FREMA - DEVELOPING AN E-ASSESSMENT REFERENCE MODEL

Yvonne Howard

FREMA - Developing an e-Assessment Reference Model

Yvonne Howard, Learning Technologies Group,
School of Electronics and Computer Science,
University of Southampton
ymh@ecs.soton.ac.uk, www.frema.ecs.soton.ac.uk

Frema is one of five ELF Reference Model projects in the JISC e-Learning programme and is a collaboration between the Universities of Southampton, Strathclyde and Hull. The goal of Frema is to develop a reference model for systems in the Assessment domain of e-learning that are built on top of Service-Oriented Architectures, such as Web Services and the Grid, and in particular the JISC ELF. The Assessment Reference Model will include:

- A domain definition that will describe the scope of the Assessment domain, including evidence that gives an overview of current practises, processes and systems.
- A set of use cases that describe common solution patterns in the Assessment domain area.
- Service profile definitions for both existing services and those that need to be developed for the Assessment domain area, their scope, behaviour, and data.
- Assessment reference model prototype implementations.

The Frema project view is that in order to ensure that the reference model is a usable community resource; it should be an evolving, cross referenced, searchable web site, accessible to a variety of users with different needs. It should contain indexed resources and narrative descriptions of the domain, UML use cases and scenario documents, service profiles and service implementations for re-use. There should be different gateways into the model according to how a user may want to use it.

In this session we will:

- Show how a reference model may be used by the e-learning community
- Explain the methodology we are using to develop the reference model to ensure that we achieve our usability aims
- Discuss how we can engage with the assessment community to ensure that the reference model meets our aim of providing resources to promote and encourage the development of reusable, interoperable assessment services.