Proposed project summary (to be used for publishing)

Project acronym: **QUIS**

Objectives:
The activities in the QUIS project will be directed towards **QU**ality in e-learning, **I**nteroperability and re-usability of e-learning material and development of **S**tandards. The project will also look at cost effectiveness in e-learning.
Quality in e-learning is important to be able to exchange both learning materials and learning practices across HEI's in Europe. To establish *joint study programs* it is essential that cooperating institutions accept each others Quality Assurance Systems (QAS). Quality assurance is also important to describe, understand and accept different learning models between the institutions. **The aim is to promote more student centered models, using PBL or a more socio constructivistic approaches**. After agreeing on a set of applicable models, it is important to find ways to implement these models. Many LCMS / VLE systems are now quite focused on managing learning resources like text, video, sound etc. rather than supporting learning activities. The motivation for standardisation in e-learning seems also to be strongly focused on the re-use of learning resources (learning objects) rather than interoperability in a broader sense, including learning activities. We want to look at both existing and experimental Learning Support Systems to see how adaptable they are for new European learning models. We will also examine Standardisation propositions (IMS, SCORM etc) and evaluate these against the learning models. **Our aim is to discuss strengths and weakness and make recommendations for further development.** Many institutions and e-learning networks have experienced how difficult it is control the cost of developing and running net based education and they have to close down operations after a short time. **Our aim is to develop models for cost effective implementation and running of net based education.**

Approach:
The project will be attacked in different stages:
1. **QAS** for e-learning: analyse and disseminate previous projects and results
2. enhance the QAS further by focus on the ongoing Bologna process (structure and management), best practice and *academic diversity*
3. **analyse existing and experimental e-learning systems:** related to parameters as management capabilities, pedagogical support, content development and adaptability etc
4. increase accessibility and understanding of **evolving e-learning standards**
5. **propose requirements for the next generation of e-learning systems** by developing design patterns to guide teachers and increase personalisation using agent technologies **This will be input to ongoing standardisation and interoperability processes.**
6. The project will analyse available economic models and case studies in e-learning and suggest **new and balanced models for cost effectiveness.**

Expected results:
- A "database" of information of QAS' and quality in e-learning reports
- A report on quality in e-learning to establish:
  - Joint European study programes
  - best practice for net based education across language and cultural barriers
- State of the art report regarding managerial, content and pedagogical capabilities of LMS'
- An guide to understand standards and relationships between different initiatives and projects
- A requirement specification for the next generation of learning support systems
- A model report on cost effectiveness based on both a theoretical and practical approach

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