****

**Call to all discipline groups for Contributions to Open Educational Resources (OER) in Simulation Learning**

The Subject Centre for Law, the UK Centre for Legal Education (UKCLE), has been awarded funding through HEFCE, HEA & JISC to release open educational simulation resources (OER) under a Creative Commons Licence. The project is part of a wider initiative being facilitated by JISC and HEA to promote the release of OER. We are actively seeking simulation resources that have been developed for accredited programmes in higher education institutions. We will be hosting a wide range of simulation materials including online simulations, paper-based role plays and case-study scenarios from a wide range of disciplines. It doesn’t matter whether your simulation is designed to run in a single tutorial or take up only a few hours of student time; or whether it lasts an entire academic year – we’re keen to host all types, all sizes of simulations.

Our project team will work with you to repurpose your resources as open educational content and to ensure your contribution is recognised. The resources will be stored in a repository with a web interface that allows users to search the simulation resources in various ways, and to view them as complete simulations, or as part of larger modules, or as individual files or learning objects. You can help decide how your OER are made accessible (through keywords); you can choose the licence structure options you think most appropriate, and you will receive feedback on the resources as well.

In more detail…

**What types of resources can I include?**

* Resources created to facilitate a simulation e.g., scenario descriptions, character roles, case-study narratives, witness statements ‘real life’ artefacts to produce authentic environments (bank statements, genealogies, photographs, videos, maps, etc)
* Links to websites through which you may run the simulation
* Student and staff resources to support the simulation, eg descriptions to help students or tutors understand what’s going on in a simulation
* Assessment criteria & materials, including standards for performance
* Web 2.0 technologies to support the simulation e.g. podcasts, webcasts, online discussion forums, interactive professional tools, etc
* Evaluation materials, for both formative and summative assessment
* Academic papers or presentations given about the simulation including slide presentations, position papers, internal working papers, peer-reviewed publications
* Useful web links
* Methodology for integrating the simulation into pre-existing modules or subjects
* transcripts of lectures, seminar outlines, curriculum guidelines and other contextual resources relating to a simulation

**Why should I join this project?**

Joining the project at this early stage will allow academic staff to become part of a rapidly-developing area of learning and teaching. Individual staff and prestigious institutions such as the Open University, MIT and Harvard are making educational resources freely available. Often, institutions use open educational resources as a way to attract new students and to advertise their courses.

There are significant benefits for individual academic staff and their departments. These include:

* The profiles of individual academics, their departments and institutions will be better known in their disciplinary communities, and there may be an increase in student satisfaction concerning the quality of learning materials as a result of participating in such a community of practice.
* The impact factor of your department and your work through teaching and learning will be enhanced.
* The OER may highlight existing and potential publications.
* The resources may also facilitate improved international awareness of departments and individuals,

**Is there any funding?**

There is a limited amount of funding for this project which will pay for staff time costs in developing your resources as open educational content (though note that this funding is not available to develop new resources).

**I’ve got simulation resources I want to contribute – next steps?**

Contact Patricia McKellar (patricia.mckellar@warwick.ac.uk) who will introduce you to the relevant members of the team.

**I want to learn more about the project…**

We hope that you will want to be part of this growing movement in HE and that you are able to contribute your resources to the ever-increasing numbers already being collated. If you would like to talk informally about the project please contact Patricia McKellar.

  