

Creative Café Report

Your Name:

Dieter Stokar

Title of Creative Café:

Learner's Workbench - Proposal for a Learner's App

Participants (if known):

Number of participants:

- 1) ca. 40
- 2) 5
- 3) ca. 15

Which main topics emerged during the discussion?

The main questions raised by the speaker were whether the proposal made sense to the participants and whether it would be worthwhile following up on the topic.

The answers seemed to be split. The majority of participants expressed general agreement with the proposal. Some expressed concerns regarding feasibility due to complexity on the technical level.

Also interesting were objections voiced by a minority: Their arguments went along the line that the vast diversity of tools and materials out there is a fact and will remain. Therefore it will be more important to train students in coping with this kind of complexity, rather than working towards simplification and unification.

While this argument sounds reasonable with regard to top level students, the question remains whether it holds true for the broad majority – or simply for people who prefer focussing on their primary goals rather than struggling with technical obstacles.

What is the relevance for the Swiss HEI?

As more and more teaching material goes digital, usability – in particular from the student's perspective – ought to be given sufficient attention. We should avoid losing benefits from the analog world.

Suggested next steps (if any):

To continue with this discussion, in particular whether and how to proceed.

Development of a prototype application could help identifying the potential of an app as well as its difficulties.

Additional comments: