



Implementing e-Learning at the FU Berlin university-wide

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CeDiS – Center für Digitale Systeme
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Project FUeL („FU e-Learning“)

Objectives

- spreading the use of e-learning university-wide
 - focus on Blended Learning
 - at least $\frac{1}{4}$ of all courses (already achieved)
- extending the (technological) infrastructure
- creating a student portal
- promoting e-learning content exchange
- marketing e-learning content, courses and services

Funding

- summer 2005 to autumn 2008
- Federal Ministry of Education & Research (BMBF): € 1.7 million
- FU resources

FUeL: Key Issues



Consultancy

Establishing Blended Learning in the Departments and Institutions



IT-Integration

Integrating the Central Learning Management System within the FU IT-architecture



Student Portal

Creating a Central Student Portal



Materials

Exchanging e-Learning Materials (internally and externally)

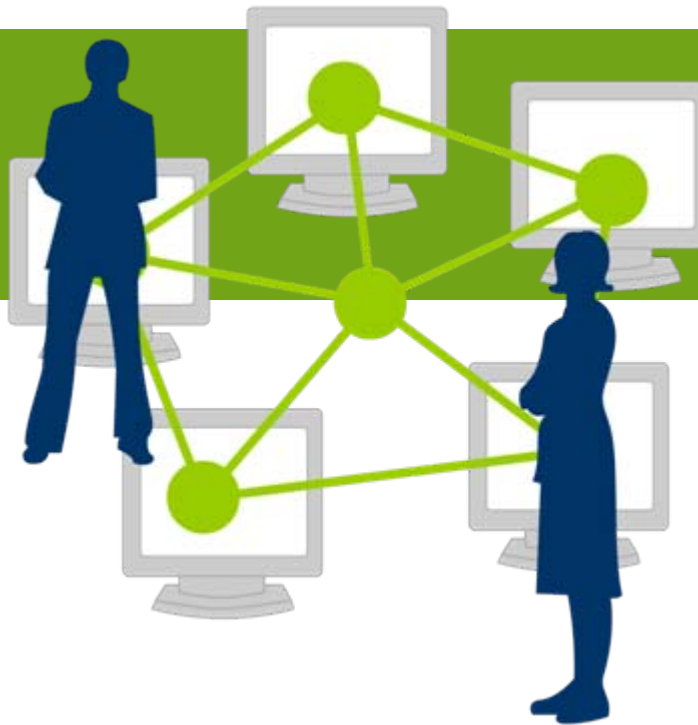


Marketing

Marketing Results and Expertise



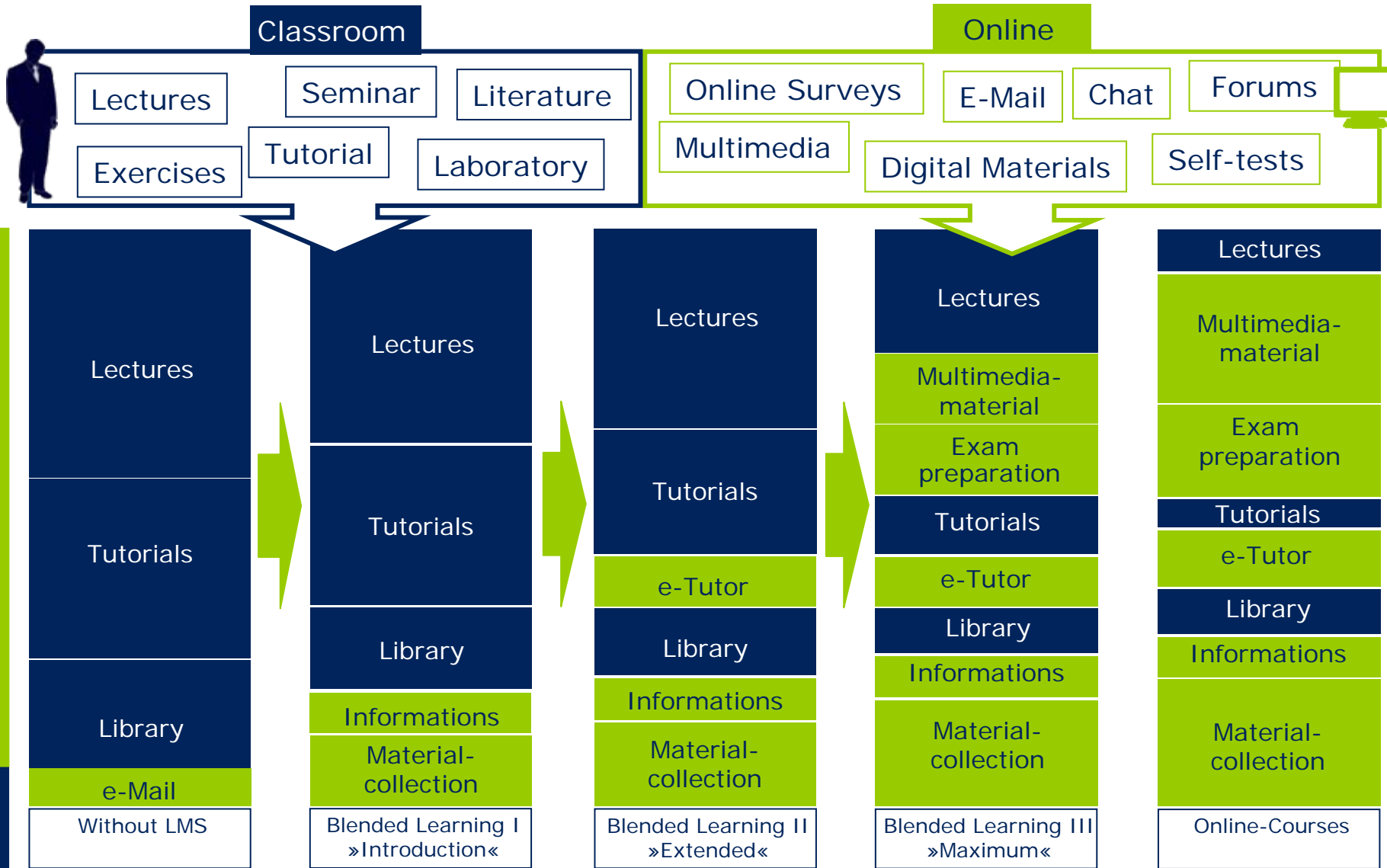
Establishing Blended Learning



Departments
Central institutes
Service institutions
Continuing education



Blended Learning



Blended Learning



Central Services

e-Learning Consultancy

- e-learning consultants for every department
- support for faculty
- strategic consulting for the deans

Training

- use of the LMS (Blackboard)
- production of e-learning content
- didactics of e-learning

e-Learning Grants Program

- administration
- consulting and support

Questions of Law

- leaflets, question/answer pool
- individual advice

Learning Management System (LMS)

- training and consulting
- software operation
- hotline (phone, e-mail)
- cooperation with Charité

