



# **The Education Framework (or: What's going on in the education area)**

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# Content

- EASE: Foundation (almost) complete
- REASE: Usage and evaluation
- Educational events
- Shared master: Experimental year
- ASPL: Preparing for version 2



# The European Association for Semantic Web Education

- EASE foundation: Formally done in Budva
- Non-profit status acknowledged by the tax office in November
- Certification of signatures ongoing
- Hopefully to be completed in January (missing one from New-Zealand :)

**Plans for 2007** after having completed the formal stuff: Start advertising EASE, invite new members, let organizations join, create the web page, help to run the summer school (of Kweb + REVERSE), ...

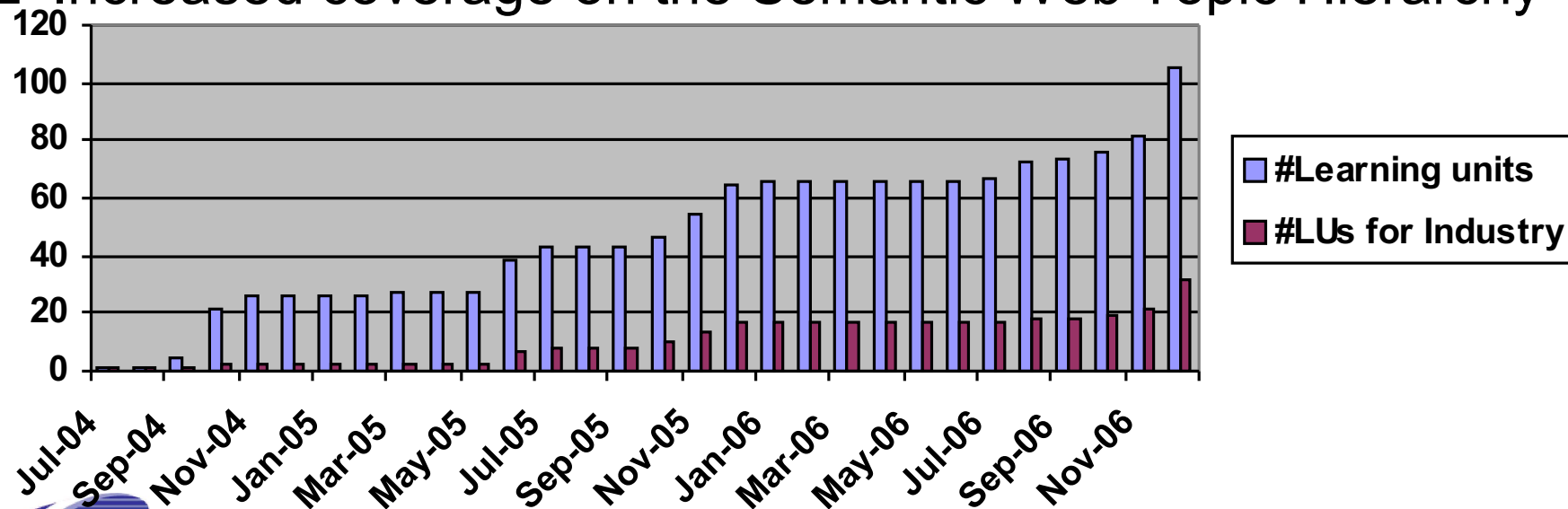
- Specifically: Hold the first general assembly in the first half of the year (by videocon / telecon, I guess)

