

3rd European Conference on Games-Based Learning FH JOANNEUM University of Applied Sciences, Graz, Austria 12-13 October 2009

Conference Chair: Maja Pivec, FH JOANNEUM University of Applied Science, Graz, Austria
Programme Co-Chairs: Thomas Connolly and Mark Stansfield, University of the West of Scotland, UK

Call for Papers, Posters, Round Table Proposals, Practitioner Contributions and Product Demonstrations

Mini track on Games and Higher Education

Track chair: Elias Pimenidis, University of East London, UK

Higher Education has seen considerable changes in the way academics interact with students over the past few years. The rising cost of Higher Education puts strain on institutions in maximizing utilization of resources and improving performance in terms of student results. At the same time students are far more technologically savvy compared to even five years ago. Teaching in higher education through games is an acceptable and fashionable mode of delivery. Lecturers and tutors constantly seek innovative means of attracting and maintaining student interest during class contact hours and games along with virtual worlds appear to be the current winning formula. Yet the games available for such purposes are either too generic or too specific, narrowed down to the individual approaches of their developers. They mostly lack the "fun" factor that'll make them attractive enough to younger generations or where they achieve that they tend to overstep that, losing the educational focus.

This mini track seeks to present innovative ways of developing games that would suit a wider HE audience (within a specific knowledge area) and for researchers / developers to present their approaches and experiences in developing games for HE teaching. Such presentations would prove particularly attractive to the educational community who often looks at developing in-house tools on limited budgets and small and usually understaffed teams.

Finally the mini track would welcome papers presenting innovative approaches of utilizing existing off the shelf games within an HE teaching environment

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Developing computer based educational games
- Managing the development small scale computer games projects for educational purposes
- Delivering professional skills through computer games – a designer's challenge
- Computer Games for Higher Education students – balancing the fun element
- Using off-the-shelf games in Higher Education teaching

Publication opportunity

Papers accepted for the conference will be published in the conference proceedings, subject to author registration. The proceedings have an ISBN and ECGBL proceedings are listed in the Thomson ISI Index to Scientific and Technical Proceedings (ISTP/ISI Proceedings), the Thomson ISI Index to Social Sciences & Humanities Proceedings (ISSHP) and the Thomson ISI Index to Social Sciences & Humanities Proceedings (ISSHP/ISI Proceedings).

Selected papers will also be considered for publication in a special issue of the [Electronic Journal of e-Learning](#).

As well as full academic papers, the following submissions are welcomed:

Research in Progress; Researchers may submit current projects whilst they are still in progress.

Case Study Submissions; Submissions should be written to publishable standards.

Poster Submissions; welcomed in any of the areas identified in the call for papers.

Round Table Proposals; Topical subjects proposed for discussion.

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Practitioner Contributions; Contributions, either presentations or demonstrations, from individuals and organisations working in the field. Presentation submissions should follow the abstract submission process

For product demonstrations, please submit a proposal of 200-300 words describing the topic related product you would like to demonstrate and the audience it serves. Proposals should be sent as an email attachment to [Sue Nugus](mailto:Sue.Nugus@academic-conferences.org) not later than **11 May 2009**. Demonstrations themselves are expected to be approximately 15 minutes in length.

Submission details:

Abstract details: All submission types require a 300-500 word abstract in the first instance, to be received by **23 March 2009**. Please read the online guidelines at <http://academic-conferences.org/abstract-guidelines.htm>

Submission: Only accepted by online form submission at <http://academic-conferences.org/ecgbl/ecgbl2009/ecgbl09-abstract-submission.htm>

Full paper: Only required for academic submissions once the abstract has been selected, no more than 5,000 words to be received by **11 May 2009**. Papers should be submitted as .doc or .rtf file attachments by email to the Conference Manager, [Elaine Hayne](mailto:elaine.hayne@academic-conferences.org) at elaine.hayne@academic-conferences.org

All full papers will be double-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, the standard of English is adequate and the paper is appropriately referenced.

Important dates:

Abstract submission deadline:	23 March 2009
Notification of abstract acceptance:	30 March 2009
Full paper due for review:	11 May 2009
Notification of paper acceptance (with any changes):	20 July 2009
Earlybird registration closes:	3 August 2009
Final paper due (with any changes):	17 August 2009
Final author registration date:	7 September 2009

Conference Executive:

Dr Tobias Bevc, Goethe University, Frankfurt, Germany
David Brown, Nottingham Trent University, UK
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 Jeff Haywood, University of Edinburgh, UK
Professor Feng Li, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK
Dr Hamish MacLeod, University of Edinburgh, UK
Professor Maja Pivec, FH JOANNEUM University of Applied Sciences, Graz, Austria
Elias Pimenidis, University of East London, UK
Dr Genaro Rebolledo-Mendez, Serious Games Institute, Coventry University, UK
Dr Daniela M. Romano, University of Sheffield, UK
Dr Mark Stansfield, University of the West of Scotland, UK

This .pdf is an abbreviated call for papers. A full call for papers and further details of the conference can also be found online at

<http://www.academic-conferences.org/ecgbl/ecgbl2009/ecgbl09-home.htm>