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## APRIL 2017

### EADTU NEWS



**The Online, Open and Flexible Higher Education Conference 2017 (OOFHEC2017)**  
**Higher Education for the Future; Accelerating and strengthening Innovation'**

Hosted by the open University Milton Keynes, OUUK.

**Call for abstracts is open!**

More information at the [EADTU conference website](#)

### EADTU–EU Summit 2017

**'Innovations in teaching and learning; new directions for higher education'**

EADTU's annual EADTU–EU Summit in Brussels is always a returning opportunity to discuss latest developments and new policy lines in higher education. The Summit is a unique moment in bringing together European umbrella organisations and stakeholders in Higher Education (HE) as well as the national representatives of national governments.

On April 25, 2017 the next Special Summit will be organised, still some seats are available.

Please register by mailing [anouk.lennaerts@eadtu.eu](mailto:anouk.lennaerts@eadtu.eu)

More information at the [EADTU website](#)



## EADTU appointed as ICDE Quality Focal Point for Europe

UNESCO has partnered up with ICDE, Commonwealth of Learning and INQAAHE for the initiative: International Conference on Quality Assurance: Achieving Sustainable Development through a diverse provision of Higher Education, to be held at UNESCO Head Quarter in Paris, June 2018. To prepare and mobilise for this comprehensive conference, 6 – 10 regional meetings will be organised in the period late 2016 – 2018 in cooperation with so-called Focal Points of Quality.

EADTU has been appointed as [ICDE Focal Point](#) on Quality for Europe, with support of FIED, SADE and OUUK, and will have a leading and coordinating role for quality work in Europe.

## EADTU members top European universities in IDT

Many universities are involved in the field of Instructional Design and Technology (IDT). The journal on Educational Technology Research and Development published [an article](#) on this, examining the academic productivity of universities in IDT. This includes research in the number of publications in the top 20 scientific journals in the field of IDT over the period from 2005 to 2014. This shows that EADTU members the Open University UK and the Open University of the Netherlands are the only European institutions in the [top 10 publishing institutions](#).

Table 2  
Top authorship in handbook (3rd and 4th Eds.)

University	Count
Florida State University	9
University of Georgia	8
KU Leuven (Belgium)	6
Bingham Young University	5
Open University of the Netherlands	5
Indiana, North Texas, Utah State, U. of Twente	4
Penn State, Virginia Tech	3

In addition the American researchers looked at the number of contributions to the Handbook of Educational Communications Technology (3rd and 4th edition).

Again only two European universities are listed in the [top 7](#), both being EADTU members, KU Leuven and the Open University of the Netherlands.

## MEMBER NEWS

### DelRett.no advisory service on copyright

Norwegian Agency for Digital Learning in Higher Education recently relaunched [DelRett.no](#), an advisory service on copyright issues in education.



The purpose of the site is to help ensure that copyright issues do not hinder the development, use and sharing of digital learning resources. The aim has been to make educators more confident

about copyright issues. To this end, the site offers easily accessible and user-oriented information about copyright. With this relaunch, new guides are available for both professors and students.

DelRett is developed in cooperation with Norwegian Centre for ICT in Education and thus covers both primary and higher education.

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## European Figures in Distance and e-Learning



In the new issue of Journal of Learning for Development, Alan Tait (Professor Emeritus of Distance Education and Development, The Open University, UK) reflects on European figures who have really made a difference in distance and e-learning

[Read full article](#)

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## Can In-Video interaction extend the attention span of learners?

A research conducted at the Open University of Israel investigates the impact of adding interactive components to lecture videos. This unique experiment is based on nationwide MOOCs which were developed in order to make “English for Academic Purposes” courses freely available for all Israeli students.



“This study demonstrated the potential of learning analytics to identify ways to improve learning processes, and to provide important insights to decision makers. The ability to track and analyse behaviour of learners who are presented with new features and capabilities is paramount for improving the effectiveness of learning environments, as well as supporting productive allocation of resources.” Our long term mission is to improve the understanding of how interactive online video lectures might narrow the gap between weak and strong learners and allow better social inclusion.

