PROPOSAL OF AN INTEGRATED TOOL INVOLVING MULTIPLE TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COURSES ON THE WEB

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This work is a proposal of an Integrated Hypermedia Environment for the development and management of distance education courses. The environment is composed by modules which are fully integrated. All modules are managed by a unique interface manager. These modules use different technologies, like palmtop programming (for Palm Pilot hand-helds), multimedia data synchronization and databases. The main objective of this environment is to make instructors able to create and manage online courses, using the most advanced technologies available. The system is based on templates, which make it very easy to use by non-experts. The environment is composed of three modules. The WebCourse module is a hierarchical web-based tool for the creation and management of courses carried via the Web. It is composed by three sub-modules, which are interconnected: WebCourse Instructor, WebCourse Teacher Assistant and WebCourse Student. Each one of these modules has specific tools and are integrated on the system.