Media & Learning News

Horizon Report urges schools to tackle 'wicked' digital skills challenge

The recently published Horizon Report Europe: 2014 Schools Edition examines trends, challenges, and technologies for their potential impact on and use in teaching, learning, and creative inquiry. Two major imminent trends are identified in this report; the changing role of teachers as a result of ICT influence, and the impact of social media platforms. Mid-range trends include an increasing focus on open educational resources and an increasing use of hybrid learning designs. Long-range trends include the evolution of online learning and the rise of data-driven learning and assessment. Read the full report.

Project maps status of OER for language teaching

The LangOER network is a three year project dealing with Open Educational Resources (OER) in less used European languages. Since its start in January 2014 the project has mapped the OER landscape in less used languages and the results are presented in a state-of-the-art report which raises topics important for moving the field forward, such as policies, language barriers, multilingualism and the preparation of practitioners. On 19 September the project hosted an online webinar on multilingual OER repositories which can be accessed online.

Evens Foundation supports Media Literacy

The Evens Foundation is a public benefit foundation which initiates and supports sustainable projects in the domains of "Media", "Peace Education" and "European Citizenship". The foundation focuses on enhancing Media Literacy and awards a bi-annual prize for media education as well as initiating and supporting projects to increase media literacy in Europe. A second focus within the media program is on high-quality journalism and the foundation awards a biennial prize for European Journalism. One of the initiatives it supports is StreetSchool in Paris, an informal education project that teaches young citizens to practice good journalism. Find out more about the Evens Foundation.

First European Multilingual MOOCs go live

During October, learners all over the world will be able to enrol in free Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) in a range of different subjects from Blended Learning to Business Organization and from Searching on the Internet to Climate Change. This first catalogue of courses made available by the EMMA project are all offered in at least 2 languages including Spanish, English, Italian, Portuguese, Dutch and Catalan. In 2015, the EMMA team will be providing support and help to universities and colleges interested in launching their own MOOC in multiple languages on the EMMA platform as well as expanding the number of available MOOCs on EMMA. For more information about these MOOCs and how you can enrol online, see here.

eTwinning Learning Events in autumn

The continuing professional development of teachers is a vital aspect of eTwinning and a wide variety of different opportunities are offered to eTwinning teachers to participate. The Learning Lab is a specially adapted platform to facilitate the online aspect of eTwinning Professional Development and offers a vast variety of learning events in different languages. For more information about learning events, see here.

Series of guides on Lecture Capture

The Media & Learning Association has published a series of guides on moving beyond lecture capture which are the final outcomes of the European Lifelong Learning project REC:all. The project team researched how lectures are being captured and used, explored learning designs for flexible and off-campus delivery and reviewed technical, pedagogical and legal issues. The guides include the Pedagogy guide (EN), advice on copyright and IPR issues in the Legal guide (EN / FR), and an overview of the different technologies that are available in the Technology guide (EN).

Kaltura launches Video Creativity Suite

Kaltura, whose mission is to power any video experience, has launched a Video Creativity Suite which provides new ways for educational institutions to use video for live events, alumni outreach, course material for teaching and learning, media-based student assignments, training videos, video demonstrations, and the management and playback of licensed content. The new suite includes tools for capturing, creating, recording, uploading, editing, annotating, segmenting and adding calls to action to videos.

Open Education Europa Portal marks one-year anniversary and launchs new features

A year has passed since the European Commission Open Education Europa Portal was launched, and to celebrate the occasion a series of new additions has been added to the portal. First, a Best Practices Section will showcase all the top content published on the portal. Secondly, a special edition of eLearning Papers features a selection of the best articles published over the past year. Other improvements have been applied to the MOOC section with interactive features that enhance its role as a leading resource in the world of European MOOCs.

European Schoolnet promotes course for games-based learning in school

This course will examine the opportunities and challenges offered by integrating games into our teaching and learning and will provide practical examples of gaming tools and activities to use in your daily teaching practice. The course is being run jointly by European Schoolnet and The Interactive Software Federation of Europe (ISFE) and is free. It is primarily aimed at practising teachers and will start on 27 October. For more information and registration, see here.

