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Bridges and Mediation in Higher Distance Education

Second International Workshop, HELMeTO 2020
Bari, BA, Italy, September 17–18, 2020
Revised Selected Papers

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Preface

This volume of Communications in Computer and Information Science (CCIS) contains the post-proceedings of HELMeTO 2020, the Second International Workshop on Higher Education Learning Methodologies and Technologies Online. The event was successfully held online, organized by the University of Bari Aldo Moro, Italy, during September 17–18, 2020. HELMeTO 2020 aimed to bring together researchers and practitioners working in Higher Distance Education Institutions or studying Online Learning Methodologies to present and share their research in a multidisciplinary context. The workshop provided a forum for the discussion of new research directions and applications in these fields, where different disciplines effectively met, divided into two main tracks – ‘Methodologies of eLearning’ and ‘Information Technology for eLearning’ – and a special track – ‘Facing COVID-19 Emergency in Higher Education Teaching and Learning’ – together with their applications.

Some examples of the discussed interdisciplinary topics are: pedagogical framework studies, learning models, learning outcomes, online learning communities, blended learning, online peer assessment, social learning, evaluation for online education, assessment methods in online and blended learning environments, assessment and accreditation of courses and institutions, computer-aided assessment, community building, context dependent learning, course design and e-learning curricula, digital libraries for e-learning, distance and e-learning in a global context, e-learning platforms and portals, e-testing and new test theories, distance education, immersive learning, learning organization, mobile learning (m-learning), simulated communities and online mentoring, supervising and managing student projects, teacher evaluation, security aspects, standards and interoperability, ontologies and metadata standards, theoretical bases of e-learning environments, Web-based learning, wikis and blogs, educational Big Data mining, learning analytics, prediction of students’ performance, design of proper retention strategies exploiting learning analytics, and educational Big Data.

HELMeTO 2020 received a total of 59 submissions, 40 of which were selected for presentation at the workshop as either long or short talks. We accepted 26 high-quality papers (44% of the original submissions) for publication in an extended version in this post-proceedings volume (23 long papers of more than 12 pages and 3 short papers of more than 8 pages), after a single-blind review round performed by at least three Program Committee members.

Submissions and participants in HELMeTO 2020 came from eleven different countries, namely France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Russia, Spain, and the UK, immediately making HELMeTO an international event. Following this ever-increasing international spirit, future HELMeTO editions are also expected to be held outside Italy.

Many people contributed to this successful edition. We express our gratitude to the authors for submitting their works, to the members of the Program Committee, coming from nine different countries (China, Finland, France, Germany, India, Italy, Morocco,

Spain, USA), for devoting so much effort to reviewing papers despite a tight schedule, and finally to the invited speakers of the two HELMeTO main tracks and the special track on “Facing COVID-19 Emergency in Higher Education Teaching and Learning”.

Our gratitude also goes to the University of Bari Aldo Moro for organizing the event online, and to SIREM, Società Italiana di Ricerca sull’Educazione Mediale.

September 2020

Laura Sara Agrati
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Pietro Ducange
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