Authoring Software

- training and consulting
- technical support
- products: Lectora, Mediator

Multimedia

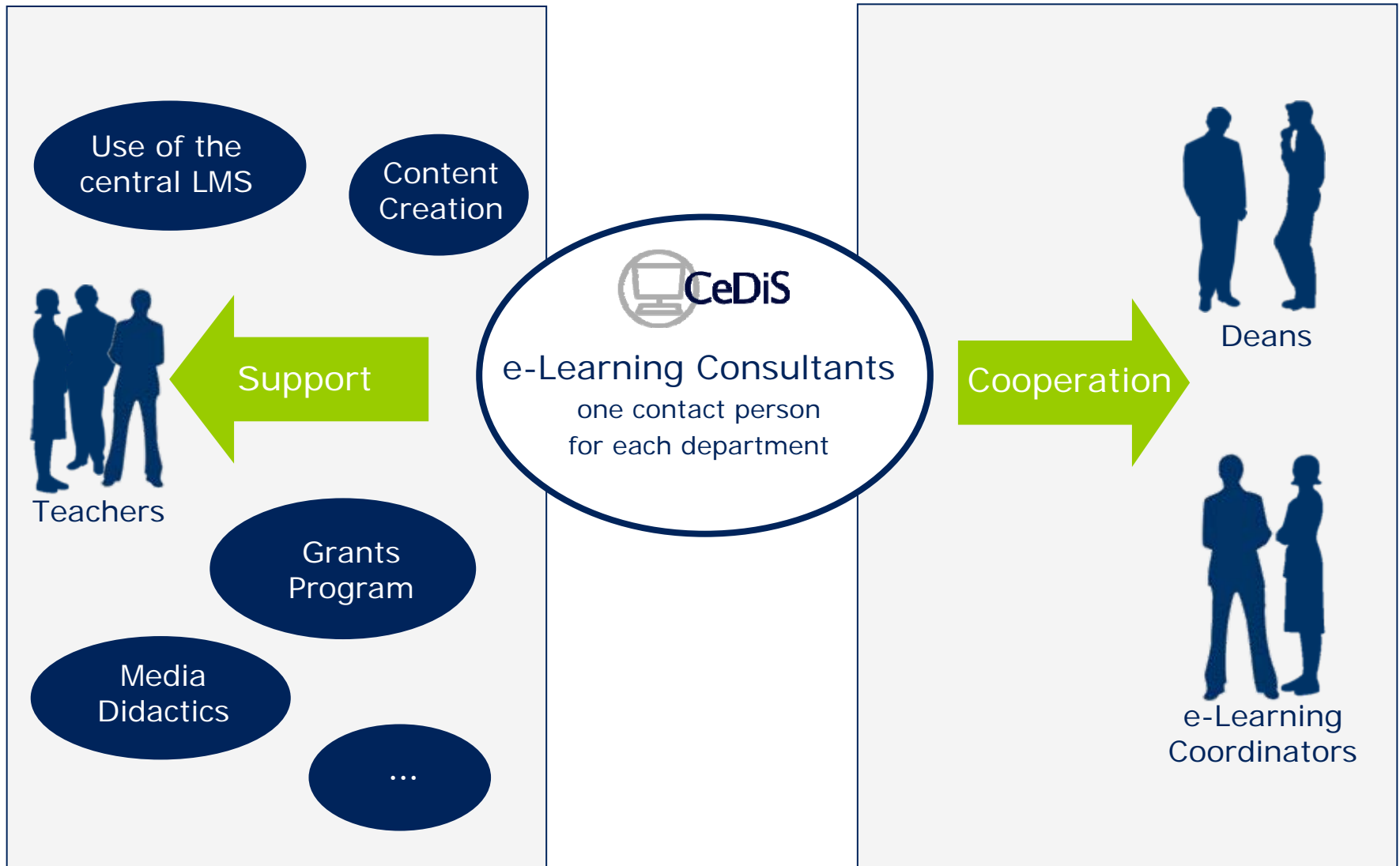
- conceptual design
- production

Evaluation

- support for quality improvement
- university wide student survey



e-Learning Consultants



Regular Course Program

use of the LMS Blackboard

- introduction (3 hrs), advanced courses (1,5 hrs each)

