

MOBILE EDUCATION

Relation from X Konferencja Naukowo-Methodyczna im. dr Janusza Trawki (10th Janusz Trawka, Ph.D., Scientific & Methodological Conference) in Katowice entitled: Technologia informacyjna w społeczeństwie wiedzy (Information technology in the knowledge society)

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Another jubilee conference entitled: ‘Mobilna Edukacja’ (Mobile Education) took place on 21 November 2014. The host of the Conference was Wyższa Szkoła Techniczna w Katowicach (Katowice School of Technology) while its organiser was Stowarzyszenie Komputer i Sprawy Szkoły KISS (Association ‘Computer and Matters of School’). The honorary support was provided by Śląskie Kuratorium Oświaty (Silesian Department of Education), the Silesian Voivode and the chancellor of Katowice School of Technology. This year’s conference was also connected with the 20th anniversary of existence of the Association ‘Computer and Matters of School’.

Mobility in the meaning of digital solutions is continuous learning, improvement and barrier overcoming by the people using them. The idea behind the conference was a look at mobility in education as at an enormous chance, simultaneously knowing and understanding the threats. The lecture of Professor Janusz Morbitzer entitled: ‘Sztuka uczenia się w cyfrowym świecie’ (The art of learning in the digital world) like always raised great interest since it included a lot of examples from the modern professional literature combined with extremely interesting comment and interpretation of the professor. School operates according to an old model and has to change since currently we have a situation, in which the teachers and the students have access to the same sources of information.



An ECDL representative from Dublin, Jakub Christoph, the Development Director of ECDL in Europe, presented a couple of interesting tools for online cooperation. In his lecture entitled: ‘Narzędzia współpracy online i ich wykorzystanie w edukacji’ (Online cooperation

tools and their use in education), he discussed the ECDL Certificate: Online Cooperation, which may be the confirmation of skills and competences not only in the school environment.

Another lecture entitled: ‘Wielka nauka rozpoczyna się od pytania - mobilne systemy sprawdzania wiedzy’ (Great education starts with a question – mobile knowledge checking systems), presented by Maciej Pulnar, M.A., the physical education teacher, showed that a smartphone or a tablet may also be used in a lot of school situations without any special input of time and work. He conducted a quiz, in which the conference participants took active part winning minor prizes. The interactive lecture was an example of a specific method, in which everybody could participate and check his or her own impressions and emotions during the quiz.



The lecture of Jolanta Gałęcka, the Education Expert of Young Digital Planet from Gdańsk – ‘Jak technologie mogą pomóc rozwiązać niektóre problemy w edukacji – ciekawe przypadki z Brazylii’ (How technologies may help to solve some problems in education – interesting examples from Brazil), raised enormous interest. Illustration of a couple of examples from Brazil and presentation of educational

projects of students from the other side of the ocean was a real example of how changes should occur in the current school as well as how the teacher should change – ‘from a wise man on a stage into a guide at a side’. During the presentation, it was possible to see an educational project of the Brazilian students, in which the digital technologies were used by the students to show the negative changes in their environment and how this environment started to change thanks to this project.

An example of good practice from work in the grammar school was a lecture entitled: ‘Grając uczyć się - czy to możliwe? Jak motywować ucznia’ (Learning while playing – is it possible? How to motivate the student) of Elżbieta Buk from the Polish Office of ECDL, who organises an all-Polish competition connected with safety in the Internet every year. Can the method based on implementation of the elements and mechanisms of computer games in the teaching process change the attitude of the students to school? Can it activate them and improve progress in learning? The attempt to answer the questions based on a game created together with the students, ‘Smokowisko’, was an interesting presentation of teacher’s creativity.



‘Cyberbaiting - problem agresji elektronicznej skierowanej wobec nauczycieli’ (Cyberbaiting – the problem of electronic aggression directed at the teachers) was discussed by Anna Waligóra-Huk, Ph.D., from Uniwersytet Śląski (University of Silesia) in Katowice based on her scientific research. Presenting numerous examples of violation of the law by the young Internauts in relation to their teachers, she showed a new

aspect of cyber-violence and the surprisingly growing scale of this problem. She emphasised the need of a specific school policy focused on assistance for the persons affected by such events and media education of the parents as well as social responsibility shaping.

