

The Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) Exchange for Learning (X4L) programme, set up to explore the use and re-use of existing digital resources/learning objects in both UK higher and further education (HE/FE), has funded the ACETS project, which will explore the repurposing of existing digital learning objects in medical and healthcare education, in both the HE and FE sectors.

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www.acets.ac.uk

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ACETS

developing and evaluating
strategies for the sustainable
use of RLOs in medical and
healthcare education



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ACETS is funded by the
Joint Information
Systems Committee



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ACETS aims to enhance student learning by adding pedagogical value to the wealth of already existing digital learning objects. This will be achieved by supporting teachers to make better use of technology-based teaching and learning resources and helping them to embed these into their practice. Making this process easier, less time consuming, intellectually satisfying and rewarding through positive student feedback is a major objective of the ACETS project.

ACETS will:

- ✦ identify a varied range of existing digital learning objects (RLOs)
- ✦ create relevant, teacher-centred, descriptors of them develop a controlled vocabulary and metadata schema.
- ✦ develop existing JISC-funded databases (e.g. BIOME) and dynamic uptake technologies
- ✦ explore, with practitioners, innovative ways in which RLOs can be described and catalogued to make them useful in a variety of applications and scenarios
- ✦ build on work within the consortium institutions and the wider FE/HE sectors to develop approaches and means to retrieve, exchange and enhance digital resources as RLOs within a range of subject based communities
- ✦ investigate creative ways of unlocking the content from a variety of RLOs across different disciplines and levels in UK HE/FE.

Teachers will be commissioned to develop 'wrap-arounds' to facilitate the process of embedding selected RLOs, appropriate to their local needs, into practice. The process of creating and reusing the repurposed RLOs in a variety of learning activities will be evaluated with student groups and the results added to the database as further reflective guides to practice and use.

The process will be fully documented and the derived exemplars, which themselves will become new RLOs, will be catalogued and disseminated into the wider community where the transferability of the process can be investigated further.

Led by the University of Edinburgh Medical School this collaborative project involves the medical schools of the Universities of Cambridge and Birmingham, the Learning and Teaching Support Network subject centre Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Medicine (LTSN-01), BIOME, Suffolk College, Ipswich, and Edinburgh Telford College.



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