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## March 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!

Find more information at the [EADTU conference website](#).

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### EADTU–EU Summit 2017

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

EADTUs' 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, again with participation of Director-General EAC Martine Reicherts.

Programme will follow soon at the [EADTU website](#) (Participation only by registration).

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## Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days 2017 (MID2017)

### Internationalisation in a digital age



On 31 January – 1 February 2017, the first Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days took place at EIPA in Maastricht, the Netherlands.

The Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days were organised by EADTU in cooperation with the Open University of the Netherlands (OUNL), the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), the city of Maastricht and experts from EDELNet and SCORE2020.

[More information and presentations](#)

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## Kick-Off Meeting of EADTU Task Force “Short Learning Programs”

The first meeting of the newly founded EADTU Task Force “Short Learning Programs” took place at EADTU’s “Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days” on 1 February 2017. Due to an increased demand in society and from various political institutions, introducing Short Learning Programs is getting highly relevant for many EADTU members.

In the Task Force chaired by Theo Bastiaens, FernUniversität in Hagen, members join forces to discuss key issues such as formats, certification, fees, marketing, possibilities for collaboration, and relevant academic fields. Throughout 2017, members will get together in two additional sessions to develop a joint strategy, share best practices, and decide on future projects.

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## Empower Online Learning Leadership Academy

The second edition of the [Empower Online Learning Leadership Academy \(EOLLA\)](#) will take place in Brussels on 29 – 31 May 2017. The Leadership Academy is an exciting and challenging professional development programme for university leaders. EOLLA aims to support the needs of both experienced and new institutional leaders responsible for managing and leading a variety of open, online and flexible learning initiatives in higher education. Are you challenged in leading, developing or implementing new technology-enhanced models of teaching and learning in your institution? If so, EOLLA is something for you!



Some places are still available. Please [register](#) and find [all details on the website](#).

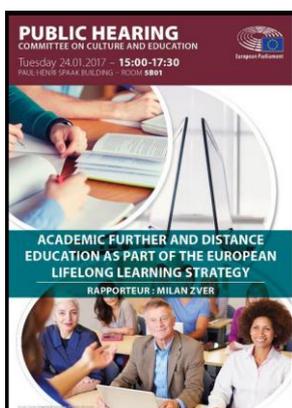
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## The OpenupEd extended

OpenupEd now offers [multiple MOOC platforms](#) for any organisation. This new service allows universities to choose the MOOC platform that fits their needs, e.g., depending on the language of MOOC offering and the preferred pedagogical model. OpenupEd in total offers more than [250 scheduled and self-paced MOOCs](#) in 16 different languages. The course catalogue allows you to 'filter' available MOOCs on workload, institution, language, start date and course title or description. Being a true European portal we have included a multilingual interface already covering English, Turkish, Spanish and Lithuanian. More languages will follow soon.

The partnership of OpenupEd is open to every higher education institution that support the framework of common features.



## EADTU contributing to the EP Public Hearing by CULT

EADTU presented the survey on accreditation and QA in online and distance education at the European Parliament hearing by CULT on the 24th of January 2017 and will contribute to the CULT report on "Academic Further and Distance Education as Part of the European Lifelong Learning Strategy".

[Read more](#)

## MOOC BOOK

Whatever you need to know about MOOCs is now available in a MOOC BOOK, the free online resource to MOOCs for businesses, workforce and universities:



- Study guidelines, good practice and recommendations how to apply for MOOCs;
- Learn about opportunities for the use of MOOCs;
- Discuss hot topics such as quality, business models or certification.

The [MOOC BOOK](#) is realised under the umbrella of the EU-funded project [BizMOOC](#) – Knowledge Alliance to enable a European-wide exploitation of the potential of MOOCs for the world of business.

## MEMBER NEWS

### EDELNet Legal English Open Online Courses



The European Distance Education in Law Network (Open Universiteit Nederland, Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia and FernUniversität in Hagen) offer **two open Legal English courses** in collaboration with Edin Training & Translations. The courses are an essential part of the **EDELNet** programme. The Legal English 1 course was designed for beginners (undergraduate students). The Legal English 2 course focuses on advanced learners (Master and PhD students). The objective of the EDELNet Legal English courses is to give participants a legal English grammar review and legal English vocabulary. The programme was made possible by funding of the ERASMUS+ programme of the EU.

### OUC Application Period for the 2017–18 academic year

Open University of Cyprus welcomes students from around the world to study in 3 bachelor's, 22 master's (5 offered in English) and 13 doctoral degree programmes organised by its 3 Faculties (Humanities & Social Sciences, Pure & Applied Sciences, and Economics & Management).

Masters offered in English:

- MBA
- MA in Adult Education for Social Change (Erasmus Mundus)
- MSc in Cognitive Systems (jointly with University of Cyprus)
- MA in Enterprise Risk Management (jointly with Hellenic Open University)
- MSc in Sustainable Energy Systems (jointly with Frederick University).

Prospective students can complete [the online application](#).

Deadline to apply: March 29, 2017.

