

Unable to view? [Read it Online](#)



November 2017

EADTU NEWS



The Online, Open and Flexible Higher Education Conference 2017 (OOFHEC2017)

The “Online, Open and Flexible Higher Education Conference 2017” at the Open University in Milton Keynes was again a truly international event with some 30 countries represented. OOFHEC2017 on “Higher Education for the Future; Accelerating and Strengthening Innovation” was offering keynote and parallel sessions next to several interactive workshops with input from experts from all over Europe and beyond.

OOFHEC2017 demonstrated new developments in the sector for using new modes of teaching and learning. Highlighted topics were strategies for the future of continuous professional development, open education and widening participation, research and innovation for new modes of teaching and learning, HE for a diverse future, engaging students for learning at all stages of life, policies for change in Higher Education, quality assurance and accreditation of online and blended higher education and recognition.

Results of the conference are captured in the **Message of Milton Keynes** and **full proceedings**, now online at the [conference website](#).

Please save the date for next year's OOFHEC2018 conference at Aarhus university, 24–26 October 2018. More information will follow soonest!



Alejandro Tiana Ferrer (UNED) elected as President of EADTU

During the last EADTU General Assembly meeting in Milton Keynes 25 October 2017 the new members within the EADTU Supervisory Board were elected.

We are pleased to announce that Alejandro Tiana Ferrer (Rector UNED Spain) is elected for the next term as President of EADTU. Anja Oskamp keeps involved as a member in the Supervisory Board. We also welcome Theo Bastiaens (FernUniversität in Hagen) as a new member in our Supervisory Board.

We congratulate the following members with the prolongation of their position: Liz Marr (OUUK), Arne Kjear (Aarhus University), Jean-Marc Meunier (FIED) and Mark Brown (DCU).



EADTU-ENQA PLA on QA of blended and online education

On 21–22 September, the EADTU-ENQA Peer Learning Activity (PLA) on Quality Assurance in blended and online education took place in Brussels. In this highly interactive event, a total of 45 stakeholder representatives were brought together, coming from 18 universities, 12 quality assurance agencies and 6 governments and umbrella organisations. The stakeholders had a constructive dialogue towards awareness and new steps in the uptake of new modes of teaching. This PLA identified next steps in the development of blended and online degree and continuing education. The outcomes of this EADTU-ENQA PLA are now published and submitted to the Bologna Process.

Please find the report and outcomes [here](#).



Launch of the European MOOC Consortium (EMC)

During the OOFHEC2017 Conference in Milton Keynes, EADTU launched the European MOOC Consortium (EMC). EMC represents organisations taking a lead in MOOCs in Europe. The founding partners (FutureLearn, France Université Numérique, OpenupEd, Miriada X and EduOpen) represent most of the MOOC development

work in Europe in terms of learners and number of MOOCs, by offering together almost a 1000 MOOCs. Together, they represent a large network of 250 higher education institutions (HEIs) and companies working in a variety of European languages, including English, French, Spanish and Italian.

The European MOOC Consortium will strengthen the credibility of massive open online courses (MOOCs) as a learning approach in higher education by taking a leading role in developing the discourse relating to MOOCs and other innovative developments in online learning in Europe. A priority action line by EMC was the submission of the European MOOC Consortium statement with regard to the integration of MOOCs in the Bologna Process which can be found [here](#).

Please find a full outline on EMC on the [EADTU website](#).



EFFECT Principles

EFFECT is led by the European University Association (EUA), and brings together experts, dedicated networks, organisations, national rectors' conferences and institutions from different parts of Europe. EADTU is part of the EFFECT Consortium.

The EFFECT Consortium has just released a set of ten European Principles for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching. Click [here](#) to access them and to read more about how they are a proactive response to change.



The EFFECT project launches call for participation for institutional strategies in Learning and Teaching

[The European Forum for Enhanced Collaboration in Teaching \(EFFECT\)](#) project, funded under the European Commission's Erasmus+ Programme and coordinated by EUA, is launching a call for participation for higher education institutions that are currently developing or enhancing their strategies for learning and teaching.

[Read more](#)



European Maturity model for Blended Education (EMBED 2017–2020)

EADTU has started a project under Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic Partnerships on developing a European maturity model for blended education (EMBED). This strategic partnership coordinated by EADTU consists of frontrunner universities like Delft University, University of Edinburgh, KU–Leuven, DCU–Ireland, Aarhus University and TAMK–Finland. EMBED will introduce innovation in higher education by the implementation of blended education in the partnership and beyond.

