

Linked Learning 2015 - Learning and Education with the Web of Data

Distance teaching and openly available educational resources on the Web are becoming common practices with public higher education institutions as well as private training organisations realising the benefits of online resources. However, due to the very fragmented landscape of schemas, vocabularies and interface techniques, it is not only the case that interoperability between repositories of educational resources remains a challenge, but also that educational Web resources remain underexploited.

On the other hand, the widespread adoption of Linked Data and derivations, such as Microformats, has led to the availability of vast amounts of public data such as DBpedia¹, WordNet RDF² or the data.gov.uk³ initiative, ranging from domain-specific expert vocabularies to, for instance, data about cultural heritage (e.g., the Europeana dataset⁴), which has the potential to fundamentally aid and transform the production, delivery and consumption of educational services and content. More recently, these approaches started to get adopted by education institutions, with Linked Data technologies being used to expose public information regarding course offerings, open educational resources and educational facilities in a readily accessible and reusable way. This has led to the creation of an embryonic "Web of Educational Data" [1] including institutions such as the Open University (UK)⁵ or the National Research Council (Italy), as well as Linked Data about publicly available educational resources, such as the mEducator dataset [4]. Initiatives such as LinkedEducation.org, LinkedUniversities.org and LinkedUp⁶ are being inspired and driven by the initial Linked Learning community and have made first efforts to bring together people and works in this area. However, widespread take-up of such approaches is still hindered by issues which are both technical as well interdisciplinary.

Building on the success of previous editions (LILE 2011-2014)⁷, LILE2015⁸ addresses such challenges by providing a forum for researchers and practitioners who make innovative use of Linked Data for educational purposes. After extensive peer review (each submission was reviewed by at least three independent reviewers) we were able to select 5 papers for presentation in the program of this (half-day) workshop. The workshop would not be possible without contributions of many people and institutions. We are very thankful to the organizers of the WWW 2015 conference for providing us with an opportunity to organize the workshop, for their excellent collaboration, and for looking after many important logistic issues. We are also very grateful to the members of the program committee for their commitment in reviewing the papers and assuring the good quality of the workshop program. We also thank all authors and invited speakers for their invaluable contributions to the workshop. Of course, great appreciation of his time and expertise goes to our sponsor GNOSS⁹. We thank all supporters of LILE2015 for making this event possible.

REFERENCES

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¹ <http://dbpedia.org/>

² <http://www.w3.org/TR/2006/WD-wordnet-rdf-20060619/>

³ <http://www.data.gov.uk/>

⁴ <http://ckan.net/package/europeana-lod>

⁵ <http://data.open.ac.uk/>

⁶ <http://linkedup-project.eu>

⁷ <http://lile.linkededucation.org/2015/previous>

⁸ <http://lile.linkededucation.org/2015>

⁹ <http://gnoss.com/>

- [3] Davide Taibi, Besnik Fetahu and Stefan Dietze, Towards Integration of Web Data into a coherent Educational Data Graph, in Leslie Car, Alberto H. F. Laender, Bernadette F. Lôscio, Irwin King, Marcus Fontoura, Denny Vrandečić, Lora Aroyo, José Palazzo M. de Oliveira, Fernanda Lima, Erik Wilde (editors), Companion Publication of the IW3C2 WWW 2013 Conference, May 13–17, 2013, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. IW3C2 2013, ISBN 978-1-4503-2038-2.
- [4] Dietze, S., Taibi, D., Yu, H. Q., Dovrolis, N., A Linked Dataset of Medical Educational Resources, British Journal of Educational Technology (BJET), to appear in 2015.

Linked Learning 2015 Organization

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