What has happened to our morality? – with this question, Professor Mariusz Jędrzejko, Ph.D., from WSB started his lecture entitled: ‘Czy komputer i Internet uzależniają? Jak modelować relacje dziecko – nowe technologie cyfrowe’ (Do the computer and the Internet addict? How to model the relations: child – new digital technologies). Information found in the Internet is not categorised into real and less real and a young man does not have the orientation which to choose, so the model of the teacher as the master and not as the guide should function at school.



At the end of the panel, a representative of the Upper-Silesia Branch of Polskie Towarzystwo Informatyczne (PTI; Polish Information Processing Society) recalled the person of Janusz Trawka, Ph.D., and presented the decision of PTI on awarding him with the title of the Honorary Member of PTI *post mortem*.

During the workshops which were first of all aimed at improvement of the teachers who want to develop in the field of use of digital technologies in didactics, new tools, interesting applications, inspiring lessons and proven methods were shown in brief. The subject matter of the workshops of this year’s conference was connected *inter alia* with online graphics, programming, e-handbook, gamification in interactive games or writing of a scenario for an e-learning lesson. They were conducted mainly by the members of the Association ‘Computer and Matters of School’ who possess great experience in conducting teacher trainings on modern methods for ICT implementation in education.

This year, a very popular seminar entitled: 'Dlaczego i gdzie dzieci "uciekają" rodzicom. O wartości wychowania w granicach i normach' (Why and where do the children 'run away' from their parents? About the value of bringing-up within the limits and norms), was conducted by Professor Mariusz Jędrzejko. Also a meeting for the persons interested in acquisition of European funds was held.

This is what was said about the conference by its participants:

Maciej Rostański, M.Sc., Eng. - university lecturer, IT consultant, certified Cisco Academy instructor, associate professor in Wyższa Szkoła Biznesu w Dąbrowie Górniczej (University of Dąbrowa Górnicza).

I was very pleased to host already the 10th Janusz Trawka, Ph.D., Scientific & Methodological Conference 'Information technology in the knowledge society' together with the President of the Association 'Computer and Matters of School', Ms. Elżbieta Bowdur. The motto of this year's conference - 'Mobile Education' – shows how important mobile technologies become for the teachers and students and how many possibilities but also challenges and problems entailed by their use at school occur together with them. As it was emphasised by Ms. Elżbieta Bowdur, remote access to applications and remote access to the Internet become a key issue for the modern society and therefore also for the school environment. This year, from the scientific experts such as Anna Kwiatkowska, Ph.D., but also from the practitioners, such as Ms. Jolanta Galecka, we heard, we saw and we even experienced (thanks to the excellent demonstration of Mr. Maciej Pulnar) how great motivation and interest may be activated by modern technologies as well as how they can develop and form the learning of young people. The conference did not also avoid the difficult and current questions, such as a question about impact of digital education on the youth or a question about the phenomena of use of mobile devices in a harmful manner – it proves how important and necessary a wide discussion on this subject matter not only in the national but also in the international environment is. I am happy that I was able to participate in the event which undoubtedly paves the way of the modern education, which allows the teachers and all other persons interested in the future of teaching for refreshment, expansion and opening of the new horizons of possibilities provided to us by the modern technology.

Also Marcin Stalmach, M.Sc. – vocational subjects' teacher in Zespół Szkół (School Complex) in Czerwionka - Leszczyny.

Janusz Trawka, Ph.D., Scientific & Methodological Conference is an exceptional event which not only allows for exchange of experience in education with the use of IT tools but also provides the possibility to acquire new skills, not only in information technology teaching. It may very well be said that it allows for having a new look at the relations between the teacher and the student in the world of the omnipresent social media. The topic of the 10th jubilee conference was mobile education – inter alia the online tools and the use of mobile devices. Therefore, the conference related to the new perspectives which occur in activity of the Polish school. I think that great organisation both of the conference and of the workshops places the November's meeting in the forefront of events of this type.

Full conference coverage may be watched on the website: <http://konferencja2014.kiss.pl>