and submit it to the 60 second science video competition. The video

must be a "Science" based video or animation and contestants must explain the science, not merely demonstrate a phenomenon. The deadline for receipt of entries is 1 August. Find out more from the competition's [website](#).

### Contact information

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