Featured Articles

International Media and Information Literacy Yearbook Published

By Sherri Hope Culver, director of the Center for Media and Information Literacy at Temple University

The second annual yearbook on Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue (MILID) was published last month. The publication was announced at the MILID conference held in Beijing on September 27 and 28. The theme of the 2014 yearbook is "Global Citizenship in a Digital World" and includes 29 articles exploring programs and research in K12 education, higher education, and out-of-school programs across the globe. The first yearbook was published in 2013.

Sherri Hope Culver
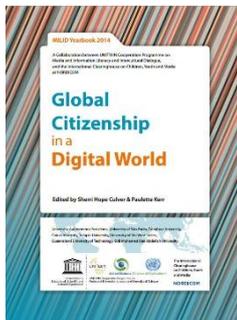
The theme of global citizenship for the 2014 yearbook is a reflection on the essential role media and information literacy education plays in helping young people to see themselves as active participants in the sharing of information, images, news, and entertainment across boundaries. Global citizenship assumes ease of participation in global spaces in which persons are media and information literate and are equipped with the competencies and attitudes to deal with a mediated world in which information is no longer bound by space or time. Articles explore video production in Egypt; civic engagement in Canada; curriculum development in Nigeria; media marginalization in India; teacher training in Japan-- and numerous other countries and activities. Across the globe there are innovative media and information literacy programs taking place. Despite these strong efforts, it is sometimes difficult to gain information about best practices so that new programs may benefit from prior work. It is the aim of the yearbook to speak to this need. Articles provide detail about ways to engage young people through activities in critical thinking, creative production using mobile media and methods for building partnerships with government and education, and research detailing exciting new practices.

The yearbook is a project of the UNESCO/UNAOC university cooperation program known as UNITWIN, the university twinning and networking program. The goal of the program is to promote "international inter-university cooperation and networking to enhance institutional capacities through knowledge sharing and collaborative work." In addition to the yearbook other projects of the UNITWIN cooperation program include an online MIL college course and an annual conference to bring together the wider MIL community. Conferences have been held in Barcelona (2012), Cairo (2013), and recently in Beijing (2014). The 2015 conference will take place in Philadelphia June 26-27, 2015.

The UNITWIN cooperation program is part of the Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy (GAPMIL) GAPMIL is an international effort working to ensure that all citizens have access to media and information competencies.

The yearbook was co-edited by Sherri Hope Culver from Temple University's Center for Media and Information Literacy (USA) and Paulette Kerr from the University of the West Indies, Mona. Copies are available through the publisher, the International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media. A free PDF download of the full yearbook is available at this link.

On the footsteps of a social trend: Net Children Go Mobile

By Dr. Anca Velicu, senior researcher at Institute of Sociology, Romanian Academy

Taking up the challenge that mobile internet poses to children, parents, teachers and policy makers alike, researchers from nine European countries (coordinated by Dr. Giovanna Mascheroni) have been participating in the Net Children Go Mobile project. This project which runs from 2012-2014 and aims to investigate how the changing conditions of access and use bring greater or lesser risks to children's online safety.

Anca Velicu

Who are we? The project, co-funded by the Safer Internet Programme, started in a four countries (Denmark, Italy, Romania and UK) which were later joined by Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Spain and Portugal who participated on a self-funded basis.

What do we want to learn? The project is based on a number of research questions which are focussed on: where children use the internet and how do they access it? In other words, is the "anytime, anywhere" potential of mobile internet actually used by children? Or, during the appropriation process, do children negotiate new utilities and values of mobile devices? What are the activities children usually do on the internet and how are these activities split among PC and mobile devices? Are traditional online risks (such as cyberbullying, excessive use, meeting strangers, sexting, etc.) higher due to mobility? Are there any new risks arising for children which are specific to mobile convergent media? How does the use of mobile devices affect children's digital skills and what new opportunities arise? How do adults face the new challenges in mediating children's mobile device use? Do these mobile devices change or challenge traditional family values and/or the role of school?

