## SWISS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER REPORT



2009

## **ETI'S VIRTUAL INSTITUTE**

The Virtual Institute (VI) is a community learning portal for interpreting students, interpreter trainers and doctoral researchers. The VI integrates theory and scientific knowledge, continuing development according to emerging needs, and on-going evaluation and is based on design theory for socio-constructivist blended courses. In response to curricular needs for skill acquisition the VI features several tools: the Student Tracking Tool for formative and summative evaluation; EVITA for supervised interpreter training; and Pscenario for syllabus design. The portal has recently been the subject of a thorough scientific evaluation (see Class Abboud, B., 2009) which will inform the fine-tuning of existing tools and provide guidance for the development of new functionalities.

The Virtual Institute is socio-constructivist, the guiding key concepts are: activity-based learning, knowledge building and skill development, intrinsic motivation, collaboration, reflection and sustainable evaluation http://virtualinstitute.eti.unige.ch

