PRINCIPLES OF DISTANCE EDUCATION

Ing. Vladimír ČECH, Doctoral Degree Programme (3) Dept. of Information Systems, FIT, BUT E-mail: cechvlad@fit.vutbr.cz

Supervised by: Prof. Jan M. Honzík

ABSTRACT

In this article are describes main principles of distance education to ensure quality results – study materials, study organization and feedback in some ways. Individually is mentioned project management especially triple constrains as opportunity to done education results better and more effective than in classical way.

1 INTRODUCTION

Distance education is a modern teaching method meant for self-study especially for older students, which need extend their knowledges. It integrates much disciplines (pedagogy, psychology, sociology, computer science etc.). Understanding and realization of education as multidiscipline includes cognition of disciplines and concurrent tracking and managing.

In next text I'll describe main principles and goals of distance education. Application and using distance education in competences of executing organization and it is necessary to acquaint with principles and rules more closely.

2 PRINCIPLES

Distance education is based on three basic elements:

- study materials (text or electronic version)
- study organization
- feedback, evaluation

Their intersection with right managing and using allows to get to quality results.

2.1 STUDY MATERIALS

Study materials have special form. Text (in a printed form) is write strongly communicatively by maximally tellable. Students needn't use next materials. Next the text is

specifically structured for transparency purposes. Page of the text is divided into two parts. An exposition part (own text, tables, graphs, etc.) and a describing part (short notes, important terms, graphical symbols give notice of contents of exposition part).

The second variant is text in an electronic form. The text can be the electronic version of printed materials only or it can be interactive (possibly hyper-) text, animation, multimedia form – e-learning. E-learning can be understand as electronic version of the text supplement with interactive elements, but it can done as complex education courses which content interpretation of knowledges, evaluation elements (self-tests and final tests), tools for study materials creation, and etc.

At present doesn't exist unified approach to understanding and assertion the electronic form of study materials and e-learning. Every situation and competences decide of the institution.

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1 Základní pojmy	
V této kapitole se seznámíte se základními pojmy z oblasti programování. Dozvíte se co je	
programování, a jaké typy úloh lze programovat. Budete umět definovat algoritmizovatelné	
problémy a naučíte se jak lze algoritmus zapsat jiným způsobem než programem. Na závěr	
ochopite rozdíl mezit datovým typem a datovou strukturou.	
Njení již začínáme naostro. Pokud jste si tuto kapitolu již prolistovali, zjistili jste, že obsahuje	$\left[\bigcirc\right]$
velké množství pojnů. Neděste se. Nejprve si musíme vysvětlit pojmy, které budeme později používat	(°°°)
a které tvoří skutečný základ programátorského řemesla. Jsem si jist, že tyto pojmy zvládnete bez	
problâni.	
1.1 Programujeme	
Pokud někdo řekne "Programují", co si představíme, že děla? Asi většina řekne: "Píše	
programy." Máte pravdu. Ale lmed doplním, že psaní programů je pouze částí programování.	
Pojem <i>programování</i> zahmuje oblasti od zjištění požadavků od zadavatele (tedy toho co se	p regrame ván í
má vytvořit, co má program dělat), následované nalezením postupu, kterým lze úlohu vyřešit.	
Posledním krokem je "přesvědčiť" počítač, aby daný postup realizoval tedy napsat program.	
Postup hledání řešení se nazývá <i>algoritmizace</i> . Pokud se nám podaří řešení nalézt,	1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -
dostaneme <i>algoritmus.</i> Formálněji je to přesně definovaná <i>konečná posloupnost</i> konečných	n ige ritmus, ke nechs pes ieu pnest
příkazů (kroků), jejichž prováděním pro každé přípustné vstupní hodnoty získáme	
odpovídající hodnoty výstupní. Slovní spojení konečná posloupnost je alfou a omegou	
klasické algoritmizace, pokud není postup konečný, nebude řešitelný pomocí něžných postupů	
algoritmizace.	
Slovo "algoritmus" je odvozeno ze jména arabského učence, který se jmenoval Muhammad	
ibn Musa Abdallah Al Chorezni a žil na přelomu 8. a 9. století na území dnešního	
Uzbekistánu. Zasloužil se zejména o rozšíření algoritmů pro aritmetické operace v poziční soustavě.	
Algoritmus je vykonáván určitým technickým prostředkem procesorem. Pokud algoritmus	preceser
převedeme do podoby určené pro konkrétní procesor, stává se z něj <i>program.</i>	p regram
Pro popis algoritmů se využívají <i>algoritmické jazyky,</i> které jsou souhrnem prostředků a	a iga ritmické jazyky
pravidel pro vyjádření výpočetních algoritmů. K algoritmickým jazykům patří:	
Vývojové diagramy	
Strukturogramy	
Rozhodovací tabulky	
Programovací jazyky	
V dalším textu se zaměříme na programovací jazyky a vývojové diagramy. Pro zájemce o	(ATA)
strukturogramy doporučuji na příklad stránku	
http://www.smartdraw.com/resources/centers/software/nassi.htm,	ALC I