[Read more](#)



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## JYU open university education record: 100 000 ECTS reached

For the first time in its history the open university education of [University of Jyväskylä](#) has reached more than 100 000 ECTS

completed by students in 2016. That is a 27 % share of completed ECTS in the whole Finland, making the University of Jyväskylä the most popular open university education provider in Finland. The university has broken its credit records for 5 years in a row. The director of the Open University, Jukka Lerkkanen, says the secret behind the success is flexibility. The students have the possibility to start their studies whenever and wherever it's most suitable for them.

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### New UNESCO–chair of Open Education



Recently, [Prof. Dr. Marco Kalz](#) has been appointed as UNESCO Chair of Open Education. The chair from the Open University of the Netherlands will investigate the access to (higher) education using digital technologies.

The chair has a special focus on the socio–economic and cultural dimension of open education. According to Marco Kalz "Technology offers opportunities, but at the same time we need to keep in mind that we are losing sight of people who are less computer–based or who have less access to ICT". In addition, special attention is paid to the importance of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) as a basic knowledge infrastructure to solve the greatest social problems of this time.

[More information](#)

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### Christian M. Stracke appointed as ICDE Chair



The International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) has appointed Christian M. Stracke as ICDE Chair in Open Educational Resources (OER). "This appointment from such a leading international association is a great honour which I am delighted to accept in recognition of my activities and achievements for Open Education", says Christian who has been working as Associate Professor for Open Education in the Open University's Welten Institute for the past 2 years.

Christian is looking forward to exploring new opportunities in his new role as one of the 8 International [ICDE chairs in OER](#) and says that he is already planning "new initiatives for Open Education policies and OER authoring systems in close cooperation with ICDE".

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## DCU-Fuse



At the end of March, [Dublin City University](#) (DCU) embarked on an innovative digital learning initiative, which saw the university's staff, students, alumni and key stakeholders take part in an online discussion to help shape the next phase of the university's development. [DCU Fuse](#) was a 24 hour online envisioning and consultation process, including a number of special VIP guests from around the world such as Dr. [George Siemens](#), to gather ideas on some of the opportunities and challenges facing higher education in the future. The conversation coincided with [Open Education Week](#) and was open to university's 17,000 students, 1,200 staff and 80,000 graduates and members of the wider public. Over the 24 hour period there were around 70,000 page views, almost 6,000 discussion posts over 7,000 likes and [DCU-Fuse](#) trended as high as number 2 on Twitter. [This video](#) explains more about DCU-Fuse.

## The 7 Deadly Sins of Online Learning



In April, [Professor Mark Brown](#), Director of the National Institute of Digital Learning (NIDL) at Dublin City University (DCU) gave an invited keynote presentation at the [Online Learning Consortium's](#) OLC Innovate Conference in New Orleans. The conference attracted over 1,200 delegates with Mark's opening [presentation](#) exploring the 7 deadly sins of online in terms of structural innovation. After his presentation Mark was interviewed by [EdSurge](#) and in the following [article](#) shares how educational leaders may be able to avoid or repent from many of these sins. His key point is the importance of creating an institutional culture which fosters innovation in the context of online learning.

[More information](#)

## EVENTS 2017

- [EADTU-EU Summit 2017: 25 April 2017, Brussels \(Belgium\)](#)
- [EMOOCs 2017: 22-26 May 2017, Madrid \(Spain\)](#)
- [World Learning Summit 2017: 6-10 June 2017, Kristiansand \(Norway\)](#)
- [OEB MidSummit conference: 8-9 June 2017, Reykjavik \(Iceland\)](#)
- [26th EDEN annual conference: 13-16 June 2017, Jönköping \(Sweden\)](#)
- [The 2nd International Conference on Smart Learning Ecosystems and Regional Development: 22-23 June 2017, Aveiro \(Portugal\)](#)
- [DisCo: 26-27 June 2017, Prague \(Czech Republic\)](#)
- [Journalism, Society and Politics in the Digital Media Era: 1-3 September 2017, Limassol](#)

(Cyprus)

- 2nd World OER Congress: 18–20 September 2017, Ljubljana (Slovenia)
- ICDE2017: 17–19 October 2017, Toronto (Canada)
- EADTU OOFHEC2017: 25–27 October 2017, Milton Keynes (UK)
- OEB 2017: 6–8 December 2017, Berlin (Germany)

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## World Learning Summit 2017

6–10 June 2017 in Norway

Exciting Keynotes at World Learning Summit  
Final Call: Submit your papers and register now!

[More information](#)

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