Open Mobile: institutional responses to mobile learner support

Conference or Workshop Item

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Open Mobile: institutional responses to mobile learner support

Responding to students already accessing mobile portals – e.g. The Open University (OU) StudentHome mobile:

- 25K individuals accessed via mobile in the last quarter,
- 13K in a month, indicating repeat visits and also new visitors.

High usage of the mobile-optimised version persists, some switching to full-size version once autodetection put in place July '08.

Exploring further prospective use of apps for learning (Oct '10 survey), following some prototyping and also public engagement iOS apps by our Mobile Innovations Group:

- See also: www.open.ac.uk/blogs/mLearn

Other apps include looking at content packages and synchronising these offline, incorporating audiovisual material.

Parallel work also underway on enhanced ePub eBooks.

Combining mobile approaches to other learning and teaching tools, for example – audio eAssessment using Learnosity Voice Response systems – web, phone, Skype, mobile voice and apps.

Looking to enable user-generated content in fieldwork and practice-based subjects through use of intermediate cloud services such as those provided by Google, Qik, Flickr.

Establishing a coordination website to share internal practice and also disseminate project work. This builds on work undertaken by our Institute of Educational Technology with regard to Educational and Professional Development, alongside Teaching and Learning guides, also covering Mobile Learning.

To find out more, go to www.open.ac.uk/mobisite

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