MICROC@MPUS® . A WEB-BASED EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

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ABSTRACT

The Innovation in Computer Science Unit at the University of Alicante has developed an e-learning tool called MicroC@MPUS®, a sophisticated World Wide Web-based educational environment that seeks to supply a virtual academic meeting space between teachers and students. Partners interested in acquiring the software rights are sought.

ADVANTAGES AND INNOVATIVE ASPECTS

This environment has advantages in both programming and pedagogical sides. On the one hand, this virtual environment has several organizational and educational advantages that turn it into useful support for conventional education and into an essential operating system for distance education:

• First of all, as organizational advantages, MicroC@MPUS® offers the possibility of standardizing the teaching function and unifying teachers work towards students.

• Secondly, as educational advantages, MicroC@MPUS® allows more communication (because of the asynchronism) and better communication (by fitting

the message to the environment). The dialogue between teachers and students is controlled by MicroC@MPUS®, but the pedagogical model is furnished by the designers of the course.

On the other hand, MicroC@MPUS® programming is clear and solidly made. As MicroC@MPUS® is modular, it is possible to programme and to add any kind of function to it. In this way any kind of courses can be developed by using this flexible and versatile environment. Moreover, as an operative system, MicroC@MPUS® allows to manage any amount of students by increasing or decreasing the number of computers.

COLLABORATION SOUGHT

The Computing Innovation Unit at the University of Alicante is interested in providing the MicroC@MPUS® software to educational organisations and sharing these experiences with the microcampus.net program. In particular, it is interested in:

• End-user licence agreements for the MicroC@MPUS® software.

• Adaptation of the MicroC@MPUS® software to the customer´s needs: languages, further modules, etc.

• Establishment of hosting agreements for the MicroC@MPUS® software at the University of Alicante facilities.

• End-user licence agreement for the MicroC@MPUS® software to participate in the microcampus.net program.

• Selling educational material made by the MicroC@MPUS® software.