



virtUOS

The Center for Digital Teaching, Information Management and Higher Education Didactics at the University of Osnabrück

Media and Learning, 20.11.2025
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Basic Timeline

2002

- Founded as Center for Virtual Teaching
- Central service and research institute for the university, not part of any faculty
- Primary focus on digital teaching

2005

- Included Campus-Management (IT for student registration, exam management)

2007

- Included media production unit into virtUOS

2017

- Included Higher education didactics as additional department to virtUOS

Interesting facts

- University of Osnabrück is around 13.500 students.
- virtUOS has around 65 employees (part- and full-time)
- virtUOS was mostly financed with third-party funds (~ 2/3 average over the years)
- Focus on open-source software for teaching and learning
 - Introduced Stud.IP as only LMS in 2003 and still using it
 - Co-founded Opencast educational video-management software in 2008
 - Currently trying to offer AI-services that ensure privacy with open-source software (LibreChat, RagFlow, Ollama, VLLM)
- Higher education certification program together with Universities in Bremen and Oldenburg
- Started a makerspace for students in 2022
- 2 video-studios, 30 lecture rooms for automated lecture recording

Networking

- Cooperation of all 20 universities in Lower Saxony on
 - AI
 - CTL cooperation
 - Open-source software development (Moodle, Ilias, Stud.IP, Opencast, OERSI)
 - Joint operation of IT services for teaching
 - eAssessment
 - Joint analysis of trends for teaching and learning
 - Funded by the state with 25 million Euro until 2030
- German OER community
 - twillo.de
- Active in several open-source communities (Opencast, Stud.IP, BigBlueButton)
- Members in national and international associations on teaching and learning and IT (M&L, AMH, ZKI, DINI)

Future Projects

- AI and education.
- Improving start-up services for students

Very interested in

- Digital well-being for students
- Innovative learning spaces

Thank you for your Attention

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