



**Maintaining a sustainable Future
for IT in Higher Education**

Thursday 16th June 2011

Time: 14:00 - 14:30

Lecture Capture: A Key Technology for Sustainable and Scalable Open Educational Resource Generation

As Open Educational Resource (OER) projects, by definition, do not generate income, benefits are often either intangible or very difficult to measure. Downes (2007) has identified production costs as a significant barrier to the scalability of OER, and even with moderate production costs it is difficult to scale up such an activity within an institution in a sustainable way. Lecture Capture is a way of generating content at minimal cost, and which may even be done as a by-product of existing teaching activities. Institute of Technology Sligo (ITS) has been generating such content for a number of years from its live online distance-learning classes using a PC based web-conferencing system (Mulligan, 2009). However this technology was not considered to be suitable for recording of campus based classes and has installed a Lecture Capture system for this purpose. Early results within ITS have confirmed that this is very cost-effective in generating certain types of useful online content and Green (2009) has found in the 2009 Campus Computing Survey that there is significant uptake by higher education. Having made acceptable progress in reducing production costs, ITS is now working on other important issues that affect re-usability and sustainability, such as the encouragement of staff to share content publicly, external publication and the tagging and reviewing of materials.