Combining Lecture Recordings with Social Networks

Patrick Fox, Johannes Emden, Nicolas Neubauer, Oliver Vornberger

This contribution consists of the proposal of an approach to integrate lecture recordings, based on the virtPresenter framework, within social networks. A lot of social networks have recently begun to provide application programming interfaces (APIs) for external applications, allowing access to users' profile information and their friendship relations. The project "social virtPresenter" combines the resulting social graph with the existing lecture recordings. Thus, "social virtPresenter" provides a basis for a new collaborative multimedia learning process.

With "social virtPresenter" we link the lecture recording system to social networks. While the process of providing lecture recordings in many different ways, e.g., the integration with an LMS, is not new at all, our approach, the integration with a social network, focusses a lot more on the user, his experience and especially the inter user experience based on the social graph. Thus, our goal is to create a socially fully integrated learning environment.

"social virtPresenter" shows how an existing repository of lecture recordings - in this case the virtPresenter video library of the University of Osnabrück - can be presented to a user of a social network and what options for interaction based on the social graph can be made available. An essential part are concepts of user awareness such as the Social Scrubber and footprints as well as user-generated content like collaborative whiteboards, study groups, discussion boards in the context of lecture recordings as well as entire courses.

In summary we demonstrate an approach to extend lecture recordings with social features and user-generated content. The developed application currently exists in an early publicly available stage. It is currently being tested by students of the University of Osnabrück.