production of e-learning content

- conceptual design, software: Mediator, Lectora

didactics of e-learning

Special Events

autumn school: production of e-learning content

one week full of courses, workshops, expert talks

e-Learning Certificate

comprehensive curriculum on different aspects of e-learning

target group: lecturers and teaching assistants

conducted for the 3rd time



e-Learning Grants Program

Goals

promotion of blended learning

- production of e-learning content
- usage of the central LMS Blackboard

support for early adopters

Funding

until 2010: 410.000 Euro annually from the FU presidency

individual projects, joint projects, department-wide projects

extra budget for new professors

support and administration by CeDiS

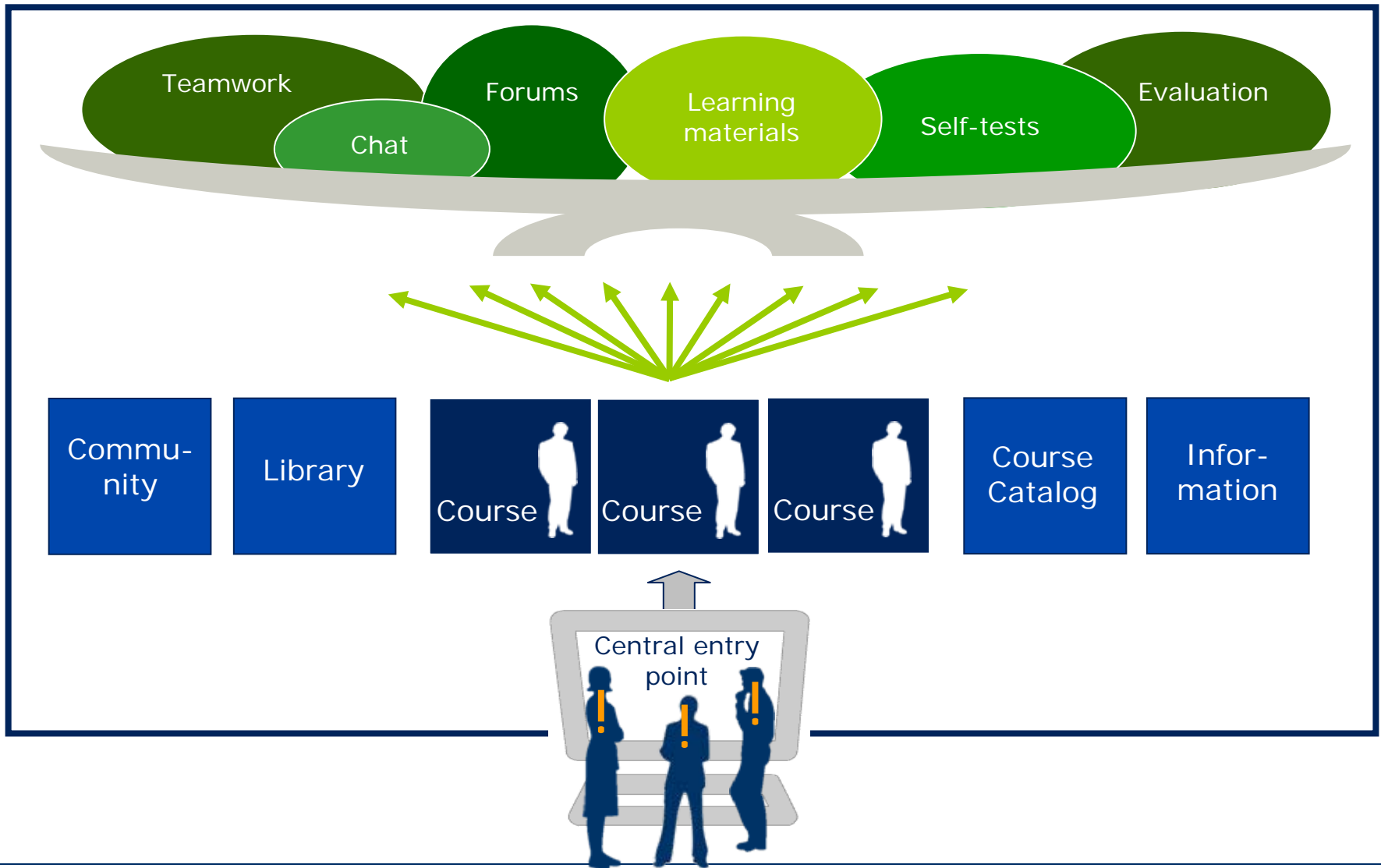
Outcomes

> 200 projects, involving every department

broad dissemination of e-learning skills and competence



Central Learning Management System (LMS)



Pro / Contra Blackboard LMS

strong points:

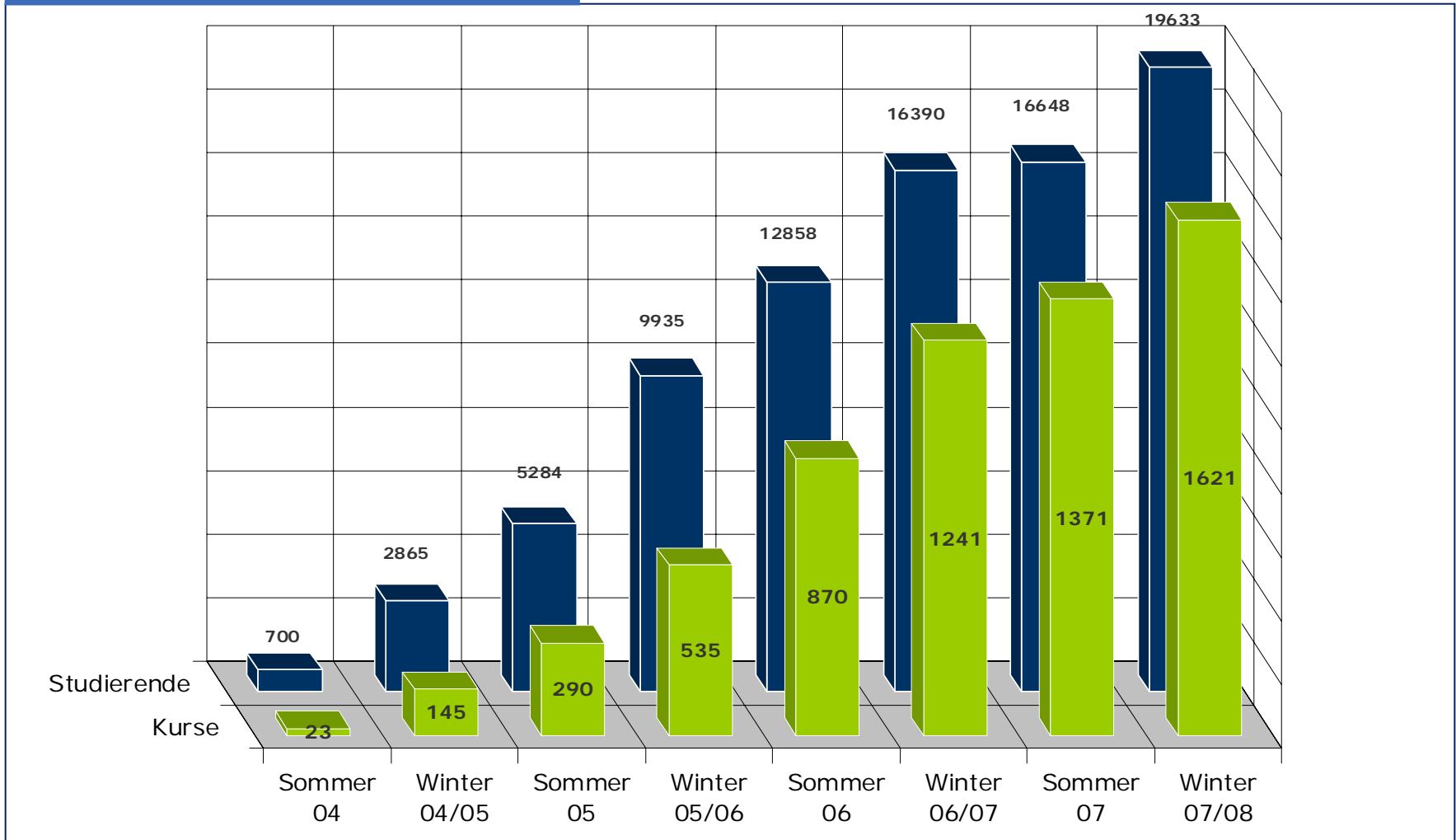
- ease-of-use for students and teachers (maybe except Content Collection)
- quite stable operation
- scalable architecture
- expandability (Building Blocks concept)
- large user community

weak points:

