Transatlantic Business Process Management Education Network
Duration: September 2010 – September 2013

Objectives
In response to the overwhelming and constantly ever-increasing demands being placed by the industry on trained specialists in modern BPM this project is to develop a Canadian-European BPM Education Network (BPM EduNet) with the following objectives: (1) to enhance the educational experiences, technological and cultural skills, and global mobility of Canadian and European students seeking a variety of international careers related to business process management and IT service technologies, (2) to support the modernization and development of new curricula to teach modern BPM and underlying IT systems/service technologies in a range of business and industry sectors, (3) to facilitate collaboration between Canadian and European universities to expand their programs in BPM studies and facilitate the mobility of students, faculty, researchers and resources; (4) to provide a virtual campus as forum for international collaboration, global mobility, and for the exchange of educational materials, resources, and tools for Canadian and European faculty, students and researchers in BPM.

Our mission statement is

To promote understanding and advancement of Business Process Management in its industrial application and implementation with modern mature IT and Web technologies and standards such as Event Processing, Enterprise Service Computing, Corporate Semantic Web and Business Rules Management; to assist in the knowledge transfer in the triangle of Education-Research-Innovation to ensure long-term growth and economic efficiency; and to provide a transatlantic cooperative and inclusive environment for global mobility, international communication, and collaborative learning.
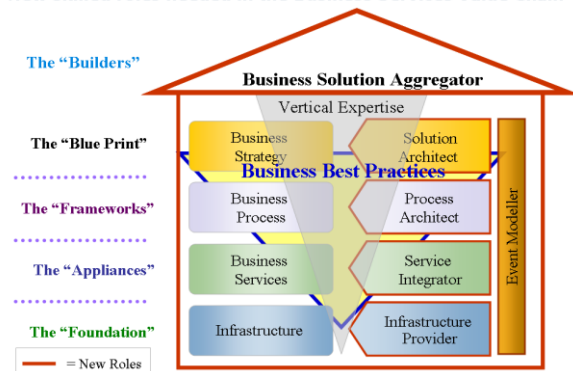
Level

The transatlantic education network addresses students in computer science, IT, and information systems on the graduate level in order to overcome the shortage of highly-skilled experts in the IT BPM industry for the next two to three decades. A limited number of courses on the undergraduate level is offered in order to allow advanced undergraduate students to obtain basic knowledge in the field and get an early start in the BPM subject via the BPM EduNet.

Our long-term considerations beyond the project are to develop an integrative teaching program for a new, spatially distributed, interdisciplinary "International Master on Business Process Management" curriculum jointly implemented on the EU and Canada side. This BPM Education Network complements and closely collaborates with other existing industrial, and research networks such as the Event Processing Technical Society (EPTS), the Distributed Event-based Systems Conference (DEBS), the Centre for Information Technology Transfer (CITT) and the RuleML Group (RuleML), which are promoting research and adoption of agile BPM technologies and standards in industry, in academia, and standardization bodies such as OMG, W3C, OASIS, ISO.

Summary

Business processes are the most valuable asset of an enterprise and a critical contributor to efficient enterprise services value chains and a strong economy. The assumption behind **Business Process Management** (BPM) is that the uniqueness of an enterprise lies in the way how it manages and executes its business processes. BPM has gained significant attention by both research and industry, and a multiplicity of modern BPM methodologies, technologies, and tools are already available and in use. However, there are not enough trained specialists for the different and required skilled roles in such enterprise service value chains (see figure on the left). As pointed out by industry experts and market research, the BPM world is becoming even more agile and the demand for more skilled people will further increase in the next decades according to the following experts;

The forecast of Prof. Dr. David Luckham/Stanford University…
  ■ … we need skilled people at least up to 2050…
The warning of Roy Schulte (Senior VP) /Gartner since 2006…
  ■ …we won't have enough skilled people who would be able to do all the jobs and projects
The statement of Prof. Dr. Mani Chandy/CalTech at the Gartner Event Processing Summit 2007…

■ …The work of IT during the next twenty years will be to complete the evolution of business processes from sequences of slow-moving, disjointed applications to more responsive end-to-end, event-based straight-through flows of action.

Consortium

Universities

European Union
- Freie Universität Berlin (EU lead, Germany)
- FH JOANNEUM University of Applied Sciences (EU, Austria)
- University of Coimbra (EU, Portugal)

Canada
- University of Toronto (Canada lead, Ontario)
- University of Ontario Institute of Technology (Canada, Ontario)
- McGill University (Canada, Quebec)

Associated Partner

- Center for Information Technology Transfer GmbH (CITT) (industry proxy)
- LernKult (cultural training for faculty and student exchanges)
- Event Processing Technical Society (EPTS) (industrial and research network)
- RuleML Group (RuleML) (standardization)
- Associated industry partners (for internships + industry courses)
  o see attached Letters of Support and Section 5

Advisory board
1. Harold Boley (National Research Council, University of New Brunswick),
2. Opher Etzion (IBM Research, Event Processing Technical Society),
3. David Luckham (Univ. Stanford),
4. Roy Schulte (Gartner),
5. Said Tabet (RuleML Group, Object Management Group, Inferware)