Lifelong eLearning & eEducation

Zoom meeting of the Professors Emeriti Network, and the representatives of the network University eLearning & eEducation Group.

Wednesday, September 29, 2021, 17:00-18:30 CET

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eConnectivity has become central to life in today's society, impacting almost all aspects of both achieving and maintaining a good quality of life, especially for those in the Elderhood phase of life (the 3rd & 4th ages).

Infrastructure development and availability of eLearning and eEducation, both "hard infrastructure" (libraries, the internet, cellphone networks, digital devices) and "soft infrastructure" (websites re coursework and archives, apps, networks, etc.), creates what I would like to metaphorically refer to here as the "push" side of a "marketplace" (a metaphor for education and learning related processes). See https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/digital-education-action-plan_en for the 2021-27 EU Digital-education-action-plan re my use of the term infrastructure.

Customer/consumer receptivity, abilities, desires, and "fit" (needs/interests, personal perspectives or beliefs), the "pull" aspect of the marketplace metaphor, have received less attention. See https://cacm.acm.org/magazines/2018/3/225474-the-wisdom-of-older-technology-nonusers/fulltext for one article on this topic.

Today's presentations provide important information and perspectives on the importance to society and individuals of eLearning and eEducation, and examples of related platforms and resources. To close these remarks I'd like to offer this conceptual graphic to summarize and provide a few specifics re the perspectives I've touched on briefly above, which I believe are central to successfully advancing eLearning and eEducation platforms and processes that can bring benefit to an aging population.