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## MOODLE PLATFORM IN TEACHING OF GEOMETRY AND ENGINEERING GRAPHICS.

Blended learning is a method facilitating the learning by the efficient connection of different ways of communication, models of teaching and styles of learning. In the literature statements can be found that blended learning is the most efficient form of learning, because it connects the best features of traditional forms of education and broad possibilities of e-learning. Taking it into account most universities and high schools develop e-learning platforms, which allow supporting the traditional didactic process and overcome the geographical and time barriers in teacher – student relations.

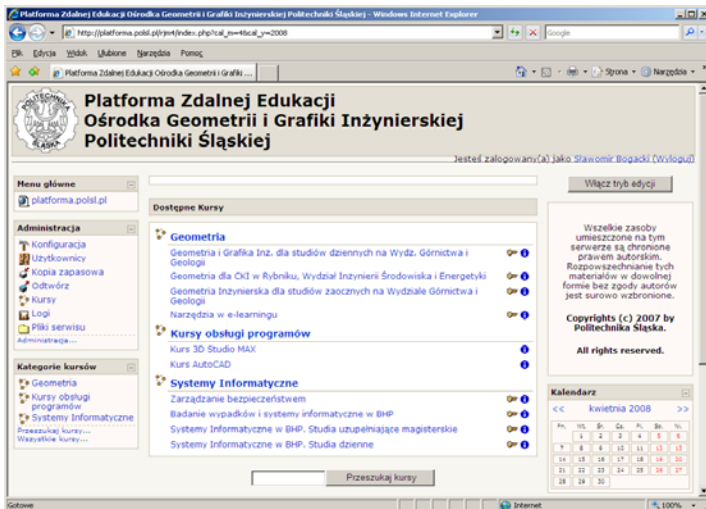


Fig. 1 The e-learning platform of Geometry and Engineering Graphics Centre  
in Silesian University of Technology

In Poland the most popular e-learning platform is Moodle, which is a Learning Management System, developed intensively by a internet community as an open source software. Moodle is designed to help educators create online courses with opportunities for rich interaction. This is a system which supports the social constructivism as a base of education. The main feature of Moodle is its easiness and intuitive operating. The modular construction of this software allows to create the courses with using all electronic formats of sources.

The main functions of Moodle platform are:

- Presentation and distribution teaching materials (texts, drawings, animations, audio files),
- Communication between teachers and students in synchronous (chats, video meetings) and asynchronous mode (forums, text messages, blogs)
- Checking of the learning progress (tests, quizzes, assignments, workshops)
- administration of courses and students' accounts.

The conclusions arising with using the Moodle platform, as an aid in teaching geometry and engineering graphics will be shown in the presentation. The E-learning Platform of Geometry and Engineering Graphics Centre was established in November 2007. The first full semester of classes with using the platform has been finished. It allows to make first summaries and determine the ways of further development.