

United Nations and UNESCO to award VideoLectures.Net best educational product of the decade

The services of [VideoLectures.NET](#), a global web portal for high-definition academic videos, was recognized by the UN and UNESCO as one of the most outstanding examples of creative and innovative e-Content in the world in the last decade. VideoLectures.NET is a European project run at the ["Jožef Stefan" Institute](#) in Ljubljana (Slovenia) and one that is currently expanding its vision and strategy in collaboration with the [Knowledge 4 All Foundation Ltd](#) based in London (UK).

The World Summit Award

The [World Summit Award \(WSA\)](#) was launched in 2003 and is a part of the United Nations Summit on the Information Society. It represents a unique global competition for the recognition of best e-Content and global creativity. Its Online Jury evaluated 200 WSA winners from the last decade and selected what they consider to be the 8 all-time bests: the WSIS⁺¹⁰ Global Champions. VideoLectures.Net was selected as the winner in the "e- Science & Technology" category. The winners will be presented at the WSA grand gala in Paris on 26th February 2013.

VideoLectures.Net

With this prestigious award, Videolectures.Net has proven that its vision of free and open access to academic knowledge in the form of online videos is the right approach for addressing the global digital divide in education and knowledge transfer. The website functions as an online video library, and was established with the aim of promoting access to academic lectures given by distinguished scholars, scientists, researchers and academics from many scientific fields, at conferences, summer schools, workshops and, even, the university classroom. It also serves as a publication channel for academic videos relating to research projects within the Sixth Framework Programme (FP6), Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) and the upcoming Horizon 2020. At present, the video library includes content from 761 events, 10,763 authors and 14,251 lectures (some 16,442 videos in total). It is a unique resource for high-quality and specialised academic talks. VideoLectures.Net is shaping the future of education and as the collection has got larger, the activities of VideoLectures.Net have become more complex. So in 2010 it co-founded the Knowledge 4 All Foundation Ltd, in order to maximise the impact of the online collection and dedicate resources to the creation of tools and intelligent services that complement and enhance its video content.

Knowledge 4 All Foundation Ltd.

Knowledge 4 All Foundation Ltd (K4A) is a non-profit organization based in London (UK), formed as a successor to the PASCAL2 Network of Excellence, an FP7 research project and the main supporter of VideoLectures.Net. Among the over 60 members of the Foundation are some of the most important research and development centres in the field of artificial intelligence in Europe. The aim of the Foundation is to reduce the current gap between new trends in education, on the one hand, and advanced technologies in artificial intelligence, on the other, with the ultimate goal of securing the future of open education. It has also developed an innovative series of video journals, and supports the development of advanced technologies for VideoLectures.Net. K4A works closely with the OpenCast Community and OpenCourseWare Consortium, both of which operate in the field of open source video capture systems and open educational resources, and provides intelligent solutions for both. K4A will organize the 1st regional "Internet of Education 2013" conference in Slovenia in order to explore the new and rapidly-changing global trends in higher education, and how intelligent and advanced technologies have influenced and will go on to instigate fundamental changes within traditional higher education systems around the world.

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