Further Education in Virtual Learning Settings -
Basis, Development and Evaluation of a Concept

In the doctoral thesis the situation of further education is elaborated within the context of social and technological development and the issue is being discussed how new technologies can be used for learning with effective learning settings in further education.

Out of the above two questions have been derived:

- What requirements are applied for a modern further education to accommodate the demand of social and technological changes?
- How can such demands be implemented in further education by means of virtual learning settings?

The objective was to develop a concept for virtual learning settings which fulfils the expectations of modern further education.

At first basic conditions for further education in interaction with technological developments and changes in the professional/business world as well as in the social situation were shown. As theoretical basis approaches concerning "subject oriented" didactics (learner oriented) were discussed and 13 main ideas for further education were generated.

Based on this concept for subject oriented design of virtual learning settings 7 domains of demands were developed.

The concept was discussed with regard to the main ideas as well as empirical evaluations of virtual learning and an accordance was ascertained concerning the above.

Results and achievements:

- Formulation of main ideas for a subject oriented further education
- Development of a concept for the design of virtual learning settings
  (perspective of the learner/developer)
- Reference of the concept to empirical evaluation results