And how? The specificity of our project lies not only in the research object – i.e. convergent mobile media defined as personal portable devices which allow internet access anytime, anywhere and which imply a privatisation in consumption and different social conventions than PC-based internet experiences. It also exists in the holistic approach taken which aims to surpass some partialities in researching children's internet use. It combines quantitative and qualitative methods. This meant that we surveyed around

500 children (9-16 years old) in each country (except for Germany and Spain), whereas in the qualitative stage we have listened to the voices of children (at least 36 per country), parents and teachers (around 55 adults per country)through individual interviews and focus groups.

Results. One of the main findings of the project is that that along with age, having a smartphone increases children's internet use (both, at home and at school), digital skills and the variety of their communication practices (through SNSs), as well as the probability of being exposed to some risks. So, as the authors of the Report put it, "more opportunities, more risks' is a valid framework to understand the changes associated with smartphones and tablets".

What's next? As well as the reports based on quantitative data that have already been published, the Qualitative Report (to be released shortly) will focus on the children and adults' explanatory voices combined. Last but not least, a Final Report is to be expected in October.

Nordicom – a knowledge centre on media and communication research

By Catharina Bucht, The International Clearinghouse on Children,Youth and Media, Sweden

With academic research as a point of departure Nordicom collects and adapts knowledge and information in the field of media and communication research. The aim of Nordicom's work is to shed light on current and recent research. Furthermore to make the results visible in the treatment of media issues at different levels - in public and private sector, as well as by different user groups in the Nordic region, Europe and elsewhere in the world.

Catharina Bucht

NORDICOM
Nordiskt Informationscenter för Medie- och Kommunikationsforskning

Nordicom was established in the 1970s' and is a cooperation between the five countries of the Nordic region – Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. Nordicom is an institution under the auspices of the Nordic Council of Ministers and based in Sweden at the University of Gothenburg.

Three main working areas
Media and Communication Research Findings in the Nordic Countries

Documentation of scientific literature and ongoing research is the original task of Nordicom. The documentation services, accessible in an online database, are based on work in the national centres in each of the five countries. Another way of keeping up-to-date on academic work in the Nordic region is through the anthologies, journals and reports published by Nordicom (see web site) , for example the *Nordicom Review,* a peer reviewed journal in English making Nordic research in the field of communication and media studies known outside the region.

Trends and Developments in the Media Sectors in the Nordic Countries

Since the 1990s' Nordicom also collects and compiles media statistics for the whole Nordic region. The findings, together with qualified analyses are published online and in book series. The media landscape is also mapped through studies of media ownership. A lot of the work in this area is possible through cooperation and networking with relevant institutions and organizations in the media sector.

Research on Young People and Media Worldwide

The third area deals with research on children, young people and media worldwide. At the request of UNESCO, Nordicom began the establishment of the International Clearinghouse on Children, Youth and Media in 1997. The work of the Clearinghouse aims at increasing our knowledge and thereby providing the basis for relevant decision-making and contributing to a constructive public debate on issues regarding young people and their use of, access to, production of and influences from media. Another important aim is to promote young people's media and information literacy which today is considered a key competence in democratic and media immersed societies.

It is hoped that the work of the Clearinghouse, i.e. making recent research and other initiatives known to a wider audience, will also stimulate further research on children, youth and media. This is mainly done through the publishing of a yearbook and other reports and via our web site. To facilitate the exchange of information a global network has been set up with about 1,000 participants in over 100 countries. The network is open to join. The Clearinghouse is also participating in other international and regional networks and cooperations relevant to this field of interest such as e.g. the Media & Learning Association. For more information about activities and publications see: www.nordicom.gu.se and www.nordicom.gu.se/clearinghouse

Catherina Bucht will be one of the speakers at the forthcoming Media & Learning Conference on 20-21 November in Brussels.

Tools of the Trade
Collaborative script writing

By Mathy Vanbuel, ATiT, Belgium

Collaborative writing is becoming easier thank to tools like Google Docs and Dropbox. Co-writing scenarios for videos within the specific format required by screenplays has its own challenges. That is where WriterDuet comes in handy: it is an online collaborative screenwriting app that lets multiple users edit a screenplay online in real-time all for free, with additional features such as video chat. The app is now also available (for pay) on the desktop, which allows now seamless transition between online and offline mode. Nice features are, for example, tools to shorten scripts, check for errors, or analyse your script, text to image conversion, printing/copying prevention, etc. Some more advantages are grammar checking in multiple languages, script shortening, automatic backups, embedded multimedia.

