WikiSkripta - rozruch v medicínském e-learningu

WikiLectures - Hullabaloo in Medical E-Learning

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WikiLectures (WikiSkripta in the Czech version, www.wikiskripta.eu) were established in 2008; full operation was started in the spring 2009. The concept of openness that belongs to the main characteristics of the project has proven the great viability and astonishing dynamics. After a year and a half, the site contains almost 3000 contributions and about 300 new articles are entered every month. The total number of visits to WikiSkripta exceeded 3.500.000; they are visited from more than 2000 unique users a day. WikiSkripta represent a connectivistic, Web 2.0 based approach to e-learning. It is complementary to existing, „closed" systems. Authoring a contribution to WikiSkripta is not restricted to teachers; even students may insert, edit or update any text. In this way, students get more involved in the learning process. The role of teacher changes: cooperation between teachers and learners is emphasized. Since students may contribute on writing a textbook for themselves, the expert knowledge of a teacher proving accuracy and defining learning objectives is indispensable. Authors and readers of WikiSkripta obtain extensive support from editors maintaining the site. Editors are medical students trained for this work. A system of training was established, as well as thorough procedures for controlling the project. Some organisation aspects and tools used by editors will be demonstrated here. Users of WikiSkripta create a community. Social networking and various events organised by this community belong to important motivation factors engaging both students and teachers even more in the education process. Openness, collaboration and power of students give an unexpected dynamism and efficiency of energy use to this project.