

**2nd European Conference on
Games-Based Learning
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain
16-17 October 2008**

Conference Co-Chairs: Jordi Sánchez Navarro and Daniel Aranda, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain

Programme Co-Chairs: Thomas Connolly and Mark Stansfield, University of the West of Scotland, UK

Keynote Speaker: Simon Egenfeldt-Nielsen, IT-University of Copenhagen, Denmark, "*Beyond Edutainment: The educational potential of computer games*"

CALL FOR PAPERS, PANELS AND TUTORIALS

Mini track on User-centered Learning Game Design

Track chair: Dr Kristian Kiili, Tampere University of Technology, Pori, Finland

Research has shown that the quality of produced learning games have not met the standards and needs of end users. The only way we can develop learning games that are desired by users, that fulfil their needs and are easy to use, is through in-depth user research. However, user-centered design principles have not reached the same level of usage in game design as in other software applications. Thus, there is a need to study and develop learning game design methods that better take the needs and preferences of different end users into consideration, than do current industry practices.

The overall objective of this track is to consider ways of improving the learning game design practices by exploiting user-centered design methods. The mini track seeks original, high-quality contributions in scholarly and practical contexts that will consider user-centered learning game design from different perspectives. The scope includes, but is not restricted to, the following themes: participatory design, prototyping, use of personas, expert evaluations, play testing, scenario-based design, integration of gameplay and pedagogy, user experience measurement, novel design methods etc. Overall, the track offers a forum to discuss issues that form a foundation to design high quality games desired by both teachers and students

Submission details:

Abstract details: The Abstract should be a minimum of 300 and no more than 500 words including up to five keywords and keyphrases to be received by **27 March 2008**. Please read the abstract guidelines section of the website before submitting.

Submission: Online at

<http://academic-conferences.org/ecgbl/ecgbl2008/ecgbl08-abstract-submission.htm>

Please ensure that you complete all relevant sections of the form, including the conference track the abstract is intended for, the proposed title for the paper, the full names (first name and surname, not initials) and email addresses of all authors and a postal address and telephone number for at least one contact author. Please indicate clearly if the contact author is not the lead author..

Full paper:

Only required when the abstract has been selected and not to be more than 5,000 words including abstract, keywords and references (the Harvard referencing rules need to be followed). Submission date will be no later than 15 May 2008. Papers should be submitted as .doc or .rtf file attachments by email to the Conference Manager, Elaine Hayne at elaine.hayne@academic-conferences.org

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Important information:

The selection panel of the conference committee will consider all abstracts received by the submission deadline to ensure that the proposed paper is relevant to the Conference. The authors of abstracts, which describe a relevant paper, will receive a notification of abstract acceptance. All full papers will be blind reviewed by members of the conference committee to ensure an adequate standard, that the proposed subject of their abstract has been followed, that the paper is of a suitable length, that the standard of English is adequate and that the paper is appropriately referenced. Papers that are accepted will be published in the conference proceedings providing at least one author registers and presents the work at the Conference (see the registration section of the conference website for more information about registration). Due to the large number of papers expected for this conference, the committee only allows an author to present one paper. Therefore if multiple papers are accepted for presentation different co-authors need to present each paper.

Important dates:

Abstract submission deadline:	27 March 2008
Notification of abstract acceptance:	3 April 2008
Full paper due for review:	15 May 2008
Notification of paper acceptance (with any changes):	24 July 2008
Earlybird registration closes:	7 August 2008
Final paper due (with any changes):	21 August 2008
Final author registration date:	11 September 2008

Conference Executive:

Dr Wilfried Admiraal, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Dr Daniel Aranda, Univesitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain
Dr Tobias Bevc, Political Science, Technical University of Munich
Dr Erik Champion, University of New South Wales, Australia
Professor Thomas M Connolly, University of the West of Scotland, UK
Dr David Edgar, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK
Kevin Grant, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK
Dr. Begoña Gros, Univesitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain
Dr Jeff Haywood, University of Edinburgh, UK
Dr Kristian Kiili, Tampere University of Technology, Pori, Finland
Professor Feng Li, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK
Dr Hamish MacLeod, University of Edinburgh, UK
Dr Jordi Sánchez Navarro, Univesitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain
Dr Mark Stansfield, University of the West of Scotland, UK
John Sutherland, University of Abertay, UK

Conference Committee:

The conference programme committee consists of key people in the games based learning community, both from the UK and overseas. The following people have confirmed their participation: Wilfried Admiraal (Universiteit van Amsterdam, The Netherlands); Daniel Aranda (Univesitat Oberta

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de Catalunya, Spain); Tobias Bevc (Technische Universität München, Germany); [John Biggam](#) (Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland, UK); Patrick Blum (Inside Business Group, Germany); Liz Boyle (University of the West of Scotland, UK); [Willem-Paul Brinkman](#) (Brunel University, UK); David Brown (Nottingham Trent University, UK); Daniel Burgos (Open University of The Netherlands, Heerlen, The Netherlands); Thibault Carron (Université de Savoie, Chambéry, France); Erik Champion (University of Queensland, Ipswich, Australia); Maiga Chang (National Science and Technology programme for e-Learning, Taiwan); Thomas Connelly (University of the West of Scotland, UK); Sara de Freitas (Birkbeck College, University of London, UK); David Edgar (Glasgow Caledonian University, UK); Patrick Felicia (Waterford Institute of Technology, Ireland); Lisa Galarneau (University of Waikato, New Zealand); Pedro Antonio González-Calero (Complutense University of Madrid, Spain); Kevin Grant (Glasgow Caledonian University, UK); Begoña Gros (Univesitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain); [David Guralnick](#) (Kaleidoscope Learning, New York, USA); Mike Hart (University of Winchester, UK); Jeff Haywood (University of Edinburgh, UK); Jeffrey Jacobson (Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, USA); Elisabeth Katzlinger (Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria); Kristian Kiili (Tampere University of Technology, Pori, Finland); [Timo Lainema](#) (University of Turku, Finland); Feng Li (University of Newcastle upon Tyne, UK); Martin Lynch (University of Glamorgan, UK); Hamish MacLeod (University of Edinburgh, UK); Jean-Charles Marty (Université de Savoie, Chambéry, France); Alice Mitchell (Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge, UK); Jonathan Moizer (University of Plymouth, UK); David Nicol (University of Strathclyde, UK); Paul Peachey (University of Glamorgan, Treforest, UK); Jim Piggot (TPLD Ltd, Dundee, UK); Elias Pimenidis, (University of East London, UK); Kris Popat (Ultralab, Anglia Ruskin, University, UK); Daniela Romano (University of Sheffield, UK); David Rush (University of Winchester, UK); Jordi Sánchez Navarro (Univesitat Oberta de Catalunya, Spain); Mark Stansfield (University of the West of Scotland, UK); Constance Steinkuhler (University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA); John Sutherland (University of Abertay, UK); Uday Trivedi (R.C. Technical Institute, India); [Richard Tunstall](#) (University of Glamorgan, UK); Linda Van Ryneveld (Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria, South Africa); Nicola Whitton (Manchester Metropolitan University, UK).

This call for papers and full details of the conference can also be found online at <http://www.academic-conferences.org/ecgbl/ecgbl2008/ecgbl08-home.htm>