



mLearn 2005
4th World conference on mLearning

Cape Town, South Africa
25 –28 October 2005

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS AND WORKSHOP THEMES

Abstract submission deadline: 11 March 2005

The mLearn 2005 international mobile learning conference will take place from **25 to 28 October 2005**, in Cape Town. Pre-conference Workshops will take place on 25 October 2005. This fourth annual conference on mLearning (mobile learning) is the key research and networking event for researchers, strategists, educators, technologists and practitioners from all over the world. mLearn attracts a large number of participants from more than 60 countries representing all continents, and is, therefore, the world's largest international conference on mLearning and emerging ambient technologies.

CONFERENCE THEME:

Mobile technology: The future of learning in your hands

The conference will fulfil the need for stimulating critical debate on and research into theories, approaches, principles and applications of mLearning (mobile learning). It will provide an opportunity for professionals and practitioners to share their knowledge, experience and research in the various areas where mLearning is applied. The conference will also serve as an incubator to promote mLearning in Africa.

The objectives for the conference have been defined as follows:

- To promote the development of mLearning, globally, but especially in developing countries.
- To stimulate critical debate on and research into theories, approaches, principles and applications of mLearning (mobile learning).
- To share local and international developments, experiences and lessons learned.
- To promote networking and business opportunity development.
- To encourage the study and implementation of mobile applications in teaching and learning.
- To stimulate and assist personal professional development and the development of new skills for educators.
- To provide a forum for education and knowledge transfer.
- To facilitate dialogue, sharing and networking between diverse cultures with regard to the optimum use of emerging technologies.

Topics of interest are:

- From pilot projects to mainstream implementation: strategies for the large-scale deployment of mLearning
- Mobile technology to support open and distance learning (ODL)
- mLearning and mobile technology applications in teaching and learning
- Mobile technology for student and learning support
- Mobile technology for educator and teaching support
- Assessment techniques and practices in mLearning
- Design and development of learning material for mLearning

- Informal and lifelong learning with the aid of mobile technology
- Challenges for mLearning in developing countries
- Building and implementing mLearning Strategies in Educational Institutions, Companies and Public Sector Organisations
- Effective and efficient management of mLearning processes
- mLearning management systems (mLMSs)
- Creating interactive and collaborative mLearning environments
- Future trends in mLearning technology, including the impact of emerging technologies
- Emerging hardware and software for mLearning
- Mass individualisation
- Improving the quality of mLearning through evaluation; including mobile assessment and certification
- mLearning as a tool for social change
- Ambient intelligence and ambient learning
- Innovation in learning theory and pedagogy
- Learning objects and metadata for mLearning

The conference programme will make provision for leading, invited Keynote Speakers, Pre-Conference Workshops, Plenary Sessions, Parallel Paper and Poster Presentations, Roundtables and Panel Discussions, Poster presentations, Technology Showcases and Product/Services Showcases.

The conference will host an exhibition area, where the latest trends and a series of vendor presentations will be demonstrated.

Abstract submission information:

Submissions may be made in the following participation/presentation categories:

Full papers, poster presentations, panels/roundtables, technical showcases, product/service presentations and pre-conference workshops.

For further details regarding the presentation categories, submission guidelines and more information, as well as to submit an abstract, visit the mLearn 2005 conference website at: <http://www.mlearn.org.za/>

Important dates:

- Closing date for the submission of abstracts – 11 March 2005.
- Early-bird registration – 1 April 2005
- Notification of acceptance – 2 May 2005
- Full paper submission – 1 July 2005

Conference proceedings:

An edited Book of Abstracts and Conference Proceedings will be published. Note that an edited post-conference publication, that will include a selection of the most relevant and influential papers, is envisaged.

Venue:

Cape Town, South Africa

Steering Committee:

Dr Tom Brown
 Dr Johan Freysen
 Ms Leah Gouws
 Prof André le Roux
 Ms Annette Sadie
 Prof Herman van der Merwe (Chair)

Programme Committee:

Dr Jill Attewell (UK)

Dr Tom Brown (South Africa)

Mr Giorgio da Bormida (Italy)

Prof Mike Sharples (UK)

Prof Herman van der Merwe (Chair) (South Africa)

An **International Review Panel** will assist the Programme Committee with the review and selection of abstracts.

Who should attend?

mLearn 2005 is a must to attend.

This event brings together some of the leading researchers and practitioners in the field of mLearning. It also appeals to a wide range of audiences who are interested in enhancing learning with designing content and developing systems for mobile devices and wireless networks.

The list includes:

- higher education institutions
- training providers
- educators and researchers from all sectors
- independent research organisations
- community and voluntary organisations
- content developers
- learning and skills councils
- education authorities
- mobile device manufacturers and service providers
- hardware and software developers
- government departments
- telecom operators
- publishers

and all others with an interest in mobile and ambient learning.

If you have any further questions, please contact the **Conference Secretariat** at:

Postnet suite 112, Private Bag X855, Pretoria, 0002, South Africa

Tel: +27 12 318-5042, Fax: +27 12 318-5108, E-mail: info@mlearn.org.za

or visit the conference's newly launched website www.mLearn.org.za