

EVALUATION OF COURSEWARE PRODUCTION AT THE COLLEGE OF INTERNET DISTANCE EDUCATION

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Abstract

Establishment of College of Internet Distance Education (CIDE) was officially approved in April 2002 by University Council of Assumption University (AU). It started admitting students in 2004. AU could be considered the first university in Thailand to offer full eLearning program in Thailand. Master of Science in Management was the first program offered by CIDE, followed by Master of Science in Information and Communication Technology. By 2008, CIDE started a new program offering Master of Science in eLearning Methodology and by 2009 offering Graduate Diploma in Teaching Profession. In order to evaluate the courseware production for these four programs at CIDE, a questionnaire was conducted online. Students of these 4 programs were requested to answer the questionnaire. This paper analyzes the data collected for the purpose of improving the courseware production. In July 2012 CIDE was renamed as Graduate School of eLearning (GSeL).

Keywords: Evaluation, Courseware, eLearning, courseware production, online learning

บทคัดย่อ

สภามหาวิทยาลัยอัสสัมชัญได้มีมติเห็นชอบการจัดตั้งวิทยาลัยการศึกษาทางไกลอินเทอร์เน็ตอย่างเป็นทางการเมื่อเดือนเมษายน 2545 วิทยาลัยฯ ได้เริ่มรับนักศึกษาในปีการศึกษา 2547 มหาวิทยาลัยอัสสัมชัญเป็นมหาวิทยาลัยแห่งแรกในประเทศไทยที่เปิดหลักสูตรการเรียนการสอนทางอิเล็กทรอนิกส์อย่างเต็มรูปแบบ หลักสูตรที่เริ่มเปิดสอนคือ วิทยาศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาการจัดการ และ วิทยาศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาเทคโนโลยีสารสนเทศและการสื่อสาร ต่อมาในปี 2551 วิทยาลัยฯ ได้เปิดหลักสูตรใหม่เพิ่มอีกคือ วิทยาศาสตรมหาบัณฑิต สาขาวิชาวิธีวิทยาการเรียนทางอิเล็กทรอนิกส์ และหลักสูตรประกาศนียบัตรบัณฑิต วิชาชีพครู ในปี 2552 งานวิจัยนี้เป็นผลการวิเคราะห์ข้อมูล

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การประเมินสื่อการสอนหลักสูตรต่าง ๆ โดยการตอบแบบสอบถามทางออนไลน์ของนักศึกษาทั้ง 4 หลักสูตร ผลการวิเคราะห์ที่ได้จะนำไปใช้ในการปรับปรุงการผลิตสื่อการเรียนการสอนของวิทยาลัยการศึกษาทางไกลอินเทอร์เน็ต

I. INTRODUCTION

The College of Internet Distance Education (CIDE) was established in 2002 as a semi-autonomous organization within Assumption University whose purpose is to provide Internet based eLearning programs to Thai students and those in other countries.

During early 2003, the executives of the College looked around searching for some commercial Learning Management Systems (LMS), the backbone software that enables the management and delivery of learning content and resources to student. Furthermore an LMS could keep track of students and activities performed by them. Most LMS systems are web-based to facilitate “anytime, anywhere” access to learning content and administration. Moodle¹ was adopted by the executive board of the College as the main platform for learning management. There are many good reasons to use the open source software, i.e. it’s free with no pop-up advertisement, full control of options and settings, access to source code, the right to edit the code, online support forum, and modification and derivation of other software from it. Moodle was opted since it was the most promising open source LMS due to its functionality, online forum, and the number of university and colleges around the world using it.

Master of Science in Management (MS-Mgt) was the first online program offered in 2004, followed by Master of Science in In-

formation and Communication Technology (MS-ICT) in 2005. Assumption University is the first university in Thailand that started offering accredited degree programs in full eLearning mode. By 2006, the College started a Ph.D. program in eLearning Methodology (PhDeLM). By 2008 a Master of Science program started in eLearning Methodology (MS-eLM). Later in 2009, another program with the name of “Graduate Diploma in Teaching Profession” was offered to prepare graduates in teaching profession.

II. METHODOLOGY

The College decided to start courseware production for the ICT program first in-house. A courseware production team of 5 members was formed consisting of an instructional designer (ID), a programmer, a video editor, and a web/graphics designer. The team was responsible to develop courseware for ICT program and modifying and enhancing the features of the Moodle. The product of this enhancement to the Moodle as the main Learning Management System (LMS) was named “SCIT Plus” in honor of the CEO of the College, Prof. Dr. Srisakdi Charmonman in whose honor the IT Center at AU was named. Later in 2 years time, 2 more courseware production teams were formed to produce courseware for Management, MSeLM, and Graduate Diploma programs as well.