Fig. 1: Example of a study text

2.2 ORGANIZATION OF STUDY

Distance education is based on self-study. In spite of that are hold attendance meetings (tutorials), where are students trained in practical abilities, consult problems, teacher (tutor) verifies students' knowledges and understanding for problems, etc. Tutorials can be shorter

(one day) or longer one or two week (summer school). Tutorials don't replace teaching. Students come to tutorials prepared. In courses should be 2–3 short tutorials and possibly one longer.

A good way of organization depends on content of the course. Courses without tutorials are also possible.

For distance education are very important consultations. Their are operated by e-mail or chat, where teacher answers students' questions as well as students can answer. Other kind of consultations are possible but aren't use often.

2.3 FEEDBACK, EVALUATION

Decided factor for success of courses are knowledges about their progress and competences which were acquired by students.

Evaluation can be progress in different levels, for distance education are important:

- self-evaluation
- normative evaluation
- judge evaluation
- direct evaluation

Self-evaluation presents tests, which are included in study materials and allow verify study progress by student during learning. Self-evaluation replace formative evaluation in classical education. For self-evaluation is very important if questions cover subject matter thoroughly and concurrently motivation task of this questions. Student must not be demotivated.

Normative evaluation evaluates all students by one scale and presets final exam usually, which is same for all and allows to compare results. Main criterion is even cover themes by questions and finding out real state of students' knowledges and not use especially difficult questions nor examine themes which were taught.

Judge evaluation doesn't mean examination, but evaluation forms, which are filled after completing course by students and evaluation by tutors. This evaluation is very valuable material for next development and determining of contributions. When evaluation forms are created with questions about progress of course, organization components and quality of materials. Tutor's task is evaluate whole progress of the course and reached results. Results are evaluated by independent person.

Direct evaluation represents the specification of criterion, which can be quantified or rate by words and use in the next development of the courses. Basic goal is to maximize number of students reach at least a minimal level of knowledges and students can develop on. Due to the fact are important criterion (metrics), which intercept whole progress of education from planning and education preparation to examination. This part is omit but for quality result is the necessary condition.

3 PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Above describe principles lead to application of the project management in distance

education. It isn't possible strictly apply the project management due to iteration character of education on the opposite of a project, which is unique. In spite of that we can find unique periods (course), which is necessary to manage goal (specification), budget and time – triple constrains. On the basis of the triple constrains we analyze possibilities and risks, assemble team, create plan, determine milestones and responsibilities with binding on surroundings.

Advantage of the project management is possibility to track individual processes and progress in realization a possibility to ensure quality output. Disadvantage is necessity to crate a team, its coordination and manager's access.



Fig. 2: Triple constrains and feedback

4 CONCLUSION

Development of education methods is more fast than it was twenty years ago. Now it is very important trace evolution and rivals and constantly enrich our knowledges, opportunities and possibilities.

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