

Mobilising Remote Student Engagement

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Room 1006, John Galsworthy Building, Penrhyn Road Campus
Kingston University, Kingston upon Thames

The presentation will focus on the key findings of the JISC funded 'Mobilising Remote Student Engagement' project (2008 – 2010).

The MoRSE project built on the expertise developed by Kingston University in the pedagogy and practice of mobile technologies in the curriculum, and allied this to the expertise of De Montfort University in Web 2.0 tools and approaches, to develop a situated understanding of the impact of the tools on student practice, beyond the institution, and the concomitant impact on institutional processes.

This study has been undertaken in the context of two distinct disciplines (Geography at KU and Pharmaceutical & Cosmetic Science at DMU) and two 'beyond institution' environments (fieldtrips in Geography and GIS and placements in Pharmaceutical & Cosmetic Science).

Student fieldtrips in the School of Geography, Geology and the Environment were run to many national and international destinations, where institutional, personal and mobile technologies were used to support learning and learning activities. These technologies were also investigated in terms of student placements. The placement curriculum was also redesigned to incorporate reflective learning activities, a University Certificate in Professional Development was validated at DMU and a placement year run and evaluated.

The mix of private and public tasks, institutional and third party environments and technologies has been complex across both placements and fieldtrips. Preparatory activities have been important and many lessons have been learnt with regard to effective use of technologies to support remote learners.

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