- mainly instructor centered
- lack of tools for student participation / collaboration
- Poor technical documentation, proprietary API
- old UI techniques (no deep linking possible)
- lack of standard conformity e.g. SOAP, WSRP, JSR168
- lack of conformity with the German data protection laws



Usage





Student Survey

- general acceptance: 88 % would favor a LMS supported course over a traditional course
- most students say: the LMS
 - facilitates student work
 - saves time
 - is easy to use
- most used functions:
 - course materials, course information
 - e-mail, test, discussion board
- average login time: 78 % less than 1 hour/week
- usability: 72 % had no or few technical or handling problems
- students' technical equipment:
 - 71 % have a broadband internet connection
 - 74 % have a notebook

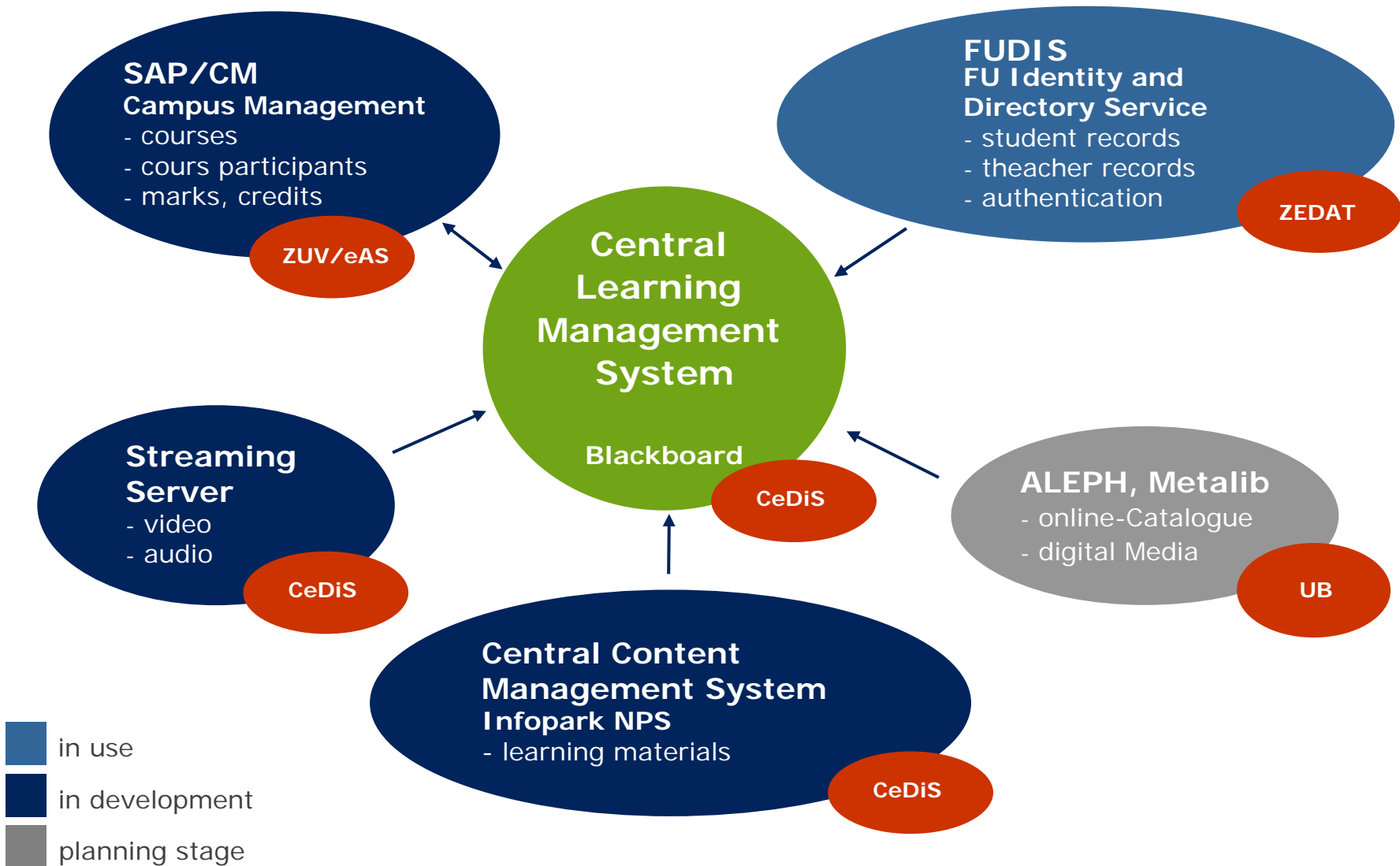


Integrating the Central LMS
in the IT-Infrastructure of
the FU Berlin





IT-Integration





IT-Integration

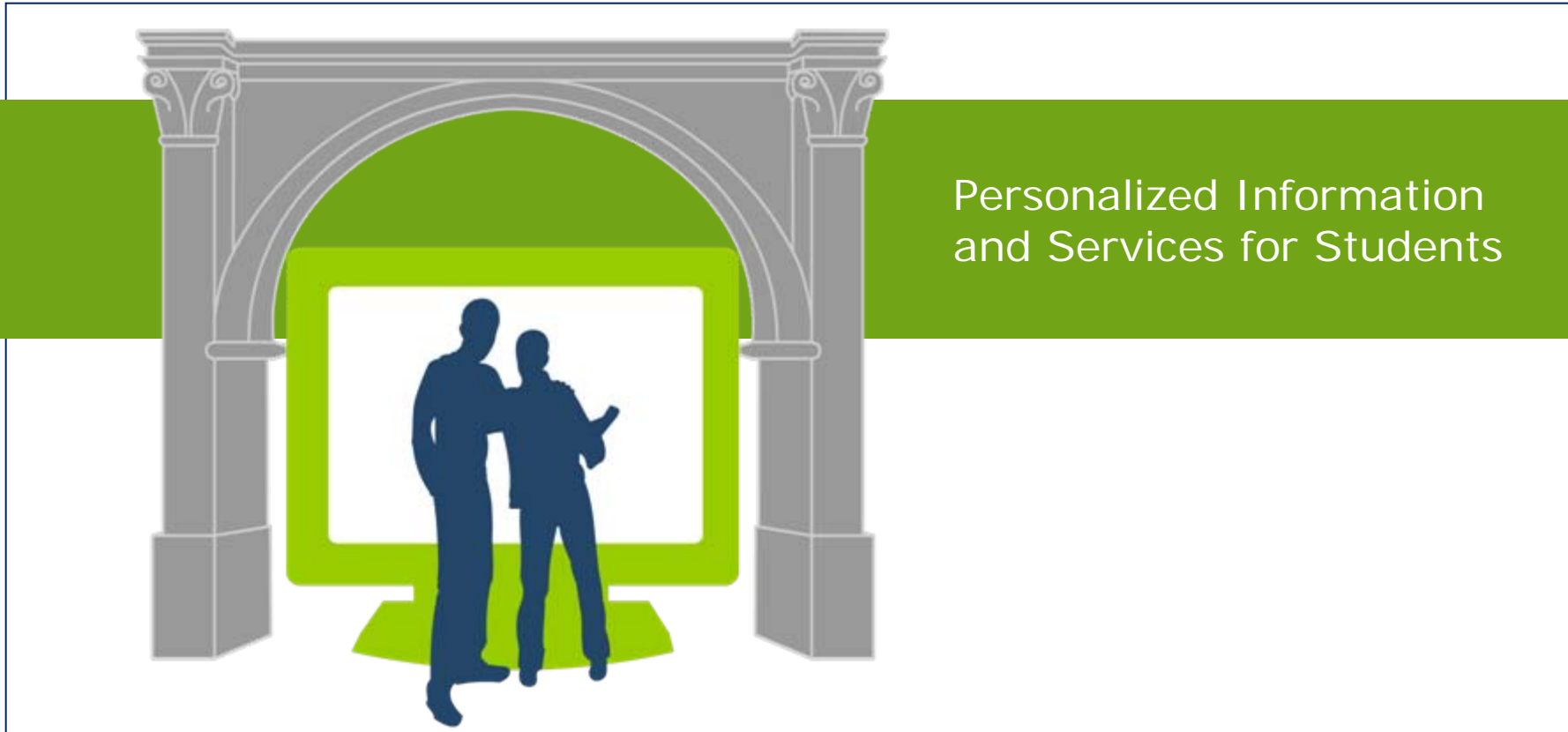
FUDIS

FU Directory and Identity Service

- central service for personal data and authentication
- aggregation of data from different systems (SAP, HIS, ...)
- high data quality
- daily updates
- LDAP

