EADTU

NEWSLETTER | 15 July 2022

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EADTU NEWS

I-HE2022 conference: update
Registration to the Innovating Higher Education conference in Athens is now open. Information on fees and other registration details can be found here. 'Early birds' get a €50 discount on the conference fee, so make sure you register before the 31st of August. There are several social events for which you can register, among which a visit to the **Acropolis Museum** (picture above) on Thursday the 20th of October.

The full conference programme, including all plenary and parallel sessions, will be published on the conference website at the end of July.

OpenU Conference: abstract submission closes soon
The deadline for submitting your abstract to the international conference *Experimenting with Open Pedagogical Resources in European Universities* (13-14 October 2022, Paris) is next week, July 21st. Registration for the conference is open.

More information about the conference

ENCORE Kick-Off

On July 5th and 6th, the official kick-off of the project ENCORE took place. ENCORE stands for **ENriching Circular use of OeR for Education.** The partnership is composed of 13 European partners - including EADTU - and is coordinated by the University of Pisa. The project will contribute to the teaching and recognition of the skills most relevant to the new macro-trends of digitalization, climate change and post-COVID economic recovery challenges.

ENCORE aims, amongst others, to help students and workers acquire the skills to face economical, ecological, and technological challenges; address the skills mismatch between the demand of companies and the supply of educational institutions, and support educators to be aligned with the ever-evolving landscape of relevant skills.

More information about the aims and work plan of ENCORE will soon be available via 'Projects' on the EADTU website.

Common Microcredential Framework - update

The Common Microcredential Framework (CMF) is now an official EU trademark. CMF is developed by the European MOOC Consortium and EADTU. The label can be awarded to high-quality microcredential courses and programmes with academic credit.

To be labeled with CMF, these microcredentials have to meet several specifications in relation to their workload, EQF levels and methods of awarding and ID verfication. More details can be found on this page.

MEMBER NEWS

POWERHEAD final conference – save the date
The European project POWERHEAD (Empowering Higher Education in Adopting Digital Learning) explores how to sustainably integrate digitalisation in higher education. On Monday 17 October 2022, the project will host its final conference in Brussels, Belgium.

During this conference, the project partners will present the gathered insights on digital learning and teaching in higher education, and share the developed guidelines and recommendations aimed to inspire both national authorities and higher education institutions (HEIs). Furthermore, they will look at the next steps that can be taken by various actors involved.

POWERHEAD is led by the Flemish Department of Education and Training. More information about the project can be found here.

A pilot study of UOC (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya), uses artificial intelligence to detect the needs of students in a remote learning
A pilot study of the use of artificial intelligence to detect the needs of students in remote learning has concluded that the data obtained can be used by teachers to offer help to the students who most need it. The research, carried out in conjunction with the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), the Eurecat technological centre and the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, will help solve one of the biggest problems faced by off-site education, which has become more widespread during the pandemic: how to obtain information concerning the progress of students in order to provide them with the necessary support before it is too late.

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Some of the keys to improving learning through feedback
It is something almost all students have experienced: the teacher of a course sets a date for a task to be handed in, the student does it, hands it in, and after a while, they receive a specific grade together with the corrections. Is that enough for the student to learn? Or are there ways that the process can be improved? The experts say that there are. According to a study by the Feed2Learn group at the UOC, one of the key factors is the feedback between students and teachers, but with some specific features.

Benchmarking e-learning in a Finnish setting
This spring, the Open University of the University of Jyväskylä (JYUOpen) was pleased to welcome a delegation of EADTU's E-xcellence reviewers. The quality audit, evaluating open university education for its technological, educational and policy accomplishment, is an invaluable addition to JYUOpen's ongoing quality processes, facilitating the identification of strengths and areas of development.

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Digital know-how is a universal requirement
Digitally Competent Educators is an SLP geared towards boosting digital expertise and know-how within the education sector. Created as part of the E-SLP project (Erasmus+ KA3) and implemented jointly by 4 universities, DCE has been promoting lifelong learning for a few years running.

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OUC Prof. Manolopoulos joins the Academia Europaea
Dr Yannis Manolopoulos, OUC Professor of Informatics and former Vice Rector, has been elected as a new member of the Academia Europaea, a European association for leading experts in science, education, and research. It is a great honor for Professor Manolopoulos and the OUC as membership in this prestigious Academy is by invitation only, and in recognition of outstanding achievements of scholars and researchers. The aim of the Academia Europaea is to promote European research, advice governments and international organisations in scientific matters, and further interdisciplinary and international research.

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Top Scientists Ranking
2022

OUC ranked by Research.com
Open University of Cyprus is ranked in the 1st and 2nd national position, and the 434th and 643th position worldwide, in the fields of Social Sciences & Humanities and Computer Science respectively in the latest Reseach.com rankings. OUC Professors Michalinos Zembylas and Yannis Manolopoulos are also ranked in the list of top scientists in the abovementioned fields. Professor Zembylas is ranked 1st nationally and 310th worldwide with h-index=67 in the fields of Social Sciences and Humanities. Professor Manolopoulos is ranked 1st nationally and is in the 1569th position worldwide in the field of Computer Science with h-index=60

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Deadline extension for the IODL 2022- 5th International Open & Distance Learning Conference
 The abstract submission deadline for the IODL 2022 Conference has been extended to August 5th, 2022, which will be held in Eskisehir, Türkiye. The aim of the IODL 2022 is to provide a platform for researchers and practitioners to present and discuss a broad range of topics related to open and distance learning. For more information, paper submission, and the most recent news, please follow the social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter, and feel free to share this call with your colleagues and students!

Launch of ECIU Micro-Credential White Paper
The ECIU University, of which Dublin City University is an active member of, was delighted to launch the third in a series of white papers outlining a strategic approach for European micro-credentials. This paper, titled **ECIU University Micro-Credentials: A vision for European learners, values, and priorities.** The paper describes and critically analyses progress made by the wider **ECIU** initiative, while calling for a focus on social and sustainable approaches to micro-credential provision, complementing industry/upskilling perspectives. If you are interested in learning more about this topic, we encourage you to follow the work of the ECIU.

UNED opens examination center in Seattle
On June 3rd UNED and Microsoft signed an agreement to open an examination center in Seattle at the Redmond Campus. This is the second UNED Center in the United States, along with that in New York City. UNED has now 22 centers abroad in 17 different countries. The Seattle Center is fully operative already.

The agreement was signed by Laura Alba-Juez, Vice-rector for Internationalization, and Jaime Pereña, AI & Innovation Director at Microsoft. Both parties underlined how this bilateral cooperation promotes universality and proximity, and also access to technology and digitalization through education.

More information

Innovating Pedagogy 2022 published
The Open University (UK), in collaboration with colleagues from the Open University of Catalonia (UOC), have recently published the 10th edition of 'Innovating Pedagogy'. This annual series explores new forms of teaching, learning and assessment. This years' edition looks back on the past 10 years and proposes another set of promising innovations that have not yet had a significant influence on education but deserve attention.

The report is available here

EVENTS 2022

mLearn2022 Conference
Heerlen, the Netherlands
10 - 12 October 2022

Experimenting with Open Pedagogical Resources in European Universities
Paris, France
13 - 14 October 2022

2022 Innovating Higher Education Conference (I-HE2022)
Athens, Greece
19 - 21 October 2022

Moving Target Digitalisation 2022
Berlin, Germany and Online
30 November - 02 December 2022

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