

TUGLL Plug-ins

Special Needs for a University Wide Blogosphere

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TUGLL is the campus wide blogosphere used by students and staff at Graz University of Technology since October 2006. It bases on ELGG which is an open source networking engine designed to handle common web applications and social functionality. Users can establish digital identities and connect with other users, collaborate with them and discover new resources through their connections. Following plug-ins and extension were implemented to enhance the blogosphere with "special needs" by department of social learning after a year of experience.

Module settings (Menu)



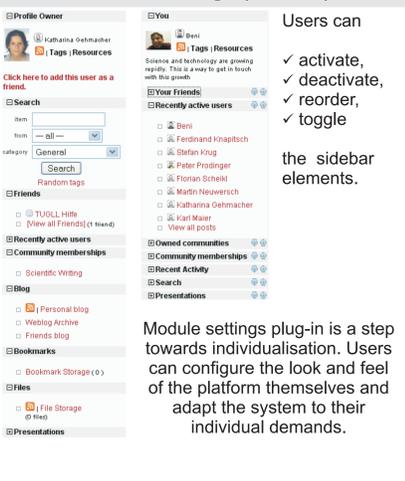
Users can activate and deactivate modules or reorder them on the menu bar

TUGLL it browser button



TUGLL IT-browser button is a bookmarklet which can be installed easily on user's browser. User can bookmark the page to his/her TUGLL-account with one click directly through the browser. TUGLL IT- button works with the TU Graz browser bar on Ie6 (and higher) and Firefox2.x (and higher)

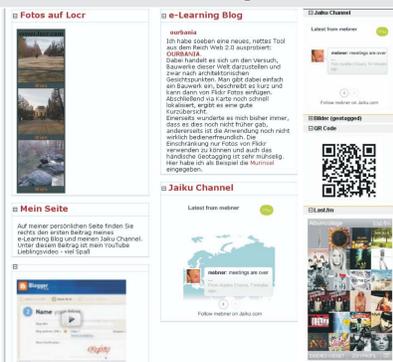
Module settings (sidebar)



Users can
 ✓ activate,
 ✓ deactivate,
 ✓ reorder,
 ✓ toggle
 the sidebar
 elements.

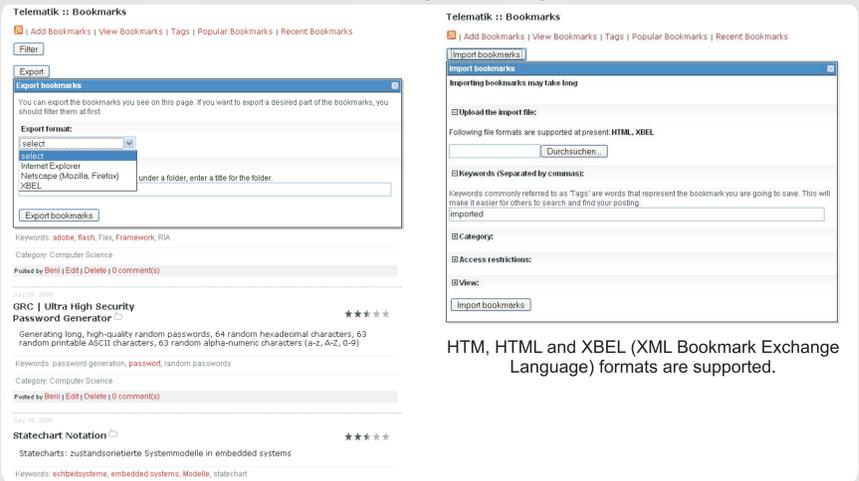
Module settings plug-in is a step towards individualisation. Users can configure the look and feel of the platform themselves and adapt the system to their individual demands.

Generic widgets



HTML, javascript and flash external contents can be shown in widgets on the sidebar. User can reorder and toggle the widgets. They are always observable independent from the page the user is just viewing.

Bookmarks export and import



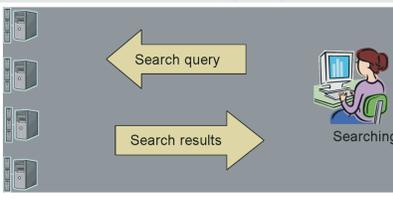
HTM, HTML and XBEL (XML Bookmark Exchange Language) formats are supported.

Metaweblog API



The "MetaWeblog API" makes it possible to post a blog in one platform while a copy of it is saved in other platforms too, assumed that they support this API. An example for this is the "Austria forum" platform (left) and the corresponding blog in TUGLL (right).

XML-RPC client



This plug-in makes intercommunication between all social networks possible which base on ELGG. It allows ELGG platforms to interact with each other in the background and provide their users with different services through a web service interface, which is based on XML-RPC. As the first functionality the search mechanism of the ELGG system is expanded, so that the user will find also search results from other ELGG platforms while searching a tag in the ELGG platform he/she is currently registered in.

Bookmarks river



"Bookmarks river" informs users about last activities made by their connections. The bookmark plug-in is extended so that it supports the river. Users are informed by displaying the bookmark river at the activities board as soon as their friends save a bookmark in the system. It can be placed on profile page or on the sidebar

Bookmarks widget



The user can display a number of recently added bookmarks in the form of widgets on the profile page or on the sidebar.