Reference Center for Self-assessment and Assessment in e-Learning

(http://www.carnet.hr/referalni/obrazovni/en/spzit)

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The knowledge assessment system is more important than curriculum and instructional methods.

- Whether we want it or not, students will acquire exactly the knowledge and skills and on exactly the level that we set for them through our testing methods.
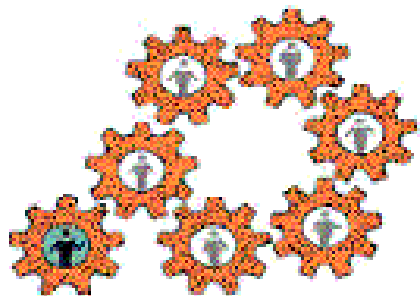
The assessments can be used for three broad purposes:

- to assist in a learning process,
- to measure individual achievement, and
- to evaluate programs.

The New Role of Teachers

- Teachers are no longer just lecturers transmitting their knowledge, they are now mentors as well.

An Exam Is More than Simply Grading

- The goal of knowledge assessment is not just the final grade, but active mentoring during the learning process.

Computerized Assessments (CA) are used to:

- Measure knowledge, skills, attitudes, and personality traits

- Promote learning and reduce forgetting

Goal of our Reference center

is to provide information which will help teachers with the construction and implementation of self-assessment and assessment of student knowledge through the use of IT.

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The Written Exam

- Forget about pen and paper

  - there are better and simpler exams nowadays!

- They offer much more than just a knowledge test!

RC covers only knowledge assessment by test

- It is assigned to university (and other) teachers and it does not encompass all aspects of the IT use for assessment of knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Written Examination

- Exam
- Quiz
- Survey
- Test

There are three types of IT use in knowledge assessment:

- preparation of traditional paper tests, analysis of student results and the test itself,

- conducting testing by directly entering the answers into the computer (wireless or network)

- building a system which supports both of the previous

Measuring characteristics of written exams

- Validity
- Relevance
- Reliability
- Objectivity

Item Analysis after the Test, and Before the Results are Published

- Basic descriptive statistics
- Item difficulty
- Item discrimination
- Response Frequencies
- Test reliability
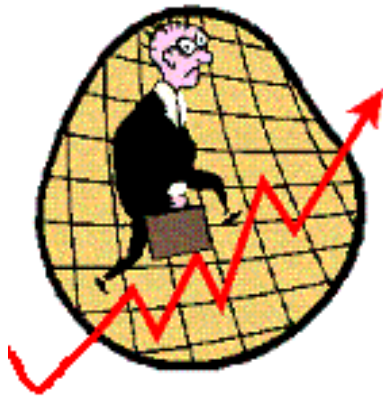
Delivering CA Safely and Securely

- Physical Environment
- Technology Environment
- Authentication
- Monitoring

Types of Dedicated Assessment Centers:

- Professionally controlled centers
- Franchised centers
- Higher Education centers
- Corporate centers

Types of Non Dedicated Assessment Center

- Training (Computer) rooms
- Work place
  - closely supervised
  - remotely supervised
  - unsupervised
- Home
  - supervised
  - unsupervised
- Public place (library) unsupervised

Technology Environment

- Today there are many technologies that can be used to create CA systems.

- The aim of our RC is to help people who want to develop such systems.

Tools or Programs for Self-assessment and Assessment of Knowledge

- ❑ Secure browsers

- ❑ Authoring secure assessments

- ❑ Scheduling assessment

- ❑ Monitoring assessments

- ❑ Encrypted communication

Planning and Designing CA

- Variation between different kinds of software may be significant, making the selection of appropriate software important.

- What do I need?

- How much will I spend?

- Is CA and distance learning worth it?

CA Software

- Commercial products
  - product bombardment (more than 2 000)
- OpenSource
  - build it together with others schools (Open Source/Higher Education initiative)

Recommendations for Open Source

- Freedom of Choice
  - You have a copy of the source code and a license that allows you to modify it!
  - If you want distribution media or product support, you may have to pay a fee to the vendors, but you don't have to.
- Open Source technologies (Linux, Apache, PHP, Perl, Java, J2EE, MySQL, PostgreSQL, Ant, Smarty) are recommended!

Conclusion

- It's not technology, it's what we do with it!
- The World Wide Web is ready for serious CA and distance education delivery, but are we ready?
- University needs to "own" powerful, flexible open standard framework, personalized and customizable to device.
- We spend too much time and money on new educational technology to be satisfied with anything less.
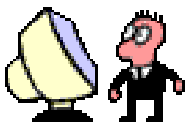
Questions

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☐ We are looking forward cooperating with you!

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