

EUROMEDITERRANEA MULTICULTURAL UNIVERSITY

Those countries who wish to develop and enrich their economy and society should combine their traditional scholastic program with on-line e-learning.

Introduction

The ever-increasing use of the new computer, information and communication technologies in all aspects of daily life has brought a whole new slew of dilemmas. If, on one hand, the use of the new technology is promoted because of the benefits it offers, on the other hand it becomes evident that because of the efficiency it provides it becomes necessary to change the usual habits in an array of areas: cultural, economic, social, political and even technological.

Because of the extremely important role the education system, and in particular that of university, holds in society, there is a natural need to find new technologies, systems and methods which render teaching and learning more accessible, efficient and beneficial to all involved.

Knowledge Management and E-Learning

Over the last decade, there have been many technological and service-based innovations that have become part of the instruments that could potentially be used to resolve many of the problems that the educational system faces today. These innovations are many and are in continuous evolution. This is the reason that this field requires specific knowledge and interdisciplinary methodologies. Because of the ever changing technology, these have not yet been consolidated within the culture and organization of the educational institutions.

“Knowledge Management” (which is becoming more and more important in the business world) is the science of following and developing the processes of creation, support, application, sharing of, transferring and reproduction of knowledge in order to increase the efficiency of the organization as a whole, therefore raising its value. The theories and experience developed within this new science can also be applied to formulate an applicable system for a “virtual university”.

Today, thanks to the new computer based educational technologies (Computer Based Training), it is possible to reduce not only the costs, but also the amount of time need for the formative process. It also resolves the problems of the need for a campus or learning center and the hours at which the learning takes place.

Another important factor is that this method of learning is extremely personalized.

The interactivity of the technological programs allows the student to have direct contact with the teacher: asking questions and receiving answers; doing exercises with the newly acquired knowledge, solving problems, elaboration of learned material. As well, e-learning contributes to the transformation of the educational process, bringing it towards new frontiers where more traditional methods (textbooks, photographs, audio and video cassettes) become even more valuable when integrated with the use of multimedia e-learning tools.

These new methods of “long-distance learning” should be envisioned by those who decide to become protagonists of the educational process; to enhance and exceed the traditional methods which are no longer adequate for the present needs of learning and continuing education.

E-learning or “long-distance learning” is defined by the administration of instructional programs designed with the use of multimedia and interactive didactic tools that assist and enhance the role of the teacher and, at the same time, adjust to the needs and particular method of learning of the student.

In this way, it is particularly useful for the instruction of adults in the form of continuing education as a support for continued development in the workplace.

Euromediterranea University Objectives

The objective of the Euromediterranea Multicultural University is to offer long-distance learning, which is already amply present in most of the “First World” countries as a standard part of the educational system. This long-distance learning will allow access to education to a whole new group of people who, up until now, have been excluded from the chance at formal traditional schooling. For these people, this will open up a wide range of possibilities to enter the workforce. As well, the Euromediterranea Multicultural University is a “virtual campus” that, among other things, systematically develops relationships and interaction based on and between the cultural realities of the countries which have the greatest need for an understanding of each other – as is the case for the countries of the Mediterranean region.

How E-Learning Works

EUROMEDITERRANEA University provides long distance learning through the use of various communication systems (e-learning, chat, forum, video conferences) integrating these with “live” activity (workshops, seminars, etc.)

Full time students “in house”: the new technologies allow for a highly improved formative product. Thanks to computer networks teachers and experts which before weren’t available can now be utilized. The school can be at EUROMEDITERRANEA’s existing center or we can form new centers in cities or towns who wish to do so.

Full time students “out of house” : for students who live in areas not close to the center, for whom the use of the computer is indispensable and of great benefit. For these users, it would be possible to combine home study with occasional visits to the center;

The principle objectives are the education, consulting and research within the various professional sectors and, in particular, using communications and computer technology with a specific eye on the determining factors in order to draw together the Mediterranean countries with respect and esteem for the different cultures.

It is also necessary to form a new connection between the research sector, schools and universities and the professional world. It is important to make use of the experiences of the heads of public institutions and business executives, therefore creating a permanent line of communication between education, product systems and different professions. Only in this way is it possible to maintain a coherence in the standard of education and a rapid evolution of development processes on an international level.