Wired! Is the challenge of the digital society.

Innovation! Is the keyword to pursue a full-wired society.

Innovation in Education and Communication has been the keyword of the VIII Conference of the Italian e-Learning Society (SIe-L 2011).

The main goal of the conference has been the attempt to draw ‘scenarios’ of innovation in education, communication, publishing based on ICT. A glance, a bridge, to the future or, better, to the possible future worlds. ICT, indeed, are rapidly changing the world and as researchers and teachers we wish to understand these changes and to be active part in the process. We wish to stay a step ahead, we wish to drive, we wish to propose and innovate. The most innovative people in Italy, from Universities, Schools, Public Administration, Health related institutions, Enterprises, have been called to give their contribution in ideas, experiences and point of views.

In this special issue of Je-LKS we selected six papers from the 120 presented at SIe-L 2011. They are representative of several areas, from University to Health, from Public Institution to New technologies and give a taste of the richness of the discussion.

The first paper (Cinzia Bianchino, Giada Marinensi, Carlo Maria Medaglia, Enrico Ruozzi - The role of e-tutors in the e-learning training paths: the experience of the Italian Revenue Agency) focuses on an experience of e-learning in a Public Institution (Italian Revenue Agency) and mainly on the effectiveness of the e-tutor in such big organization.

The second paper (Manuela Caramagna, Cristina Giraudo, Angelo Saccà, Marilena La Placa, Franca Fiumana, Matteo Bertazzo - The experience of L2L (Live to e-learning) at the University of Turin) analyses the introduction of a Digital Asset Management at the University of Torino. The DAM is based on MediaMosa integrated with Moodle. In the paper the authors describe the
technological infrastructure as well as the organization model and the feedbacks from the first months of service.

The third paper (Daniele Donato, Pietro Gallina, Ugo Baccaglini, Enzo Giraldi, Loris Zorzi, Maria Teresa Manoni, Paula De Waal - S.O.S. Ulcer E-learning: A continuous and integrated distance learning project regarding skin ulcers in the elderly population in Veneto region (Italy)) introduces a project of e-learning/lifelong learning in a health environment. The project is devoted both to professionals and to care-giver and in the paper are discussed the technological environment, the process of content production and the grading system adopted.

The forth paper (Maria Cinque, Antonella Martini - Metacognition, motivation and self-efficacy in a socio-cognitive online environment. First results of a survey at the University of Pisa) is a methodological one and is devoted to introduce the results of a research on the introduction of a Social Network environment in a sample (about 220) of selected students at the University of Pisa. The goal of the research is to investigate the relationship between knowledge of learning strategies and learning success. The paper reports the results on a detailed survey.

The fifth paper (Giuseppe Alessandri, Martina Paciaroni - Educational Robotics: Robotics from fantasy medium to medium for fantasy) relates to ‘Educational Robotics’ as a tool to improve fantasy and learning effectiveness. The robots are used as learning ‘environment’ to support narration and simulation.

The sixth paper (Tiziana Cavedoni, Paula de Waal, Eugenio Di Rauso - An integrated learning project in university context: students’ voices) discusses an experience at the University of Padova where the students, mainly workers, were directly involved in course and content design as well as in management of the learning process.

The S1e-L 2011 conference also included four Barcamps on Innovation in Education in Universities, Schools, Public Institutions and Enterprises. All the discussions focused on the relevance of e-learning, mobile learning, digital publishing and knowledge sharing as levers for economical and social development mainly in a crisis time.

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