European Campus Card Association, ECCA

Steering committee:

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What is a campus card system?

- Plastic card with several functions on it, typically ID-card, access control, library, vending system, printing and photo copying, meal plan, student discount

- Prerequisite to be a student at the university. Cards often with photo and issued on site

- Many users and little money to spend on each. High mobility of users => must have efficient back-end systems

ECCA

Officially launched 2005-01-01

Currently 30 universities as members

Goal 60 members by end 2006

Members from UK, Ireland, Germany,Sweden, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, Spain

ECCA - objectives

- To provide a platform for members to exchange information on the development of campus card programmes in higher education.

- To foster the development of transnational standards to achieve interoperability and better cost effectiveness.

- To achieve cooperation in the field of higher education by establishing close links with other organisations that have similar objectives.

- To promote the development of new technologies and applications.

- Act as a centre for education and research in the field

ECCA - activities

- Yearly conference with technical updates, case studies, best practise

- Access to membership directory and website

- Networking and contact creation, study visits

ECCA - current issues

- Market is still young. No established knowledge and no stable suppliers. Lack of standards, even nationally.

- Different demands, policies and laws in different countries

- Focus on establishing campus card systems, technological choices and solving the problems locally

- Integration and directory management is crucial but we have not reached the point where common solutions can be used

- European initiatives may have severe impact on campus cards and directory services (Bologna)

European Campus Card Association

Website:

http://www.ecca.ie