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Advances in Blended Learning

Second Workshop on Blended Learning, WBL 2008
Jinhua, China, August 20-22, 2008
Revised Selected Papers

Springer

Volume Editors

Elvis Wai Chung Leung
School of Continuing and Pofessional Education
City University of Hong Kong
Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong, China
E-mail: wcleung@cityu.edu.hk

Fu Lee Wang
Department of Computer Science
City University of Hong Kong
Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong, China
E-mail: flwang@cityu.edu.hk

Lanfang Miao
Jianmin Zhao
College of Mathematics, Physics
and Information Engineering
Zhejiang Normal University
Jinhua, Zhejiang, China
E-mail: {mlf, zjm@zjnu.cn}

Jifeng He
East China Normal University
Software Engineering Institute
Shanghai, China, 200062
E-mail: jifeng@sei.ecnu.edu.cn

Preface

The Second Workshop of Blended Learning (WBL 2008), as part of the 7th International Conference on Web-Based Learning (ICWL 2008), was held in Zhejiang Normal University, Jinhua, Zhejiang, China during August 20–22, 2008.

WBL 2008 provided an international forum for the dissemination of original results in the design, implementation, and evaluation of blended learning systems and related areas. In particular, the aim of WBL 2008 was to bring together researchers from academia as well as commercial developers from industry to explore ideas, exchange and share experiences, and further build the blended learning research network. The inspirations and new ideas were expected to emerge from intensive discussions during formal sessions and social activities.

The main focus of WBL 2008 was on the most critical areas of blended learning, namely, 'e-Learning Platforms and Tools,' 'Design, Model and Framework of e-Learning Systems,' 'Practice and Experience Sharing,' and 'Pedagogical Issues.' In total, the workshop selected 17 papers from authors of different countries for presentation and publication, a task which was not easy due to the high quality of the submitted papers. Using stringent selection criteria, submissions were rigorously reviewed based on their originality, significance, relevance, and clarity of presentation by an international Program Committee from Germany, Spain, UK, Italy, Ireland, Romania, Hong Kong, Japan, Taiwan, and Macao.

On behalf of the Organizing and Program Committees of WBL 2008, we would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to all authors for participating in the workshop. Many of them travelled from different countries to participate. We would also like to thank our colleagues who helped with putting together the workshop: the Program Committee members for their timely and rigorous reviews of the papers, and the Organizing Committee for their help in administrative work and support. We owe special thanks to Qing Li for being available at all times when his helping hand was needed.

We would like to thank the sponsors, supporting organizations, and helpers for making the workshop a success. In particular, we are grateful to Zhejiang Normal University, City University of Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong Web Society for their sponsorship and assistance. With the strong support of Springer, the proceedings of the workshop will also be published in the *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* (LNCS) series. Without their efforts, the workshop would not have been possible.

We hope everyone who attended enjoyed the workshop program. Last but not least, we also hope that in the future more and more researchers and practitioners will become involved in this workshop and contribute further to the field of blended learning.

August 2008 Elvis Wai Chung Leung
Fu Lee Wang

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