Organizing the Web Science Teaching and Learning Community

Stéphane BAZAN
UIR Web Science - CEMAM
Saint-Joseph University
Beirut - Lebanon
Stefan.bazan@usj.edu.lb

ABSTRACT
Following two milestones papers (WSCC by Vafopoulos - presented in Koblenz, 2011 - and WSCR also presented in Koblenz by the WSCD consortium) on organizing 1 - the curriculum and 2 - the repository, we need to create an official "online meeting point" for researchers, teachers, curriculum designers and students to have access to everything related with Web Science Education. This presentation will propose an online strategy to build this meeting point.

The strategy is to develop an online platform with several open source software like WordPress, Mediawiki, Hackpad or EdShare that would produce the following outcomes:

- An online repository for Web Science Research papers, notes, posters and abstracts
- An online repository for Web Science shared material for teachers and students.
- An online "showroom" for Web Science Education programs
- A Web Science “virtual and permanent” communication tool for members of the Web Science Education community.
- An online Web Science Education platform for learning and teaching activities.

Below is a detailed structure of what the different sections of the platform would give access to:

WEB SCIENCE LIBRARY
The Web Science Library would gather all existing content about Web Science and already produced, presented and published material.
- Early documents for Web Science
- Milestone papers
- Papers / Notes / Abstract presented at WS conferences since 2009

This section would work like an online library, organized by Web Science topics (see Clare Hopper's butterfly dissection) and tagged with the WSCC.

Already available tools:
- The WSCC
- The WSCR

WEB SCIENCE TEACHING MATERIAL REPOSITORY
Such a project was developed by the WSCD consortium 2 years ago and described in the paper by White et al. EdShare would be a perfect product to create such a repository.

- Books
- Manuals
- Articles
- Shared educational artefacts
- Lectures
- Powerpoints
- Exercises

WEB SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS
The page on the W3C website about WS education programs is not complete and program designers have no way to modify, update and remove information. Also, such a “showroom” would help promote new programs, show the vitality of Web Science education and allow the building of links between institutions all over the World.

A WordPress site would allow flexibility and interactivity.

- Pages for of existing WS programs and WS Interdisciplinary programs
- Web Science courses in disciplinary programs
- Web Science Courses and related courses
- Trainings
- Workshops
- Tools for creating Web Science programs or courses
- Examples
  o Course design
  o Learning outcomes
  o Marketing
  o How to
- Openings and international exchange programs
  o Teachers
  o Students
- Links to WS groups on social networks, like the existing World Wide Web Science or Web Science Students on Facebook.

WEB SCIENCE EDUCATION COMMUNITY
This section is a social network of all involved members with profile pages and relations. A tool like ELGG could be used for development.

- Program designers

- Teachers
- Students
- Online WSE activities (Free, members only, paid)
  o MOOCS
  o Webinars
  o Online workshops

The objective is to create an interactive platform to be used as a gathering point, and officially recognized by the WS Trust. But it would have to be fully collaborative, with accounts and shared rules.

This project could be "sponsored" by WST at the beginning, with a group of "champions" from several WS institutions that could take care of early stages of development and content insertion. The platform would be multilingual - now we have Web Science in German, Spanish, French, Korean, Portuguese, etc.

The group of champions could share responsibilities according to their interest and advantages for the group.