

IAA Study Group Status Report

Responsible Commission: 2

Study Number and Title:

SG 2.8 : e-learning in Space Life Sciences

Short Study Description (repeat from Study Group Proposal):

The aims and objectives of the study group are linked with the expansion of educational activities related to a variety of scientific areas within space medicine (and science). The group will create a site (collaborative site) and an open source educational environment. The final product will be a report composed of various steps/thematic areas of the study group. In the beginning, local hosting may be done at the Medical School of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece (hardware and software ready to go). A welcome page and then different courses may be chosen. Username and passwords can be set. Enrolment or free attendance may be enforced /allowed. The methodology to be followed is the following: Search literature and study relevant other reports to elicit a draft list of needs, Conduct an internet survey re space medicine education, create a study group web site, associated collaboration environment and e-learning environment, Implement pilot e-courses and relevant tutorials for educators, Turn digital material into SCORM compliant material, Experiment with Creative Commons, Upload on e-learning space, Experiment with their interaction friendliness and easiness to use and Fully report on each activity. Our target community is initially medical students, which can be extended in all science students, teachers, universities and medical colleges, medical associations and medical doctors, as well as researchers in space medicine, and space life sciences

Progress in past six months:

A literature review has been done;

The group has opened an open source educational environment. The address is <http://aerospace.med.auth.gr> . This will be facilitating temporarily both the “study group web site”, as well as, the “collaboration environment site”.

Initial set up of course on “Pulmonary Medicine” which is acting like a demo is already available there.

Instructions for login and use of the educational environment have been drafted and are delivered to study group members.

A survey questionnaire has been drafted and is web based using the open source tool “Lime Survey” . The test address is currently

<http://kedip.med.auth.gr/limesurvey/admin/admin.php>

with login credentials:

user: duser
pass: k@r0t0

and from the survey drop-down list they choose the International Academy of Astronautics (ID 45682)

Once feedback is received from SG members, the survey will be corrected and activated to receive input from the interested parties.

Website Study Information up to date? (Study Group Membership, Study Plan and Schedule): See above

Issues requiring resolution? (recommend approach):
None

Product Deliveries on Schedule? (If modified explain rationale):

There has been a delay in starting up as there were some changes occurring at the hosting institution (mostly related with domain hosting of the original survey attempts, but now things are in place.

The study group secretary has leading a European Project (mEducator; <http://www.meducator.net>) on “medical education content sharing” and this has partially created this delay. However, some of the actions in the aforementioned project are relevant to the issues tackled within this SG and this is hopefully going to lead to a fruitful exchange of experiences. It is also believed that there will be a chance, some of the achievements of this study group to be able to continue with partial funding from this project (which will be hopefully available to some extent to study group members – especially those related to life sciences or medical education in general).

Study Team Member Changes? add

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