EADTU

NEWSLETTER

Read more about EADTU ⊙

April 2018

EADTU's OOFHEC2018 Conference in Aarhus, 10–12 October 2018
Please find updated list of keynote speakers
& more information on the conference website
Deadline for submission of abstracts: Tuesday 1st May 2018 (tomorrow!)

EADTU

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EADTU NEWS

EADTU-EU Summit 2018 'Innovations in blended and online education and virtual mobility'

On the 17th of April the 6th EADTU-EU Summit was organised to bring together stakeholders in Higher Education (HE) on 'Innovations in blended and online education and virtual mobility'.

The Summit was attended by participants from the European Commission, members of the European Parliament, members of the national delegations for the EU, university networks and other stakeholders (enterprises, social partners).

The main topics addressed were:

* Towards a European maturity model for blended degree education
* The European MOOC Consortium (EMC) and how MOOCs can have an impact on the European labour market
* The second Envisioning report of EMPOWERING universities in the uptake of new modes of teaching and learning
* A new Virtual Erasmus approach
* The changing pedagogical landscape 2018, 2nd edition
* EADTU's Mobility Matrix, distinguishing characteristics between Physical, Virtual and Open Virtual Mobility models

The closing panel session by Vanessa Debiais (EU, head of unit higher education), Michael Gaebel (EUA) and Catherine Mongenet (FUN) was focusing specifically on continuous education / continuous professional development and MOOCs as part of the European Higher Education Area.

Results of the Summit and presentation can be found here.

2nd Envisioning report for Empowering Universities published

We are proud to announce the 2nd Envisioning Report for Empowering Universities in the uptake of new modes of teaching and learning. This 2nd edition of the report by the expert pools of the EMPOWER programme established by EADTU mainly focusses on:

Learning analytics; using data analytics to support students in improving their learning outcomes

University challenges; what are the key challenges universities are facing in transition to online and blended education?

Blended education; new approaches and experiments in the field of blended education and related pedagogies and assessment methods.

Student support; supporting prospective and new students through technologies in ODL, digital literacy and the changing role of libraries are addressed.

Continuous education/CPD; the entrepreneurial university is highlighted as well as enhancing career practitioners' competencies in the use of ICT.

We trust this 2nd edition of the EMPOWER Envisioning Report will be a source of inspiration for many innovators in education.

Get publication here
Find out more on the EMPOWERing universities programme of EADTU here

EADTU's position paper on lifelong learning

EADTU prepared a position paper concerning lifelong learning and the development of the Bologna Process and the European Area of Higher Education. On the 17th of April 2018, this document was discussed on the EADTU-EU Summit with delegates of EUA and the European Commission and it is approved by the General Assembly of EADTU. Besides degree education, the universities organise continuous education, continuous professional development and open education (MOOCS, OER). These sectors are still underdeveloped in many European countries, about failing to reach the ET2020 objectives (See the EU Education and Training Monitor), while they have to meet the new educational needs in the economy and in society.

Please find the EADTU's position paper here. Related is the position paper of the European MOOC Consortium, which we support as well. The EMC-position paper can be found here.

OpenupEd webinars in May!

This year OpenupEd will organise a series of MOOC related webinars. Register below for the upcoming webinars!

Facilitated MOOC support – *closed bubbles in a sea of openness*

When: Monday 14 May, 15.00 – 16.00 CEST **Speakers:** Alastair Creelman, E-learning specialist at Linnaeus University in south-east Sweden & Gabi Witthaus, Learning design consultant at University of Birmingham, UK, and currently doing a PhD in HE: Research, Evaluation and Enhancement. Register here

Open Massive Gamification

When: Thursday 24 May, 15.00 – 16.00 CEST **Speaker:** Tiberio Feliz, Director of UNIDIS (Centre for people with disabilities inclusion), Associate teacher at UNED (Madrid, Spain). Register here

Webinar: Why MOOCs While Dealing with Large Numbers of Distance Learners

When: Thursday 31 May, 14.00 – 15.00 CEST **Speaker:** Cengiz Hakan Aydin, PhD, professor in Anadolu University of Turkey offering courses in the field of open and distance learning. Register here

EMPOWER e-assessment week

EMPOWER is going to organise this year again a series of webinars related to innovating education. To serve the topics and target groups best, EMPOWER will be organising topic-related webinar weeks this year. The first one is the EMPOWER week on e-assessment in the last week of June (26 & 28 June). Join us online, no need to register beforehand!

