

LangOER Conference

Parallel sessions 2 - Round table: Update from EdReNe members – Vision

26 September - 16.00 – 17.45

Presentations from EdReNe members on ongoing and new initiatives at national and regional level and presentation of Europeana for Education initiatives

Moderator: Elena Shulman (European Schoolnet)

Peter Karlberg (Skolverket) - This is the Swedish National Agency for Education

Peter Karlberg talked about Swedish National Strategies on the digitalization of the National School System, stressing on the teachers' need for competence development in this area. Digitalisation is one of several national school development programs in Sweden, particularly targeting school leaders.

Most resources are “hidden”, shared locally or regionally, or disseminated by local bodies. Digitalization plays an important role in bringing these resources to teachers.

Teachers need training in how to:

- manage classrooms of **students with strong digital grasps**;
- use digital equipment to **create**, and not just **consume**;
- to **improve their capabilities** of making the best use of Internet

Two national IT strategies in Sweden propose:

- including programming and computational thinking in the national curricula
- equipping teachers with the right skills and competencies to work in digitalized schools

Nicole McNeilly (Nicole McNeilly, Business Development Coordinator)

Nicole McNeilly provided an introduction to Europeana, giving the context and aims of the organisation, highlighting the two roles played with regards to education (distribution and facilitation) and the resources available on the platform, including the content, APIs, language offer and an API in development.

Europeana is a digital platform of more than 53m digital records in multiple languages and formats from Europe's galleries, museums, libraries and archives, working as a touchpoint between cultural heritage organisations and professional and amateur culture lovers alike. The platform looks to be a thought and practice leader – setting and advocating new standards in tech and cultural philosophy, as well as a network of cultural heritage and technology professionals, working together for mutual benefit. Europeana is also a network formed of individuals representing cultural heritage organisations from across Europe. Its aim is to shape good practice in the field of digital cultural heritage, and Europeana's core strength are our **1500+ network members** who share and shape their goals.

The platform **has three target audiences**:

- professionals, those who digitize and share collections, are catered for on Europeana **Pro**

- end users, attracted to Europeana collections through social media, wikipedia and education
- the creative audience, or re-users – the developers and entrepreneurs, educators who use Europeana content and API for application in multiple areas – whether from education to tourism to creative industries.

Europeana facilitates and increases the use of content in education through:

- New partnerships with those who want to use Europeana content in education
- Policy level change: access to digitized works in the public domain.
- Promoting existing initiatives using Europeana content in education #Europeana4Education – for example, the Learning Resource Exchange or Inventing Europe featuring as case studies on the website.
- The seven principles to unlock Europeana content for use in education – published on the Europeana website to guide cultural heritage organisations to make their content available in the best possible ways so that it is suitable for educational re-use. This includes relevance and open access.

The platform looks to change its focus on **quality of content over quantity**. Of the 53m plus million items existing on the platform, they estimate ~10 million are of the right quality to be used in educational apps. They are working on a content strategy to help improve the Europeana platform – including depublishing material that doesn't fit their quality guidelines (for example, where there is insufficient or bad metadata).

Don Winer (MAKASH)

Don Winer looked to address the question of how education and cultural heritage can find a common ground and outlined the Jewish Heritage Network, its services and main developments.

- **The basic Services**
 - Aggregation of Jewish Cultural Heritage related content
 - Enhanced contextualization of Cultural Heritage Projects
 - Media-centric portal with displays from partners
 - Links to the original pages on partners websites
 - Search engine and API for developers
 - Thematic collections
 - High quality digital experiences
 - Selected objects of interest to be featured in social media and online magazines
- **Premium Services**
 - Infrastructure and content management needs
 - Collection management systems
 - Secure professional hosting of high-resolution images and audio-visual media
 - Custom services: engaging web sites, mobile applications and experiences for specific audiences

The Judaica Europeana project, co-funded by the eContentPlus program of the European Commission, currently continuing through a Memorandum of Understanding between partners and participation in DM2E – a 3-year Digital Humanities Europeana project to begin in 2012 was also outlined.

The program looks to ensure the digitisation and aggregation of Jewish content for Europeana (**5 million objects**); ensure the coordination of standards across institutions in order to **synchronise the metadata** with the requirements of Europeana; deploy **knowledge management** tools: vocabularies, thesauri and ontologies for the indexing, retrieval and re-use of the aggregated content.

David Massart (European Schoolnet)

David Massart presented the Learning Resource Exchange from European Schoolnet (EUN) which allows teachers to access educational content from numerous countries and providers.

He presented the various ways that can be used to include resources in the repository (manual indexing, web scraping, API, Metadata harvesting, etc.) and invited participants to explore the repository's collection.

Bettina Lundgaard Hansen and Niklas Grønlund Lind (Ministry for Children, Education and Gender Equality)

The topic of this intervention was the reform of the Danish public school, towards the simplification and clarification of the curriculum. Three main areas were tackled (for K0-K9): [1] a longer and varied school day with more and improved teaching and learning; [2] an enhanced professional development of teachers, pedagogical staff and school principals; and [3] the introduction of few and clear objectives and simplification of rules and regulations.

The educational IT strategy looked to ensure for:

- more and better digital learning resources
- better use of IT and digital learning resources
- knowledge on IT-based teaching and documentation of the effects of the use of IT – spreading best practice
- sufficient and efficient IT-infrastructure and equipment

The reform provides a better framework for working with action-/goal-oriented teaching and learning by looking to: clarify and simplify the curriculum; offer an improved digitised support of the student plan; and introducing a 'new' educational portal.

The reform proved to be quite successful, with most municipalities taking steps to offering a more motivating and varied school day.

Further steps need to be taken in: [1] standardising tests; [2] continuing developing standards regarding the content and how to evaluate learning resources, and developing goal-based student plans; and [3] developing the use and capacity building of learning platforms.

On K10-K12, new reforms are to be implemented regarding updating the curriculum and the IT-systems supporting them, developing standards and research regarding innovative use of IT.