

May 3, 2016

Dear Grant Administrators of the DML Competition,

This letter is in support of the Play.CLOH.org proposal to the DML Competition. We are excited to hear of the plans to build playlists and pathways include experiences for making concept maps.

The IHMC is a not-for-profit research institute, part of the the Florida University System and is affiliated with several Florida universities.

Researchers at IHMC pioneer technologies aimed at leveraging and extending human capabilities. Our human-centered approach often results in systems that can be regarded as cognitive, physical, or perceptual orthoses, much as eyeglasses are a kind of ocular orthoses. These systems fit the human and machine components together in ways that exploit their respective strengths and mitigate their respective weaknesses. The design and fit of technological orthoses and prostheses requires a broader interdisciplinary range than is typically found in one organization, thus IHMC staff includes computer scientists, cognitive psychologists, neuroscientists, linguists, physicians, philosophers, engineers and social scientists of various stripes, as well as some people who resist all attempts to classify them.

One of our main research areas is knowledge representation, for which we use as the main representational tool concept maps. We have developed free software that is used worldwide by users of all ages, from preschoolers to professionals, and in all domains of knowledge. We invite you to browse through our website at <http://cmap.ihmc.us> and learn more about concept mapping.

We look forward to collaborating with Play.CLOH.org in bringing to life these experiences with concept maps embedded into the activities with the students at Play.CLOH.org.

Sincerely yours,



Alberto J. Cañas
Associate Director & Senior Research Scientist



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