



Thursday 16th June 2011

Time: 13:30 - 13:55

iUOC: Enhanced Mobile Learning at the UOC

Speakers: Eva Patricia Gil, Fundació Per La Universitat Oberta De Catalunya

Abstract:

iUOC: Enhanced Mobile Learning at the UOC is an initiative of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) that aims to take the UOC's virtual campus, My UOC, to new, more current, interactive and portable scenarios, such as the iPad. The Apple tablet is a user-friendly, intuitive and ultra-portable tool with Internet connectivity, which means it has great potential for the field of learning, where much experimenting is being done. Against this promising backdrop, the UOC, in collaboration with mobile phone operator Orange (France Telecom), has undertaken a pioneering initiative in the design of portable learning environments in developing a native application, thanks to which the MyUOC virtual campus can now find its way onto the iPad screen. iUOC also guarantees the real-world adaptation of its learning application via a pilot programme in which iPads with 3G connections are provided to 45 students and a number of lecturers for accessing, via the native application, the virtual campus and the UOC's educational materials (adapted for the iPad) for a semester. Basically, iUOC aspires to enrich the learning experience making use of the versatility and portability of the new mobile devices. Thanks to iUOC, the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya is the first university in the world to have a virtual learning environment adapted to the iPad device in an interoperable manner through the design of an application that communicates with the virtual campus via RSS technology.