

The Future?

I already have two Master Degrees and if I pass this Master Degree I would have three (MA, MSc and MEd). I do not have any ambitions to proceed with a PhD. First, I think it would involve a lot of hard work and time and second I have other ambitions that I would like to try. These ambitions include:

(a) Designing and implementing websites. I have already had four commissions, ranging from a website for a national school, commercial product, a boating service in Greece and a rock group in Roscommon.

(b) Writing a novel. I have already written one novel in 1976 and received 19 rejections! However, most rejected it on the grounds of grammar, spelling and syntax, so I would like to rework it as I think the idea is original.

(c) Creating and managing a themed “fun farm” in Ireland. During the past ten years I have created a landscaped farm with a wood, lakes and meadows, and we have a wide range of animals ranging from goats, chickens, ducks, donkeys, ponies and geese to chinchillas and hedgehogs.

(d) Finally, the bad weather is certainly making me look towards living abroad in France and combining my new environment with my first two ambitions. Most plans are likely to take place a few years before my official retirement age.

I am still of the opinion that a VLE with a blended approach is still a worthwhile approach in education compared to alternative schemes, therefore it is something that I will continue to create within the courses I teach until I retire from working in education. I also intend to experiment to find the artefacts that give the most positive results in this teaching / learning environment. It is therefore likely that I might produce journal / conference papers to draw attention to any useful research.