

Tools for Open Content and Open Learning

Progress in Open Source, Open Content, and Open Services
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C()SL *Learning is expanding.*

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Open Enables Quite A Bit!

Open Content

Coined by analogy with “open source”, describes any kind of creative work (including articles, pictures, audio, and video) or engineering work (i.e. open machine design) that is published in a format that explicitly allows the copying and the modifying of the information by anyone; not exclusively by a closed organization, firm or individual.

Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_content

Progression in e-Learning

- People -> Technology -> **People**
- Knowledge (content) is “restricted” ->
Knowledge is free (education as a right)
- Formal learning ->
Informal learning
- “Wild west” -> Standards and specifications ->
Folksonomies & Web 2.0
- Lack of content -> Finding the content ->
Context and reuse of content

Focus of COSL's Work

- Make finding, using and learning “easy”
- Open content in OpenCourseWares, OpenLearn, OpenER, other Open Educational Resources
- Creative Commons “attribution” (default) and derivative works/share-alike clauses

...accomplish this through tools to make all of the above easier

OpenCourseWare (OCW) Repositories

- OpenCourseWare started by MIT in 2002
- “Publication” of MIT providing access to course materials
- Key Aspects
 - Does not grant degrees
 - Does not provide access to faculty*
 - Course materials (content varies in depth and breadth)
 - **Licensed “openly”** (aka “open content”), using a Creative Commons **Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike*** license
- 1550 courses published (of 1800 anticipated)
- MIT OCW, ~1.1 million monthly visits (Feb. 2007)

OCW Movement

- Movement expands outside of MIT
 - Tufts, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Utah State University
 - MIT OCW Translation Partners in Taiwan, China, Universia (in Latin America and Europe)
 - Notre Dame, British Open University, Open University of the Netherlands, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid
- OCW Consortium (launched 2006)
 - Over 100 members
 - Over 3,000 courses published
 - www.ocwconsortium.org

eduCommons

- OpenCourseWare Management System
 - Developed at Utah State
 - Open source (GPLv2)
 - Content management and publication
 - Platform for services
- Adopters
 - In production: Utah State University, Notre Dame, Open University of the Netherlands, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid
 - Pilots underway: 10-20*
 - Planned adoptions: Kyoto University (and Japan OCW Consortium), CORE (China), Universia
- Funded by the Hewlett Foundation

<http://cosl.usu.edu/projects/educommons/>

eduCommons Key Features

- Content Production (back-end)
 - Course creation/upload (zip file, IMS Content Packages)
 - Workflow process
 - Content licensing support
 - Extensible
- Use (front-end)
 - Common format
 - Access to content only (without chrome)
 - Enables attribution/citation
 - Platform for services (RSS, bookmarklets, and Folksemantic tools)

Demos

[Utah State :: ocw.usu.edu](http://ocw.usu.edu)

[Notre Dame :: ocw.nd.edu](http://ocw.nd.edu)

eduCommons Makes Open Content Easy

- Focuses on publishing model of MIT OCW, but enables “open learning”
- Provides base level of services, that can be extended
- Institutions can “test-drive” through demo and pilot hosting services at Utah State
- Path for content from LMS/CMS to “open”

Folksemantic

Folksemantic?

- How do you get scale?
- How do you get relevant content/context at the right place at the right time?
- How do you expose current content/context relationships outside of initial deployment?
- Folksemantic?
 - Folksonomies and Semantic Web

Folksemantic...

...the underlying infrastructure
for our work to support “open learning”

Folksemantic Tools

- Learner support for open content
- Based on folksonomies and relational data
- “Web 2.0”
 - Don’ t build “education” versions of the tools people are already using (Del.icio.us, Flickr, Trailfire)
 - Keep it simple!
- Funded by the Mellon Foundation

<http://cosl.usu.edu/projects/mocsl/>

Folksemantic Tools

- RelStore – store
- OER Finder- find
- Ozmozr.com – find, aggregate and share <- Changing
- Send2Wiki.com – create derivative works
- Annorate.com – annotate and rate
- MakeaPath.com – sequence -> Trailfire?
- Scrumdidilyumptio.us – relate

Folksemantic Tools (cont.)

- **RelStore** – store ✓
- **OER Finder**- find
- **OzmoZR.com** – find, aggregate and share ✓ <- Changing
- **Send2Wiki.com** – create derivative works
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- **MakeAPath.com** – sequence ✓ -> Trailfire?
- **Scrumdidilyumptio.us** – relate ✓

Demos?

- Scrumdidilyumptious – relate
 - Describes relations between websites, uses folksonomic descriptions, stored in RelStore

<http://scrumdidilyumptio.us/>
- Ozmozr – find, aggregate, share
 - Build online identity, share information, social filtering

<http://ozmozr.com/>
- MakeaPath – sequence

<http://makeapath.com/>

- Send2Wiki – create, share

<http://send2wiki.com/>

Questions?

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OPENEDUCATION

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<http://cosl.usu.edu/conferences/opened2007/>