



Welcome to

Learning, Innovation and the Use of Information

Aalborg University Library
1st - 2nd April 2008

Good morning

I am very pleased to welcome you to Aalborg University and especially to Aalborg University Library.

My name is Niels-Henrik Gylstorff, and I am the Library Director.

First I want to thank all the speakers for their willingness to participate in this conference on *Learning, innovation and the use of information*.

The purpose of this conference is twofold:

first of all, it marks the end of the Learning Objects Web development project (financially supported by Denmark's Electronic Research Library);

secondly - and more importantly – it invites you to consider and engage in collaboration across sectors to secure that future candidates in higher education can meet the increasing demand for innovative employees on the job market.

Part of what we have learned from the Learning Objects Web development project is that whether we see ourselves as library people, university people or business people, we share a common concern for the future of the students.

Until now, the focus in teaching has been centered on learning and information – that is, the *use of information*. However, due to the increased focus on innovation, in society in general and in the education sector in particular, candidates will to an extended degree be required to engage in innovation processes in their future jobs. Naturally, institutions in higher education are aware of the current demands and try to adapt their study programmes accordingly.

The focus of this conference is to explore the relations between learning, innovation and the use of information, so that we can support the students in the best possible way. We believe it is crucial that we work together – across traditional boundaries – for the benefit of the student.

I'm thrilled to see that such a big crowd of people - representing so many different institutions and countries – have come all the way to Aalborg because they find this matter interesting and challenging.

Luckily, we have been able to attract a long list of distinguished experts who will share their thoughts on the subject as they speak from their various perspectives.

The first speaker is one of our local guys from Aalborg University. Please welcome Niels Maarbjerg Olesen...