

E-CULTURENET. SEGOVIA 2003

The researchers of the Spanish Net of E-CultureNet got together at a meeting in Segovia on Sunday 16th February 2003 to discuss some topics related with the general state of the Net and some items to address the definitive projects fulfilment.

1. First of all, Arturo Colorado Castellary, Rector of the SEK University and Spanish E-CultureNet Coordinator, reminded that we were working to gain a Candidacy for FP6 to stablish a research network in the context of digital culture. Concretely, this Net will be working in Broadband.

After showing the Culturtec 2002 Congress CD-ROM and a brief explanation of the main topics to discuss along the whole meeting, Arturo Colorado told us that the projects must be presented to Elena Mozo before 15th March to take them all to Maastricht duly before April.

2. Kim H. Veltman, E-CultureNet European Coordinator, talked about *Research Topics and Research Matrices for Digital Culture*. Mr. Veltman reminded the evolution of Internet, since the original Arpanet until the last Interspace for military security. After that, Mr. Veltman underlined that we were working to organize a general Net to join together some different research projects related with Digital Culture, Heritage, Libraries, etc., at the local, national and international level. At this point, he underlined the importance of the Broadband for making good virtual or multidimensional reconstructions, augmented reality and good scanning of some documents, such as books, roadmaps, photographs, letters, etc.

E-CultureNet efforts should lead us to establish some Research Matrices to make possible the DEER and the development of European Masters and Doctorates. At the same time, the E-CultureNet research should follow the next levels: to achieve a good and operative Net, to guarantee its security and to make it multilingual and multimodal. The Net should allow the users to overcome the limits of time and space too.

Finally, he pointed that all these projects were very important for the reasearchers and the specialists, and they will serve also to improve the Broadband communications amongst all European users. The politicians should realize that all the research works proves the necessity of a major economic investment to develop a better Broadband communication system in the EU.

3. Isidro Moreno, from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, talked about Broadband and explained the objectives of the research projects concerning expression and contents. The researchers, said Mr. Moreno, are content creators who use all the

possibilities of the new technologies, and they should develop own projects considering the next items.

- The researchers should go beyond the concepts of usability and pragmatism, and they should promote innovation, as if there were no technological constraints. They should look for new languages and new forms of expression, and that's why they have to present real multimedia projects, and not only hybrid projects based on mixed media. Multimedia means true media convergence, and not only a mere juxtaposition of photographic, textual or videographic resources.

- The researchers should create real Web Sites that could serve as paradigmatic Web Sites for future projects and other research.

- The projects should make possible a constructive participation for the users, and they should give them the possibility to become co-authors of the contents. At the same time, the projects have to personalize the contents and fit them to the receivers, also making easy the access for handicapped people.

4. After a very interesting visit to the ancient Monasterio de Santa Cruz de la Real (XV century), the meeting went on with a show of the new Spanish Web Site lead by Borja López. It is an experimental Web Site with the objective is to become a good communication tool. It is also exploring the possibilities of 3D, where users could configurate the space dimensions for their own.

Kim Veltman suggested to enlarge the Spanish map of the Web Site including the cities with research groups and links to the institutions under permission. It will be interesting to show the projects in the Web Site creating an Intranet with key access. The Spanish Web Site address will be announced early. At this moment we only have the E-CultureNet Web Site address:
www.mmi.unimaas.nl/eculturenet/

5. At the end of the meeting there was a time for a dialogue between the researchers and Arturo Colorado cleared up some doubts and showed the way to fulfill the documents for the final projects. After that, he reminded that the researchers could join in transversal projects and that it could be very interesting to work together for reaching the excellence level. If we get the Candidacy, all the projects could be developed. If not, they could be develop under the assistance of other programmes maybe (UNESCO).

Each project's investment is in between 20.000€ and 200.000€ per year, during a whole period of five years. The investment determines the number of researchers who will work in the project and the possibility to deal with scholarship and other specialists too. The estimates must be realistic, and they should not serve as an excuse for getting

new technological equipments only. Finally, Mr. Colorado underlined that the researchers could present multimedia Curricula and any other informative documents or material.

The meeting ended at 14.30h.

List of those present at the meeting: Arturo Colorado Castellary, Luis Martínez Zorzo, Miguel Jaime García, Eugenia López Reus, Felix Núñez París, José María Lozano, Fernando Hermoso, Juan Prat, César Martínez Gallardo, Miren Cospedal and Santiago Franco Tejedor, from SEK University (Segovia); Kim Veltman from Maastrich University; Mario Brito from Porto University; Isidro Moreno, Teresa García Nieto, Manuel Canga, Borja López, Elena Mozo and Isabel Corullón, from Complutense University (Madrid); J. A. Gómez Municio from Valladolid University; Diego Gutiérrez, from Zaragoza University; Nuria Lloret and Antonia Ferrer, from Universidad Politécnica de Valencia; Javier Marzal and César Fernández, from Jaime I University (Castellón); Luis Hernández, from La Coruña University; Gloria Munilla and César Carreras, from Universidad Oberta de Catalunya; José Morilla Critz, Pedro E. Gómez, León A. González and Margarita Vallejo, from Alcalá University; José Manuel Nicolás, Carlos Galán and Félix Cordero, from Gecco Media S.L., Zaragoza; Diego Antona and Carlos-E. Bengtsson, from A. Nac. Invest. en Didáctica; Ramón Guardans, Mónica Solé and Jepa Landa, from Media Lab (Madrid).