ABOUT THE PROJECT OF SLOVAK TERMINOLOGICAL DICTIONARY OF E-LEARNING

STOFFA Ján – STOFFOVÁ Veronika, SR

Abstract

The study presents the project of the first Slovak terminological dictionary of e-learning. It presents goals and methods of the work and also the possibilities of participation on the work of interested persons which are not member of the researcher team.

Key words: electronic education, e-learning, electronic terminological dictionaries, terminology of the e-learning.

O PROJEKTE SLOVENSKÉHO TERMINOLOGICKÉHO SLOVNÍKA ELEKTRONICKÉHO VZDELÁVANIA

Resumé

Štúdia prezentuje projekt prvého slovenského terminologického vzdelávania. Uvádza ciele projektu a metódy práce na slovníku. Informuje tiež o možnostiach účasti na vypracovaní slovníka osôb, ktoré nie sú členmi riešiteľského tímu.

Kľúčové slová: elektronické vzdelávanie, e-learning, elektronické terminologické slovníky, terminologický slovník e-learningu.

1 Introduction

The modern educational processes are nowadays characterized by wide application of ICT in almost all cases. For the new forms of education using ICT is the term *e–learning* accepted. In spite of wide use of the vocabulary of the field, its terminology is not established. Many authors use and enlarge incorrect terms, which are erroneous, wrong or even false for different reasons. We have referred to some of them, for example in (1). Terminological and language culture of many users is not enough high. It has some objective and some subjective reasons. The main subjective reason is that users have no adequate terminological training during their university study, and many of them don't enlarge their language knowledge after graduation. The objective reason is that no terminological and neologism dictionaries were edited in the field until now. Also an undesirable variability of term forms exists, which can be illustrated by the term forms *e-learning, E-learning, e-Learning, e – learning, E – learning,* and *e – Learning*. The terminology of the e-learning field is not established until now and many new terms come into using as terminological neologisms. In Slovak don't exist suitable terms for many new notions, and almost regularly foreign terms, especially English ones are used for them. Some English terms are used without an adaptation, especially the newest of them. The older term are often adapted, like the term *software,* which was firstly used in the original English form and with the English pronunciation, but nowadays the term is literary in the form *softvér* with the same Slovak pronunciation. Users, especially educators which have the duty use only the literary forms of terms in their education activity, have no a reliable source of the information about the literary written and spoken form of many such new terms. The situation represents a real society

demand on the elaboration of a special terminological dictionary for the field of the electronic learning. The presented project is our answer on the society demand. By a help of the dictionary every user will have a possibility to check quickly the literary correctness, allowable variants, synonymous terms and other relevant information about terms.

2 Goals of the projects

The goal of the project is to create the first Slovak terminological dictionary, which covers the basic vocabulary of the e-learning. The dictionary will serve as a base for unification of the terminology and acceptation of foreign terms, especially neologism terms into the Slovak special terminology. We suppose the number of involved headwords should be of the order of thousands. For each entry word will be elaborated a short identification definition in order the notion may not be confused with another notion. Into the dictionary will be involved also synonymous terms for which link system will be applied. Also not correct terms will be placed into the dictionary with a special commentary. We intend to propose the community of potential users some new rational neologism terms, which have a chance to be accepted by the communities of the users of the dictionary.

Since the most new terms in the field of e-learning come from the English speaking countries the English will be accepted as a base language for creating of the dictionary of the e-learning and elaborating similar multilingual dictionaries in the future. Therefore simultaneously with the base vocabulary of Slovak terms a base vocabulary of English terms of the e-learning will be crated during the elaboration of the dictionary. English terms will be placed next to headwords in the dictionary and a separate index of English terms will be placed at the end of the vocabulary as well. In such a way the terminological dictionary will integrate both the Slovak-English and English-Slovak translational dictionary of the e-learning. In view of the fact that as headwords will be included also the most frequent abbreviations and also their etymology will be quoted, the dictionary will integrate also the abbreviations dictionary of the field.

Insomuch as educators should know not only the literary terms but from education reasons also the substandard, slang, jargon and informal words will be involved into the dictionary, naturally with an explaining commentary and a reference to the correct term.

As final output of the project a classical book dictionary will be edited and the dictionary will be implemented also in the electronic version on the net. The electronic interactive and dynamically extendable dictionary will be realised in the form of database system with different functions of searching, classification and selection.

In the work will be used the experience gained in creation of the terminological dictionary (2) and the hidden dictionary in the monograph (3). As an example dictionary will serve a similar dictionary (4). We will respect tenets for creation of dictionaries which were published in (5).

Special language problems and questions will be consulted with specialists from the Jazykovedný ústav Ľudovíta Štúra of Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava.

3 Methods and time periods of the work

The main work method will be the method of excerption of terms from original publications of Slovak specialists. The definition of notions will be accepted also from foreign sources as the notion contents of all terms are international ones.

