



A Virtual University Platform for University of Bucharest, Romania

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Abstract

Where do we come from? During the last 14 years, the authors were involved in designing, implementing and developing distance learning study programs within University of Bucharest, Romania. The starting point was the "PHARE Multi-country Programme for Distance Education", 1994-1999. The objective was to create 40 Distance Education Study Centres, acronym DESC, in 11 countries (Central and Eastern European Countries). In Romania, 7 DESCs were established, one within University of Bucharest. All the seven RO Centres were recognized by the Ministry of National Education (Decision OMEN No.3289/19.02.1998). The DESC from University of Bucharest has provided the authors the opportunity to grow in parallel with distance education in Romania. The 14 years achievements will be reported during the workshop "Best practices and case studies of Distance Learning", organized within "The 9th eLearning and Software for Education Conference, eLSE 2013, April 25th: 26th, 2013[1].

Where we would like to go? The authors are thinking to the future! This paper is aiming to presents their pilot tests focusing on eLearning and online courses. This seems to be in line with famous initiatives [2], [3]: anyone, anywhere, anytime, any pace online education.

As it concerns the eLearning resources, the authors were already involved (2003-2011), in producing the Romanian ECDL training courses [4]. Early, in 2013, the authors started a pilot test of the Udutu platform [5]. The first Udutu trial is presented in [6].

As it concerns the online courses, the authors are focusing their activity on the Course Builder Google Platform [7] which seems to be "a giant leap into 21st-Century Online Learning"! Early, in 2013, the authors started a pilot test based this platform. The first Course Builder trial is presented in [8]. If somebody will check this link, he has to register, free of charge, before to access the pilot test course. If this abstract is accepted, further details will be included in the full article.

References

- [1] <http://elseconference.eu/papers/view>
- [2] <http://ocw.mit.edu/index.htm>
- [3] <http://www.edx.org>
- [4] <http://ecdل.credis.ro>
- [5] <http://www.udutu.com>
- [6] <http://publish.myudutu.com/published/launcheval/43165/Course88703/Launch.html>
- [7] <http://www.edutopia.org/blog/googles-open-course-builder-todd-finley>
- [8] <http://curs-word.appspot.com/preview>