CREATING SHARABLE LEARNING OBJECTS FROM EXISTING DIGITAL COURSE CONTENT


Rajendra G. Singh Margaret Bernard Ross Gardler
rajsingh@tstt.net.tt mbernard@fsa.uwi.tt rgardler@saafe.org
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
Faculty of Science and Agriculture
The University of the West Indies
St. Augustine, Trinidad, W.I.

ABSTRACT

Our research is targeting Instructors that have course material as a collection of various digital documents (raw content) and whose objective is to re-structure this raw content into a standards-based format in order to support a higher degree of content reuse, sharing and easier maintenance. In previous work, we differentiated a Reusable Learning Object (RLO) from a Sharable Learning Object (SLO) and developed a model which can be applied to convert RLOs into SLOs [4]. In this paper, we present an iterative five-step method to re-structure selected raw content into RLOs. The model from the previous work is then applied to convert the RLOs into SLOs. Thus far, we have used raw content from one Instructor’s Computer Architecture course and found that conversion of the raw content can successfully result in a subset of the raw content residing in SLOs, a form which is more conducive to reuse, sharing and content maintenance. In ongoing work, we are applying the methodology to additional raw content from several other Instructors (Computer Science courses) with a view to refining and automating the process where possible.