As the second main method will be the comparing method used. Compared will be terms used by authors in different forms and also their definitions of the particular notions.

Simultaneously the critical method will be used in all the work on the dictionary.

The elaboration of the dictionary is planned in three time periods:

1. Elaboration of coordination guidelines and rules for the members of researcher team. Selection and investigation of relevant information sources, excerption of used terms from the sources by co-workers, comparative analysis of the excerption materials, creation of the preliminary list of headwords and finding of their English equivalents, creation realization and testing of the database system. The period is planned for the year 2009.

2. Evaluation of selected terms, creation of the final list of entries, filing up of the electronic database. The time period is planned for the year 2010.

3. Elaboration of definitions of the headword terms, coordination of their forms and their preliminary reviewing and actualization of the electronic database and its functions. Closing works on the dictionary and preparing both its book and electronic version.

Parallel with mechanical elaboration of dictionary we want create and use several software support for text and document analyse and for automation excerption of special terms from field of e-learning.

We plan also create and develop an electronic dictionary as an open database system with permanent correction and possibility to insert new terms.

4 The investigated fields

The field which will be covered by the projected terminological dictionary is very broad. It contains for example all electronic systems (*computer net, on-line systems, teleconference systems…*), technical objects (*digital camera, mobile telephone, camera, scanner…)* and their main parts, hardware (*keyboard, printer, servers, tablet …*), software (*Flash, FrontPage, Java, PowerPoint …*), environments (*Forum, LMS, virtual classroom …*), learning management systems (*Click2Learn, Moodle, WebCT …*), methods (*computer animation, computer based training, computer modelling, web based training …*), technologies (*blended learning, chat, ICT, net technology, satellite technology, tutorial …*) and processing of information (*coding, cryptography, data compression, printing …*), electronic didactic tools (*data projector, electronic whiteboard, laser pointer, video-recorder …*) and all other relevant notions used in e-learning.

5 Possibilities of participation on the work for non-members of researcher team

For the elaboration of the dictionary is created a team of specialists. The corn group of specialists is from the J. Selye University in Komárno, Slovakia. A co-working on the dictionary is planned also of some specialists from Palacký University in Olomouc, Czech Republic, from the Catholic university in Ružomberok, Slovakia, and from Károly Eszterházy Főiskola in Eger, Hungary.

Also participation of other specialists from Slovakia and from abroad is supposed and welcomed. All authors who are not members of the researcher team can take part in the elaboration of the dictionary, but they must respect the unified methodology and accept rules of the leading researcher. All co-workers will be quoted in a special list in the dictionary and authors of definitions will be quoted also at the end of definitions, which they will elaborate.

6 Conclusions and recommendations

The support of the Slovak Grant agency KEGA creates an excellent opportunity to create for Slovak users a modern terminological dictionary which can help for increasing terminological literacy and culture in the field of e-learning. Parallel a base for the future elaboration of some versions of multilingual dictionaries will be created.

7 The list of bibliographical references

(1) STOFFA, J. - STOFFOVÁ, V.: Časté terminologické chyby v písomnej komunikácii z informačnej technológie. In: *Zborník : Sieťové a informačné technológie : Celoškolský seminár.* Nitra : Slovenská poľnohospodárska univerzita, 2002, p. 104-108. ISBN 80-7137-981-6

(2) STOFFOVÁ, V. et al.: *Informatika, informačné technológie a výpočtová technika : Terminologický a výkladový slovník.* 1st ed. Nitra : Fakulta prírodných vied UKF v Nitre, 2001. 230 p. ISBN 80-8050-450-4

(3) ČERNÁK, I. – MAŠEK, E.: *Základy elektronického vzdelávania : Vysokoškolská učebnica.* Ružomberok : Katolícka Univerzita v Ružomberku, 2007. 347 p. ISBN 978-80-8084-1713

(4) ŠVEC, Š.: *Anglicko-slovenský lexikón pedagogiky a andragogiky.* 1st ed. Bratislava : Iris, 2008. 328 p. ISBN 978-80-89256-21-1

(5) STOFFA, J. – STOFFOVÁ, V.: O tvorbe technických výkladových slovníkov na edukačné účely. *Modernizace vysokoškolské výuky technických předmětů .* 1st ed. Hradec Králové : Gaudeamus, 2005, p. 101-106. ISBN 80-7041-954-7

Reviewed by: Prof. Ing. Ladislav Várkoly, CSc.

Contact addresses:

prof. Ing. Ján Stoffa, DrSc., prof. Ing. Veronika Stoffová, CSc.
Katedra informatiky PF UJS
Ul. Roľníckej školy 1519
850 19 Komárno, SK
e-mail: StoffaJan@seznam.cz
      NikaStoffova@seznam.cz