More webinar weeks will follow soon. Visit EMPOWER webinars for latest updates.

Register here to receive updates on the webinars.

Barcelona hosts the Next Generation Student Success Symposium

An opportunity for higher education innovators, influencers and investors to explore a shared vision for the digital environment

The Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), DXtera Institute, German Alliance for Education, and Strada Education Network are pleased to invite you to the Next Generation Student Success Symposium, an international gathering of decision makers and researchers in higher education organizations. The event will be held from **19 to 21 June** in Palau Macaya, Barcelona. The call for abstracts is open to decision makers, researchers and experts.

The Symposium is an opportunity for higher education innovators, influencers and investors to explore a shared vision for the Next Generation Digital (NGD) environment, supporting students' success.

Registration

To register for the Symposium, please visit this page and use the passcode NGSSS18. The page also contains detailed information regarding the call for abstracts. For any questions or doubts, please contact the organizers at dxtera@uoc.edu .

The Future of Higher Education: FernUniversität invites experts in Berlin

FernUniversität in Hagen invited politicians, representatives from ministries, and researchers to discuss the impact of digitalisation on higher education. One of the central challenges is the paradigmatic shift from institutions to learners and their needs. Higher education institutions need to adapt to the rapid changes in teaching and learning, whereas policymakers have to develop financial and legislative frameworks that support higher education institutions in this change process. FernUniversität is currently conducting the research study "Higher educations of the future – digitalisation and its challenges for higher education institutions, concomitant strategic processes, and resulting education policy." Part of the results were presented at the conference.

Open Class Initiative @ Universidade Aberta

Universidade Aberta (the single Portuguese public distance education and e-learning university) has recently created a digital space for providing open access to a set of contemporary themes and resources, especially in the areas of its formal pedagogical offer. The Open Class (*Aula Aberta*) Initiative enables a first contact/new experience with online learning completely free during a week.

Universidade Aberta Hosts International Staff Week

Universidade Aberta (Portugal) is organizing another edition of its international week under the auspices of the Erasmus+ program next June, from the 4th to the 7th. During this week participants will have the opportunity to know further about the University' structure and specific pedagogical model, bringing together representatives from organic units and services. This initiative is an excellent opportunity to share knowledge, experiences, good practices and to strengthen the international cooperation. Click here for more information

Open Education Students Continue to Volunteer in Europe

Anadolu University have the opportunity to visit Europe as part of the European Voluntary Service (EVS) program since 2015. EVS, a program for young people between 18 and 30 years old, allows participants to become a volunteer in a non-profit organization abroad for a specified period of 2 weeks to 12 months. Since May 2016, 56 open education students went to Europe under volunteering projects developed by the International Office and agreements signed between Anadolu University and organizations in Europe.

Anadolu University now offers open and distance education services over three continents

The Open Education System of Anadolu University starts offering programs in United State of America and Saudi Arabia in 2017-2018 academic year. Anadolu University offers open and distance education services over three continents through the enrollment centers located in Cologne (Germany) for Programs in Western Europe, Maryland (US) for Programs in North America, Keşan for Programs in Western Thrace, Baku for Programs in Azerbaijan, Plovdiv, Prizren and Gostivar for Programs in Bulgaria, Kosovo and Macedonia, Tiran and Sarajevo for Programs in Albania and Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Nicosia for Programs in Northern Cyprus.