[Read more](#)



### FernUniversität Awards Funding for International Projects in Teaching and Learning



In 2016, FernUniversität in Hagen established a new internal funding programme for innovative teaching projects. With a budget of 3,5 Mio Euros, FernUniversität intends to support innovative initiatives and concepts in teaching and learning. In the first competitive call "Internationalisation", six projects from a wide

variety of disciplines received funding. All projects explore international topics in English by using innovative instructional designs and teaching methods, most of them with European partners. Projects include an “International Virtual Lab on Information Security”, a “Joint Online Seminar in Environmental Participation,” a Module on “Knowledge Management,” An Introduction to Modern Scheduling Algorithms,” a module in “International Law,” and a learning unit on “Cognitive Psychology With and On Multimedia Learning”.

[Read more](#)

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### FernUniversität Scholars Fellowships for Innovative Digital Teaching Awarded

Louise Unger, Professor of Mathematics, and Daniel Otto, Lecturer in Environmental Sciences, are both recipients of the newly established prestigious Fellowships for Innovative Digital Teaching. The Fellowships are awarded by the Ministry of Research and Innovation of the state North Rhine Westphalia and the Stifterverband, a joint initiative started by companies and foundations. Louise Unger’s project focuses on “Inverted Classrooms in Distance Education” in which students gain credits by participating in a virtual classroom. Daniel Otto’s project “Innovative Teaching and Learning Elements in Modules with Virtual Mobility Options” features innovative instructional elements, such as seamless learning and peer assessment to foster virtual mobility.

[More information](#)



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### First online training on data protection in Europe

Fingerprint scanners on your smartphone, iris detection at your company’s gate. New applications using [biometric technologies](#) are launched daily. They pose challenging questions on the use of citizens’ identity: where is the data stored? Could it be hacked and misused?



Swiss Distance Learning University now offers an online Certificate of advanced studies in Biometrics & Privacy. It provides a full understanding of technologies, data protection and privacy standards and regulations, ethics and forensic science. Taught by the best experts in Europe and highly flexible, it is ideal for company, government services and organisation executives in all sectors.

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## E-assessment, personalised learning, skills evaluation

Swiss Distance Learning University has a strong commitment to research on topics such as online and student's skills assessments.



E-assessment raises many questions on plagiarism and cheating. The Swiss Distance Learning University tackles the first issue with a tool integrated in Moodle. In order to provide real e-exam conditions it is currently developing new solutions including biometric technologies.

Student's skills assessment in e-learning are a necessary step towards personalised learning. The Swiss Distance Learning University first created a skills catalogue. It then redesigned a skills assessment software, adding advanced features that make it easier for learners and teachers to personalise the system, therefore enabling personalised learning.

[Read more](#)

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## The University for Refugees Education without boundaries



UNINETTUNO launched a web portal in order to help refugees and immigrants from Arabian and Sub-Saharan countries to access the University in whatever part of the world. An online helpdesk for recognition of competences, language teaching, healthcare services, mutual rights and duties.

[More information](#)

## EVENTS 2017

- OER17 The Politics of Open: 5–6 April 2017, London (UK)
- EUA 2017 Annual Conference: 6–7 April 2017 Bergen (Norway)
- 7th University– Business Forum: 6–7 April 2017, Brussels (Belgium)
- 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)
- 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)
- OOFHEC2017: 25–27 October 2017, Milton Keynes (UK)
- OEB 2017: 6–8 December 2017, Berlin (Germany)

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## DisCo: Open education as way to knowledge society



DisCo takes place in Prague on June 26 – 27, 2017. Thanks to the support from Central European Initiative 15 chosen speakers from CEI countries will have travel reimbursement up to 330 Euro covered.

DisCo 2015 proceedings have already been indexed in THOMSON REUTERS Web of Science database. DisCo 2016 and older proceedings have still been undergoing a process of evaluation. We would like to introduce you our 2 keynote speakers, [Petra Aczél](#), professor and head of Institute of Behavioral Science and Communication Theory at Corvinus University of Budapest and [Anastasia Syzenko](#), assistant professor from National Taras Shevchenko University in Kiev and [Piet Kommers](#), professor from University of Twente.

[More information](#)

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## Conference "Journalism, Society & Politics in the Digital Media Era"



Advanced Media Institute and Open University of Cyprus, with the Centre for the Study of Journalism, Culture and Community, Bournemouth University (UK), the Laboratory of Research in New Economy and Development at University Hassan II Casablanca (Morocco), and the support of the Cyprus University of Technology, organise the [international conference #AMIRetreat2017 in Limassol, Cyprus, September 1–3, 2017](#). This interdisciplinary conference aims to bring academics and professionals to discuss and compare the impact of technology on the relationship between journalism, politics and economics in terms of societies /communities.

Keynote speakers: Nico Carpentier (University of Uppsala) and Paul Mihailidis (US Emerson College).

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**The Call for Scientific Papers by the international conferences World Learning Summit and LINQ is open!**

As of 2017 [World Learning Summit](#) and [LINQ](#) are joining forces to build on that sense of difference, creating a world conference on education's digital future.

Co-organisers of the WLS are the Open University of the Netherlands, the University of Agder and the Stanford University

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