

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Partnership Agreement
between
Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)
and
Association for Learning Technology (ALT)

PARTIES TO THE MEMORANDUM

1. The Association for Learning Technology (**ALT**) is an independent UK membership charity that aims to:
 - represent and support our members, and provide services for them
 - facilitate collaboration between practitioners, researchers, and policy makers
 - spread good practice in the use of learning technology
 - raise the profile of research in learning technology
 - support the professionalisation of learning technologists
 - contribute to the development of policy.

2. The Joint Information Systems Committee (**JISC**) supports United Kingdom (UK) post 16 & higher education and research by providing leadership in the use Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in support of learning, teaching, research and administration. **JISC** is funded by the UK post 16 and higher education funding councils.

3. **JISC's** strategic aims reflect and support government objectives and the needs of the education and research communities. **JISC** delivers its mission through
 - innovative and sustainable ICT infrastructure, services and practice that support institutions in meeting their mission
 - promoting the development, uptake and effective use of ICT to support learning and teaching
 - promoting the development, uptake and effective use of ICT to support research
 - promoting the development, uptake and effective use of ICT within institutions and in support of their management
 - developing and implementing a programme to support institutions' engagement with the wider community
 - continuing to improve its own working practices

VISION

4. In signing this Memorandum of Understanding **JISC** and **ALT** demonstrate their commitment to collaboration and innovation in exploiting the potential of ICT across the UK education and research communities.

AIMS

5. To achieve their vision **JISC** and **ALT** agree to collaborate on those activities which advance their strategies and are of mutual benefit. Thus **JISC** and **ALT** aim to:
 - provide mutual benefit and demonstrable support to the strategic aims of both organisations.
 - inform the national and international agendas for education and research by advising on policy and standards.

- stimulate and inform strategic and organisational development by dialogue and active sharing of information.
- promote and enable knowledge transfer to help broaden expertise and knowledge across the UK and worldwide academic and learning technology communities.

AGREEMENT

6. **Strategic approach:** By working in partnership, to deliver the vision of this Memorandum of Understanding, **JISC** will continue to provide strategic direction and manage the provision of ICT for UK post-16 & higher education and research. **ALT** will continue to support and spread good practice in learning technology and its deployment amongst researchers and practitioners, nationally and internationally.
7. **Management:** Partnership meetings will be held, periodically throughout each year. These meetings will provide an opportunity for knowledge sharing and the monitoring of operational activity. Specifically these meetings will define any planned activities, to be managed by a lead organisation, agreeing anticipated deliverables and resources, both financial and human.
8. **Financial arrangements:** Mutual agreement from **JISC** and **ALT** is required before any funds are released. Details of joint funded activity are defined in *Schedule A* of this Memorandum of Understanding and will be updated as appropriate.
9. **Membership:** Whilst retaining independent rights of veto, **JISC** and **ALT** are entitled to nominate expert employees to observe their committees, working groups or advisory groups as appropriate to the aims of the Memorandum of Understanding.
10. **Knowledge Management:** **JISC** and **ALT** are committed to the open sharing of intelligence and non-confidential information between their organisations.
11. **Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Copyright:** Copyright and independent ownership rights will be decided prior to the commencement of each joint activity. Where appropriate, joint IPR will be arranged, otherwise ownership rights will normally be retained by the lead project organisation.

GENERAL

12. This Memorandum of Understanding serves to record the understandings between **JISC** and **ALT** and is not intended to create any legal obligations.
13. This Memorandum of Understanding will guide the relationship between **JISC** and **ALT** and will remain in effect for two (2) years from 10th September 2008. Either **JISC** or **ALT** can terminate the Memorandum of Understanding by means of ninety (90) days written notice to the other party. **JISC** and **ALT** will decide whether or not to renew the Memorandum of Understanding early in 2008. The withdrawal of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the conclusions of projects established prior to that withdrawal.
14. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by the written, mutual, consent of **JISC** and **ALT**.

Signed in two copies, 10th September 2008

Dr. Malcolm Read
Executive Secretary
Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)

Seb Schmoller
Executive Secretary
Association for Learning Technology (ALT)