Use cases as a means of capturing e-assessment practices and indentifying appropriate web services

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The JISC-funded LADIE project has produced a set of use cases of learning activities derived through a series of workshops with practitioners (*www.ladie.ac.uk*). From these an e-learning framework identifying the services needed to support learning activities has been produced.

The Learning Activity Reference Model (LARM) is part of the e-frameworks programme, to encourage people to design learning activities using appropriate technologies. A reference model such as the LARM provides a process for designing and implementing effective learning activities, from initial design, through requirements specification, to analysis of the technologies, specifications and standards necessary to meet those requirements. It identifies common requirements of reusable learning activities based in effective practice; and describes how these requirements can be met using existing and developing technologies, specifications and standards using a web services approach.

LADIE aimed is to provide a bridge between the plethora of learning activities which practitioners might wish to develop and identification and implementations of appropriate web services to support these. This presentation will focus on the assessment dimensions articulated in the use cases and how these are mapped in the LARM. It will critique the pedagogical aspects of e-assessment as highlighted in these use case, by attempting to draw out the relationship between particular pedagogical approachs, tasks undertaken by the students and associated assessment activities.

The presentation will give an overview of how the use cases were collected, demonstrating how the workshop material build on the DialogPlus Learning Activity taxonomy. It will go on to draw out the assessment dimensions evident in the use cases and show how they are mapped to particular web services. Finally, the presentation will give an overview of the LARM, described through three separate guides. Each guide is intended for a different audience:

- **Teachers/Practitioners:** the Pedagogy guide which has teaching and learning as its primary focus

- **Technologists/Implementers:** the Implementation Guide which describes how to configure learning activities from existing environments

- **Developers/Vendors:** the Services Guide which defines the reference model so that those creating new educational technology applications can ensure they can be used through the LARM.

It will focus in particular on the first of these - the Pedagogy Guide, which is designed for use by teaching practitioners who need to design and implement learning activities. It offers guidance on how to create a learning activity, on effective use of tools and resources in implementing activities, and a language and structure by which teaching practitioners and learning technologists might discuss the development and implementation of learning activities.