Implementation

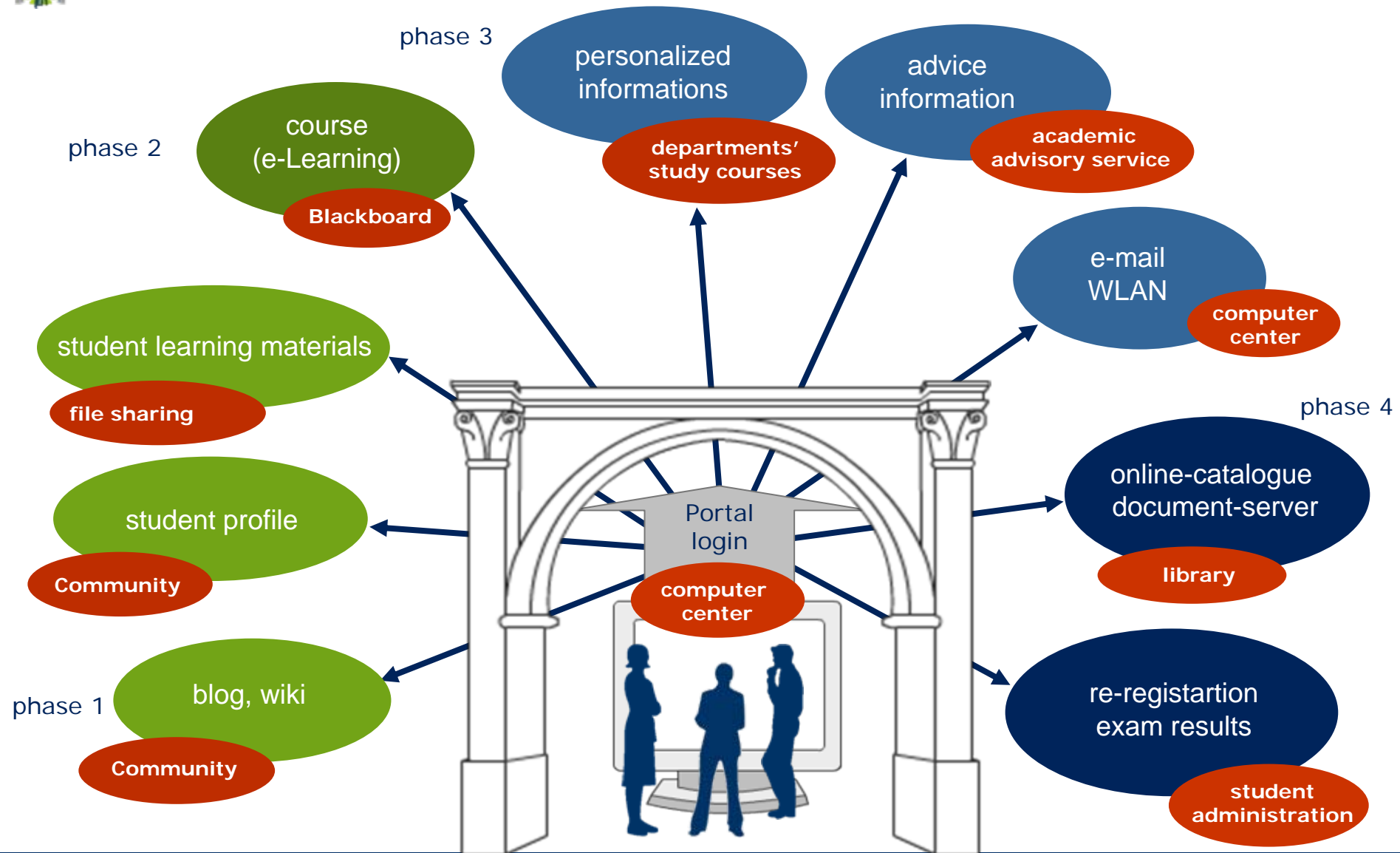
- flexible, component-based architecture
- data protection: passwords are only stored at FUDIS, not in the LMS
- SOAP Web Services
- security: IP numbers, SSL, password



