



# WIKI FUTURE GAZING

[www.le.ac.uk/beyonddistance/calf/](http://www.le.ac.uk/beyonddistance/calf/)

## Creating Academic Learning Futures (CALF):

- A collaborative research project of University College Falmouth and the University of Leicester.
- Provides students with opportunities to explore and articulate views about the future of learning in higher education.
- Generates scenarios for the future of learning in series of creative events, including face to face workshops, seminars in Second Life, online forums, pod and video casting.

## Research approach of CALF:

- Studied wikis as a tool for enabling the emergence of multiple perspectives and discourses about the future.
- Developed a Creating Academic Learning Futures wiki at a face-to-face event at the University of Leicester in December 2008.
- The wiki creative event involved 18 students enrolled in full-time on-campus courses at the University of Leicester.



<http://calf.wetpaint.com/>

## Resulting scenarios in the wiki expected:

- Increase in flexibility in the ways of provision of education, increased accessibility and participation.
- Increase in the diversity of the available educational content and very diverse student demographic profile.
- Growing importance of non-traditional providers in higher education and intensified competition for students and faculty.
- Higher education institutions expected to become increasingly involved in socially responsible projects and activities.

## Using wikis for future visioning allowed:

- Replacement of traditional snapshot and chain scenarios by integration of multiple views of the present and the past, occurring in multiple systems.
- Through combination of web-based and face-to-face activities students collaboratively generated, mixed, edited and synthesised scenarios faster than if traditional approaches were used.
- The future narratives could be stored, compared and used as a source for creating scenarios by combining common elements for possible, probable and desirable futures.