→ Fill EASE with life

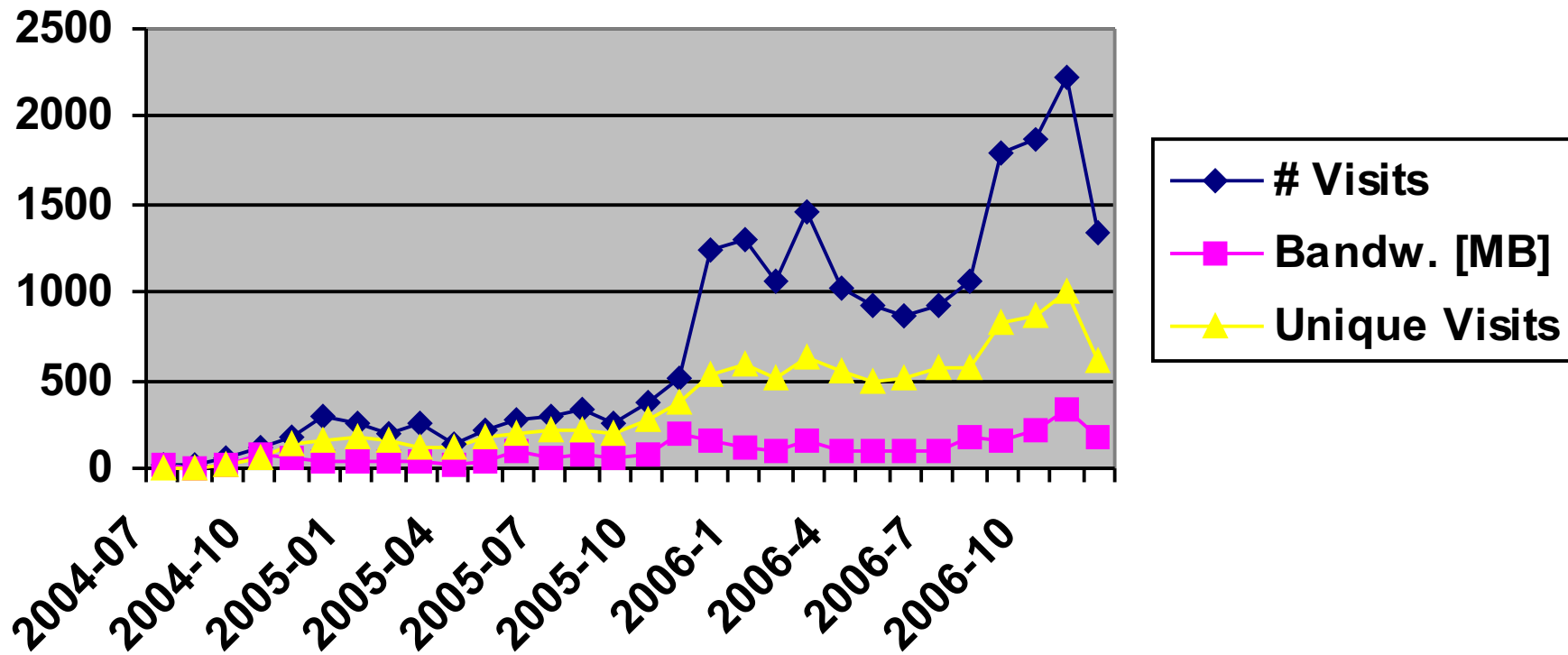


# REASE

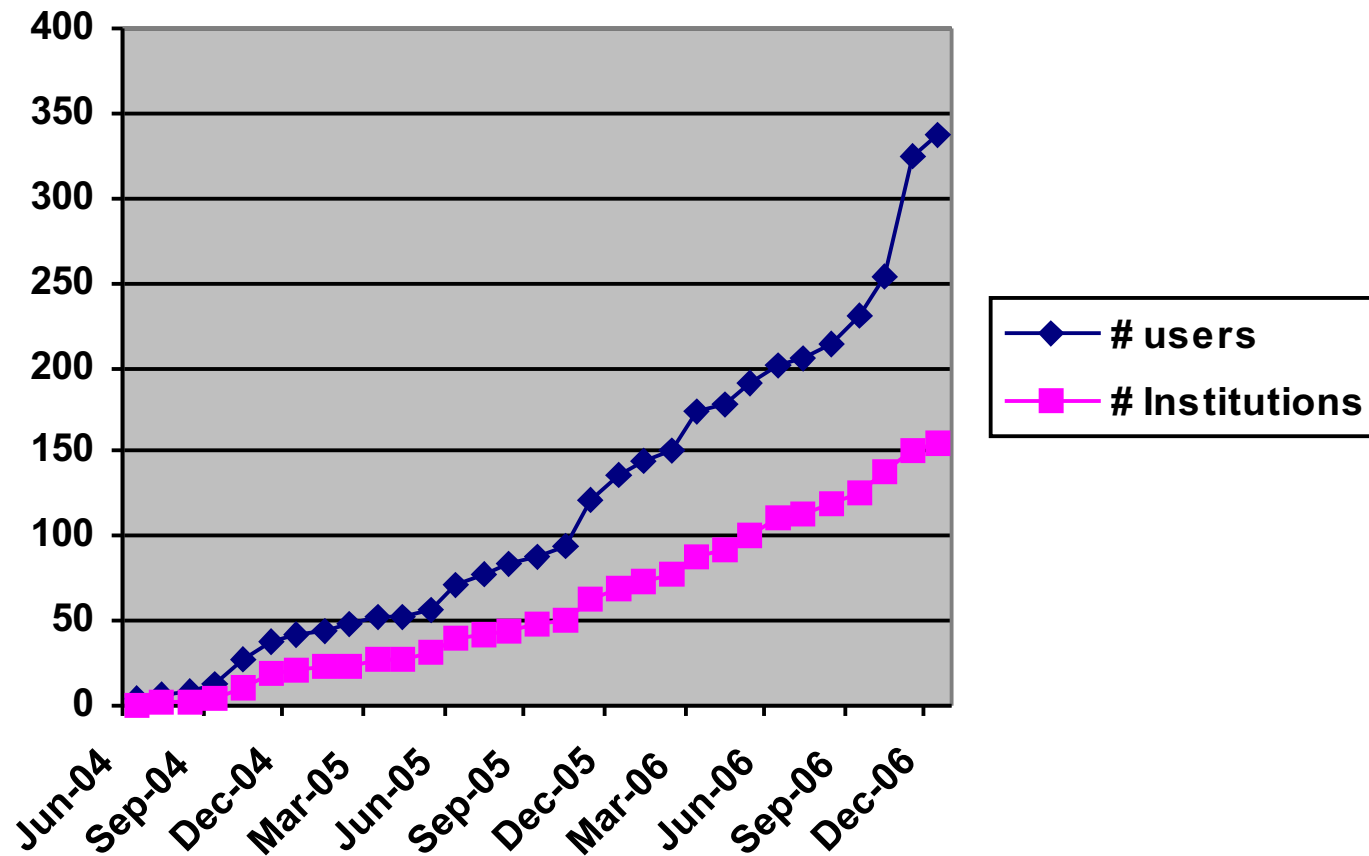
- ❑ The major visible outcome of the education area (in terms of enduring visibility in the web)
- ❑ More resources available (>100, ~80 from Kweb):
  - Some more for industry (e.g., from ESWC industry day) (now ~30)
  - Also summer school videos of 2005
- ❑ Increased coverage on the Semantic Web Topic Hierarchy