Personalized Information
and Services for Students



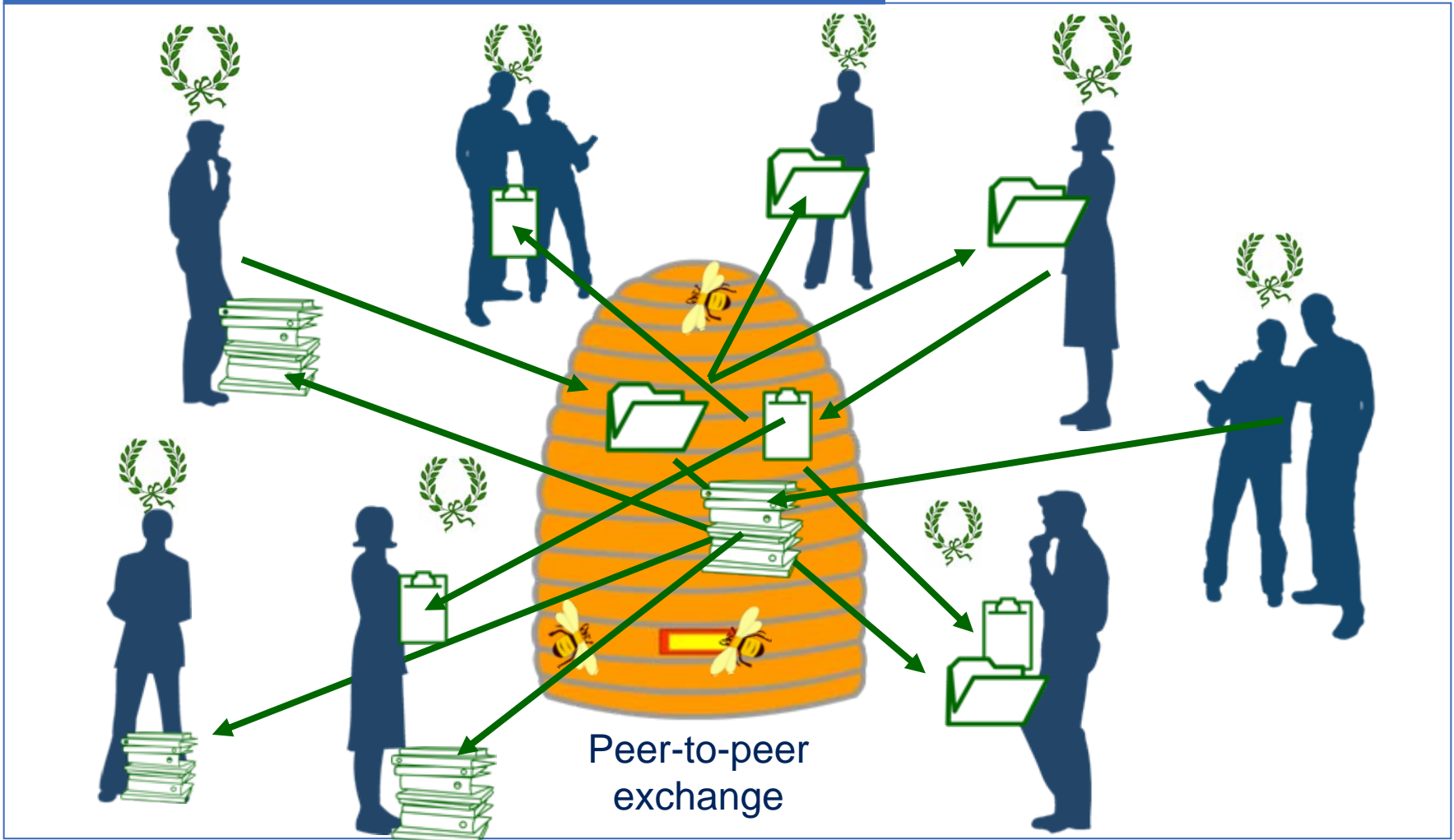
Student-Portal





Student Portal: Community

Students' materials for exam preparation



“Web 2.0” / Social Software

Social Software

Content produced by users
Low threshold / easy-to-use
The Web as workspace
User self-organization
Social networks
Linking of content and services



Blogs and Wikis in teaching

Simple creation of Web content by teachers and students
Supporting collaboration and communication
Discursive writing style
Peer-to-peer review
Working together on texts
Knowledge exchange through networking and linking up

“Web 2.0” / Social Software

CeDiS Services

Blog availability

- personal blog for all FU members
- (multi-user) blog for Blackboard courses
- System selected: WordPress

Additionally planned CeDiS Services

Training courses and workshops on Social Software

Wiki availability

- Wikis for Blackboard courses

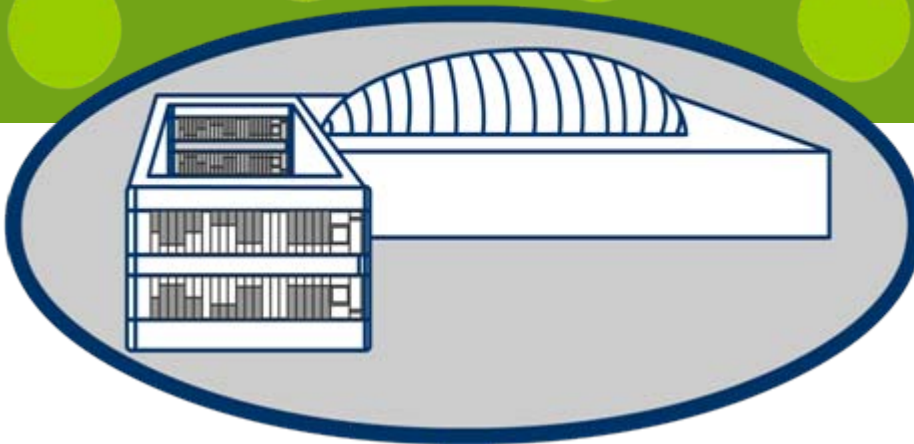
RSS feeds

- announcements from Blackboard courses

(Podcasts, Social Bookmarking, ...)



Content
Courses
Services





e-Learning Content

- learning materials are a main competence of the university
- conversion into e-learning content takes time and money

Courses

- online courses incl. e-tutors
- course providers: departments, central institutes, centre for continuing education
- MBA programs, part-time study, university certificates

Services

- training and consulting (LMS, CMS, authoring tools, multimedia, e-learning, ...)
- media production (web, print, animation, audio, video)
- hosting (LMS, CMS)



Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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