Open Virtual Mobility: Accessible Opportunities for Virtual Mobility Skills in Higher Education, Erasmus+ strategic partnership (2017 – 2020)

Open Virtual Mobility (openVM) is a recently granted Erasmus+ strategic partnership which aims at promoting and scaling-up Virtual Mobility in higher education in Europe through achievement, assessment and recognition of virtual mobility skills of educators and students in line with Open Education principles. read more..

EUA responds to Digital Education Action Plan

On 17 January 2018, the European Commission issued its "Digital Education Action Plan" – the EU's first major intervention in the field of digital education since the 2013 "Opening up Education" Communication. The Plan proposes concrete measures, such as establishing a Europe-wide platform for digital higher education and enhanced cooperation, a digital connection between universities' information systems and a European student card. read more..

"Bologna digital"– Strengthening the European Higher Education Area through Technology Enhanced Solutions

Digitalisation should not be viewed as an additional challenge, but as a powerful means to meet existing challenges for higher education. This is the main argument of the position paper "Bologna Digital", a joint initiative coordinated by Kiron and supported by several other higher education stakeholders, including Hochschulforum Digitalisierung (HFD), FiBS Research, the European Association of Distance Teaching Universities (EADTU) and the Groningen Declaration Network (GDN). It was published online ahead of the EHEA Ministerial Conference in Paris in May 2018, a summit of education and science ministers from the 48 member states of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA). "Bologna Digital" provides 17 concrete recommendations. Examples include the provision of online introductory courses, the establishment of standardised processes for the evaluation and recognition of qualifications acquired through different (open) online formats, the development of quality assurance mechanisms for digital teaching and learning, and opportunity for virtual student exchange. This blog post (that has in a similar version previously been published in German on the HFD blog)

connects the recommendations of "Bologna Digital" with existing examples of good practice.

EFFECT Webinar on inclusivity and citizenship skills

This webinar explores new ways of using social theories of learning, in particular adapting Engestrom's 'Change Laboratory' approach to address inclusivity and citizenship in the context of increasingly diverse student and staff communities. The session will be highly interactive and will help the attendees recognise 'the problem' even when the issues are not 'hot topics' for them. The starting point for the online discussions will be stimulus 'mirror' data, extracted from students and staff feedback, video material and scenarios drafted from sometimes surprising contributions to earlier face to face workshops. Please click here to subscribe.

Open Invitation to contribute to the draft OER recommendation text

Further to the adoption of Resolution 44 'Desirability of a standard-setting instrument on international collaboration in the field of Open Educational Resources (OER)' at the 39th Session of the UNESCO General Conference, a draft UNESCO Recommendation on Open Educational Resources (OER) text is currently being prepared.
This open invitation is to call for inputs on the above-mentioned draft text.

Deadline for input: 1 June 2018

EVENTS 2018

- International week on Competence-based Learning in the Digital Age: 14-18 May 2018 at TAMK in Tampere (Finland)
- **NEW** Universidade Aberta Hosts International Staff Week: 4-7 June 2018, Lisbon (Portugal)
- **NEW** Next Generation Student Success Symposium: 19-21 June 2018, Barcelona (Spain) **NEW** 13th international conference DisCo 2018: Overcoming the Challenges and the Barriers in Open Education: 25-26 June 2018, Prague (Czech Republic)
- Learning with MOOCS 2018: 26-28 September 2018, Madrid (Spain)

- [10–12 October 2018: the Online, Open and Flexible Higher Education Conference 2018 (OOFHEC2018) "Blended and online Learning: Changing the Educational Landscape," Aarhus (Denmark)](#)
- [Upgrading Business Competence Globally for today and tomorrow: 9 November 2018, Krakow (Poland)](#)
- [UNESCO global Conference on Quality Assurance in Higher Education, 21– 23 November 2018, Paris (France)](#)
- 13–14 December 2018: Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days (MID2018); Policy forum under the title "*Continuous education by online short learning programmes and MOOCs,*" Maastricht (The Netherlands)