Resources of the Month
This section includes a selection of resources from the Media & Learning Resources Database.

- [Filmarkivet](#) National and language-dependent repositories in Sweden, one of the oldest in the world, collects, catalogues, restore and makes the Swedish film heritage available.
- [Schools World](#) a multimedia platform, providing innovative and informative content: videos, interactive games, work sheets, information and education news.
- [Sonofind](#) A rich repository of audio and sound resources, as well as music albums and composers. Suitable for professional and home.
- [Free Images](#) A website where a creative community exchanges their photos for inspiration or work. An alternative to expensive photo repositories.

MEDEA News

Pre-conference workshop: Innovative Use of Video in Higher Education, 19 November 2014

This one day workshop aims to bring together some of the most innovative practitioners involved in providing video services in European Higher Education Institutions to discuss and exchange experiences, to highlight collective challenges and to explore opportunities for collaboration. See the workshop programme [here](#) for details, participation requires registration on [this page](#)

237 entries received for 2014 MEDEA Awards!

This year's submissions deadline for the MEDEA Awards has passed and many entries arrived in the last days and even minutes before the deadline. The MEDEA secretariat has received 237 submissions from 29 countries all over the world, with a great variety of projects: from social and cultural productions to language learning projects, from science education to professional training with media. Finalists will be announced by the end of October. We thank all the participants and wish them good luck! Follow the news on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Upcoming Webinars on Media & Learning topics

On 16 October a webinar will be organised by the MEDEAnet [project](#) on "[Programming as creativity](#)". This one hour webinar will provide an introduction to how teaching programming can enhance pupil's creativity. Then on 6 November the M&L Association SIG on Lecture Capture and Video Use in HE will organise their next webinar. In [this session](#) the interesting 4G pilot - "Historical Amsterdam", will be presented by lecturers from the University of Amsterdam and VU University Amsterdam.

Related Awards Schemes & Events
Kodu Kup Europe on 15 October in Brussels

Microsoft and European Schoolnet are organising the coding extravaganza Kodu Kup Europe on 15 October at the Microsoft Center, Brussels. During this event, 6 to 16 years olds from diverse European countries will pitch their

unique digital story – using coding to create digital art, literature and landscape design, in front of an esteemed jury and audience. Find out more [here](#).

EUscreenXL Conference, 30-31 Oct 2014, Rome

The National Audiovisual Institute of Poland, the Netherlands Institute for Sound and Vision and the Italian Istituto Luce Cinecittà are organising the EUscreenXL Conference at the Casa del Cinema in Villa Borghese in Rome. Registration is free of charge. This network addresses current challenges for online cultural heritage initiatives and discusses these with archivists, scholars of cultural – and particularly audiovisual – heritage, web designers, data specialists and policy makers. More information [here](#).

IMCL 13-14 Nov 2014, Thessaloniki, Greece

The 8th International Conference on Interactive Mobile Communication Technologies and Learning, (IMCL 2014), is part of an international initiative to promote technology-enhanced learning and online engineering world-wide. IMCL aims to promote the development of Mobile Learning, to provide a forum for education and knowledge transfer, to expose students to the latest ICT technologies and encourage the study and implementation of mobile applications in teaching and learning. For more information, venue and registrations, see [here.](#)

European exchange on Film & Media Literacy for preschool children starts 26 October

The aim of the event is to exchange experiences and come up with ideas for the future creation of high quality moving image and new media for young audiences with screenings, panel sessions and presentations. The exchange will be held during the 8th edition of the international children film festival Filem'on in Brussels. The presentations and discussions will take place in English and Dutch. See the program of the exchange [here](#).

Better Together Video Competition, voting closes on 21 November

This video competition is organised by [Better Together](#), an Irish nationwide campaign which aims to build support for hundreds of charities, community groups, clubs and associations across Ireland by encouraging the public to support good causes and make a difference in their communities. The Video competition provides an opportunity for Irish non-profit organisations, voluntary clubs and associations, as well as businesses and aspiring young filmmakers. More information available [here](#).

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