# Visits on REASE



# REASE popularity: Registrations



# REASE Evaluation: Questionnaire

Questionnaire sent to actual REASE users

- High feedback rate (30%) (short questionnaire)

Score	5	4	3	2	1	Total
Usability	85	<b>147</b>	124	28	0	384
Information Finding	53	55	<b>57</b>	19	3	187
Information Providing	14	29	<b>31</b>	11	1	86

- Improved the user interface as a response
  - Better filtering according to industrial resources, using catalogue identifiers, ... (plus all the minor issues mentioned at the review like the overly complex license stuff when trying to access a resource)

# REASE Evaluation: User Study

- Asked 'volunteers' at UniTN, OU, L3S, UPC
  - 45 minutes to fulfill 4 tasks in retrieving data
    - Using keyword search, advanced search, and browsing the catalogue (+ random combination)
  - Result:
    - Quite some unforeseeable problems
      - Firewalls, platform crashes because of parallel users, users not knowing anything about Semantic Web, popup blockers, IE7...
    - Keyword search ok, advanced search basically ok, browsing the catalogue also fine (but users tried to be 'clever' in finding alternatives), one task failed
    - But: Many useful free text comments
- To implement improvements in REASE in 2007





# Evaluation of the Semantic Web Topic Hierarchy

Work 2006:

- V1.1 of the topic hierarchy, available on a Semantic Wiki:  
[http://wiki.ontoworld.org/index.php/Semantic\\_Web\\_Topic\\_Hierarchy](http://wiki.ontoworld.org/index.php/Semantic_Web_Topic_Hierarchy)
- Evaluation:
  1. By comparing with most popular keywords associated with research papers in the Semantic Web domain
    - 2 add. Application areas: ‘information retrieval / search’ + ‘machine learning’
  2. By comparing to an automatically generated topic hierarchy
    - Relations basically confirmed, manually created structure contains more
    - ‘document classification’ as another application area
  3. By manual inspection of an expert within KnowledgeWeb (Mustafa) who was not yet involved in the creation of the topic hierarchy
    - Some re-organisations recommended

[http://wiki.ontoworld.org/index.php/Semantic\\_Web\\_Topic\\_Hierarchy\\_v2](http://wiki.ontoworld.org/index.php/Semantic_Web_Topic_Hierarchy_v2)

→ To be discussed in 2007



# Educational Events

- Past:
  - Summer school 2006
  - KnowledgeWeb PhD symposium 2006 (Budva)
- 2007:
  - Summer school (already announced, again Cercedilla)
- KnowledgeWeb PhD symposium 2007
  - Integral part of ESWC 2007
- Tutorial at some industry events
  - STE 2007 (Alain, Lyndon)



# Shared Master

- 2006: Experimental year already running
  - Based on existing agreements
  - Very few students only (3 AFAIK)
- New partners: Lisbon (REWERSE), Innsbruck
- 2007: Finish preparations for the first ‘real year’ in 2007/2008.

## □ 2006:

- Analysis of implications from the evaluation study
- Implementation of changes according to the outcome of the evaluation of 2005
  - Improve pedagogy behind (some) services
  - More variety of interacting with information about publications in DBLP
- New services piloted (QBLS, FacetedDBLP++)
- Work on ontology acquisition (model)



# ASPL

## □ 2007:

- Decide on the set of educational services that are going to make up the final ASPL demonstrator
- Better integration of educational services
  - Rather than adding new, try to link them to existing
  - Consider pedagogic necessity and/or added value
- Finalization of ASPL ‘public face’
  - Server reliability, service persistence, etc.
  - Consideration of non-plugin appearance (added value?)



## □ 2007 – focus:

- Preparing a useful evaluation strategy
  - What precisely we want to assess, why, how,...
  - Comparison with competitors (who are these?)
- We want to make this a bit more generic → methodological work
  - Most of evaluation so far done w.r.t. user friendliness and/or usability (important but...)
  - We should be interested in tool effectiveness → how well we achieve [educational/pedagogic] benefits

