Beginners' Workshop

Presenters
Bronwen Dalziel and Karen Baskett

Intended audience

This workshop is designed for teachers, instructors and students from any educational context, who have little or no practical experience with LAMS.

Aims of workshop

The overall aim of the workshop is to provide a general overview of LAMS, V2. We will also look at how the development of LAMS has evolved and how it is different from (but complementary to) other Learning Management Systems. Results from various trials will also be discussed. There will be a brief introduction to the LAMS Community site and the resources that are offered.

The workshop will be practical with ample opportunity to explore the Learner, Monitor and Authoring interfaces in LAMS. There will be a number of ready made sequences available for participants to look at and/or adapt.

Outcomes for participants

During the workshop participants will:

- Examine the place of LAMS in e-learning;
- Examine the integration of LAMS with other Learning Management systems;
- Discuss learning and teaching issues and results from various trials;
- Participate as a learner in an introductory LAMS sequence;
- Author a sequence in LAMS;
- Explore various existing sequences and discuss pedagogical approaches;
- Explore the monitoring environment;
- Evaluate LAMS as a tool for facilitating e-learning.

Prerequisites

Familiarity with using the Internet, and basic computer skills. No prior experience with LAMS is necessary for this workshop.

Biographical notes

Bronwen Dalziel is an Educational Developer at LAMS International. She has extensive experience using LAMS as a teaching and learning tool, writing over 50 lesson plans in various subjects for students from Year 1 to Year 12 (UK curriculum). Her previous teaching experience includes demonstrating face to face laboratory classes and tutorials in a university environment, as well as tutoring problem based learning (PBL) tutorials for the Graduate Medical Programme at the University of Sydney. Bronwen has a PhD in Medical Biochemistry.
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Karen Baskett works for the National Prescribing Service in curriculum and training. Prior to that worked at LAMS International as an Educational Developer for over two years. She is currently studying for her Masters degree in Educational Technology.
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Advanced Workshop

Presenters

Angela Voerman and Robyn Philip

Intended audience

Teachers, academics and students who have designed and implemented LAMS sequences for any educational context.

Aims

The workshop can be tailored to the needs and backgrounds of participants, but overall will be a mix of practical activities using LAMS V2, and reflection on the pedagogical issues which arise when designing for online and blended learning environments. Throughout the workshop examples from a range of educational contexts will be used for demonstration and analysis.

The workshop aims to explore ways in which LAMS can support collaborative and individualised approaches to learning. We go beyond the basic functions of LAMS and reflect on design, construction and implementation issues. Participants will have the opportunity to practise designing using all the LAMS tools, but in particular the HTML Noticeboard, adding images and linking learning objects, and managing grouping, optional and monitoring functions.

Outcomes for participants

During the workshop participants will:

- Explore, analyse and run examples of LAMS sequences designed and implemented for higher education and K-12 contexts;
- Design a LAMS activity using the advanced tools and/or the optional and grouping tools;
- Discuss the learning and teaching issues arising in relation to the design and implementation of collaborative activities;
- Evaluate for themselves the scope of LAMS as a technology to promote and develop rich learning environments

Prerequisites

Familiarity with the basic LAMS tools, LAMS authoring and monitoring. Participants are welcome to bring along their own examples of LAMS sequences for discussion and development.

Biographical notes

Angela Voerman is an Educational Developer working on the implementation of LAMS at Macquarie University. She is a lecturer in Warawara, the Department of Indigenous Studies at Macquarie University. Her educational interests are in the integration of practical experience with the development of theoretical understandings. Her work in LAMS has also been driven by the need to develop pedagogies that support indigenous students into the world of university learning.
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Robyn Philip is Program Manager for the LAMS @Macquarie Project, promoting and supporting the use of LAMS across Macquarie University. Robyn has been an Educational Developer for over 15 years, and lectured in English for Academic Purposes and Communication. She has facilitated numerous professional development workshops on e-learning and is currently conducting an evaluation of the LAMS@Macquarie project and researching the design of e-learning environments.
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Technical Workshop

Presenter
Fiona Malikoff

Prepared by
Ernie Ghiglione and Fiona Malikoff

Intended audience

This is a technical seminar and we strongly recommend a solid understanding of object-oriented programming. Since LAMS is a Java based application, Java programming experience is welcome, however, not required.

Aims

In this workshop we will unveil all the technical aspects of LAMS V2.0. We will cover LAMS' modular architecture placing special emphasis on tool creation, using the LAMS tool contract.

Outcomes for participants
After this workshop you will be able to follow the LAMS modular architecture to create collaborative LAMS tools.

Prerequisites
Delegates attending the technical workshop should bring their own laptop.

During the conference, participants will receive a LAMS 2.0 Workshop Package with all the software and necessary tools you need to start the technical workshop. It is important that you install all the required software and tools before you attend the workshop. If you encounter any problems setting up the software and tools, please contact the information desk at the conference for assistance. Delegates who are not able to attend the 'LAMS Architecture Overview' session during the conference, should please ensure that they read through the architecture page on the LAMS wiki
http://wiki.lamsfoundation.org/display/lams/LAMS+2.0+Architecture before attending the workshop. We will be adding more details to this page before the conference. Warning: This will only 'partially' cover the overview session.

Biographical notes
Fiona Malikoff is the Technical Lead for the LAMS development team. Fiona started with LAMS during the initial development. Fiona left when she moved interstate but loves LAMS so much she returned to the team in 2004. Fiona's commercial experience extends from small computer companies of twelve people, to a government department, to an IS department in the telecommunications industry. She became a team leader in her first job out of University and hasn't been able to escape from the role ever since. Fiona has a BSc (Computing Science major) from Macquarie University and a MSc (Thesis on Software Reuse) from the University of Technology, Sydney.

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Ernie Ghiglione is the LAMS project manager. Ernie has been involved in various open source projects in e-learning before. He has developed parts of the .LRN Learning Management System, specially the Learning Object Repository, content delivery platform, one of its assessment engines, the IMS Content Packaging, IMS Metadata and SCORM implementation. Prior to managing e-learning projects, Ernie led large enterprise software development in the US, the Netherlands and India for five years. He holds an MSc BSc Management Information Systems (magna cum laude) from New York University and a Master of Software Engineering from the University of Sydney.

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