GUIDE International Seminar on Virtual Higher Education: final program and keynote speakers now online!

We inform you that the final program of the GUIDE International Seminar on Virtual Higher Education has been published and is available online at http://www.unisulvirtual.com.br/GUIDE/programacao_english.html.

The Seminar, which will take place under the overall topic “The challenges of virtuality in Higher Education”, will be held on 14 and 15 October 2010 in Florianopolis, Brazil. Specialists from various countries will discuss breakthroughs, challenges, accomplishments and recommendations and seek to bring current trends into focus.

The Seminar will have a wide range of high-level speakers. Here is the preliminary list of keynote speakers who will present in their respective sessions:

- **Beatriz Fainholc** CEDIPROE – Buenos Aires, Argentina
- **Claudio Rama** Observatory of Virtual Education Trends in Latin America – Montevideo, Uruguay
- **Carla Pampaloni** USGM (Università degli Studi Guglielmo Marconi) - Italy
- **Josep M.Duart** UOC (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya) - Spain
- **Enrique Martinez Larrechea** UDE (Universidad de la Empresa) - Uruguay
- **Jucimara Roesler** UnisulVirtual, UNISUL - Brazil
- **Maria Elena Chan** UDG (Universidad de Guadalajara) - Mexico
- **Michael Moore** PennState University - USA
- **Ilaria Mascitti** USGM (Università degli Studi Guglielmo Marconi) - Italy
- **Frederic Litto** ABED (Brazilian Association of Distance Education) - Brazil
- **Lorenzo Garcia Aretio** UNED - Spain
- **João Vianney Valle dos Santos** Hoper Group - Brazil
- **Umberto Margiotta** Università Ca’Foscari di Venezia - Italy
- **Josie Taylor** Open University - UK
- **Giovanni Briganti** USGM (Università degli Studi Guglielmo Marconi) - Italy
- **Andrea Inamorato dos Santos** Open University - UK
- **Andrew Law** Open University - UK
- **Augusto Pérez Lindo** UNLZ (Universidad Nacional de Lomas de Zamora) – Argentina

If you are interested in joining the Seminar, please go to the its official website and follow the instructions on how to register: http://www.unisulvirtual.com.br/GUIDE/insci.html.

We look forward to seeing you at the First GUIDE International Seminar in October!
This issue of FormaMente is centered around two main groups of proposals and is characterized by a great variety of contributions, examined by different thematic and geographical perspectives. In the Application section, the focus is on the management of the web platforms and on the semantic tools for the search of information.

In the Highlight section some topical themes are investigated and discussed: micro finance, the link between crisis and banks and the importance of self-directed learning in a rapidly changing world.

This number of FormaMente includes also contributions from some of the GUIDE International Workshop participants. The Association take this opportunity to thank them for their precious and valuable collaboration:

- Nicholas Caporusso - Including personality in e-learning design
- Carol Walker, Diane Johnson - Evaluating and assessing quality in the online environment
- Begoña Gros, Maria F. González, Vania Guerra, Pablo Lara - Monitorizacion de la red social en la plataforma educativa de la UOC: Sistema Xarxa-UOC
- Esampally Chandraiah - ODE to combat poverty through microfinance education: a certificate program
- Edilia Rosa Alvarado, Nora Arias Quintero - Retos y desafíos para una educación abierta y a distancia con pertinencia en el entorno venezolano

New Members

The Association is honoured to include within its members the following institutions:

- Empire State College, State University of New York – USA, Dr. Ronnie Mather
- Université Moulay Ismail – Morocco, Prof. Driss El Ouadghiri
- Universidad Nacional Abierta – Venezuela, Dr. Virginia Molina
- Universidad Católica Cecilio Acosta – Venezuela, Prof. Edilia Alvarado Rodríguez
UPCOMING CONFERENCES WORLDWIDE

**SCOP2010 SOUTH AFRICA** – Bridging the Development Gap
Pretoria, City of Tshwane, South Africa, 13th – 15th September 2010

**III Congreso CREAD ANDES** – Calidad y Nuevas Tendencias en Educación Superior a Distancia: Gestión del Conocimiento y Web 2.0
Loja, Ecuador, 20th - 22nd October 2010
Deadline for proposals: August 27th 2010

**eLearning Africa 2011** – 6th International Conference on ICT for Development, Education and Training
Mlimani City Conference Centre, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 25th – 27th May 2011
Call for Papers open: September 2010

For Further Information concerning GUIDE projects and proposals

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