We will create a reference model for developing and implementing blended education, embracing all levels of an institution: the design of the blended course, organisational aspects such as staff support and training, and institutional leadership, developing policies and strategies making the institution continuously innovative. The main goal is to launch a maturity model with criteria and instruments to assess the degree of maturity of blended education and innovation of a university and contribute to a deep change within the partnership and beyond. Universities interested in becoming an associate partner in this project and stay informed on latest developments can sign up by sending an e–mail of interest to secretariat@eadtu.eu.



Webinar: Why universities invest in MOOCs – the importance of the social dimension

Friday 1 December, 15.30–16.30 [CET](#)

The MOOC hype in the media might be over, but investments in and the uptake of MOOCs are increasing significantly worldwide. There is no doubt that European HEIs joined the MOOC movement later, but contrary to the developments in the US, European HEIs are now engaging more with MOOC development and production. The question being considered in this webinar is why HEIs are investing in MOOCs, the role of political environments and educational values in different regions and if this support the use of MOOCs for social inclusion.

This webinar is organised by the Erasmus+ project [MOONLITE](#), empowered by [EMPOWER](#) and supported by [OpenupEd](#).

[Full webinar description.](#)

[Register here!](#)



Future of Europe: Towards a European Education Area by 2025

With the debate on the future of Europe in full swing, the European Commission is today setting out its vision for how we can create a European Education Area by 2025.

The ideas formulated are intended as a contribution to the EU Leaders' meeting on 17 November 2017 in Gothenburg, where they will discuss the future of education and culture. The Commission believes that it is in the shared interest of all Member States to harness the full potential of education and culture as drivers for job creation, economic growth and social fairness as well as a means to experience European identity in all its diversity.

[Read more](#)

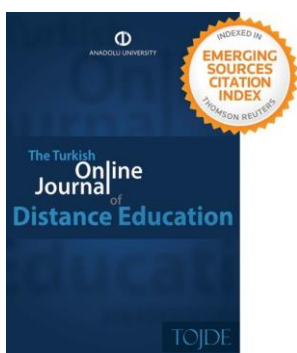
MEMBER NEWS



Benchmarking retention in Open and Distance Education

As the costs of higher education increase there is increased focus on student success in terms of retention, attainment and progression. There has been much work, in England especially, on investigating attrition and supporting retention in the face to face sector but very little on part time distance learning. Working together, the OUUK and EADTU can share information and best practice about issues in Higher Education that relate to Open and Distance learning provision. We plan to create a baseline data set for benchmarking and to develop, evaluate and share practice and ideas to improve retention in Open Universities.

To participate please email karen.foley@open.ac.uk.



TOJDE is now in Web of Science

The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE), Anadolu University's leading journal dedicated to distance education, is indexed in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI), a new database of Thomson Reuters Web of Science, as of October 2017 issue. The articles published in TOJDE as of October 2017 are indexed in the ESCI and available in the Web of Science database. With the inclusion of TOJDE in the ESCI in addition to other prestigious databases such as SCOPUS, ERIC and DOAJ, the journal is expected to be more influential in the field of distance education.

[More information](#)



Good Practices '17 awarded to Universidade Aberta

The Portuguese Erasmus+ Agency distinguished the project ISOLearn (Innovation and Social Learning for Higher Education Institutions), a strategic partnership developed within the Erasmus+ and coordinated by Universidade Aberta (Portugal). ISOLearn was designed to support and facilitate the accessibility to study programs offered by Higher Education Institutions for both hearing and visually-impaired citizens of the participating countries through the development of specific ICT tools.

The evaluators considered the project innovative and an important contribution to enhance the current knowledge on the inclusion of persons with disabilities in higher education in Europe, able to be replicated to other countries and institutions.

[Read more](#)



OUC faculty member elected in ESREA's Governing Board

[Dr. Maria Gravani](#), Assistant Professor in Continuing Education/Adult Education, has been elected as a member of the Steering Committee of the European Society for Research on the Education of Adults (ESREA). Dr. Gravani is the Academic Coordinator of the MA in [Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning](#), offered by the Open University of Cyprus, and the [Erasmus Mundus International Masters in Adult Education for Social Change](#). She will be serving as a Member of the ESREA Steering Committee for two (2) years (2017–2019).

[More information](#)



First International Day at FernUniversität in Hagen

The first edition of the International Day at FernUniversität in Hagen featured successful international teaching projects supported by FernUniversität's funding program "FILEh" and evidencing how internationalization and distance learning may mutually benefit each other. A lively panel discussion with faculty deans tackled ways and means to further internationalization processes at FernUniversität. In addition, participants in the International Day exchanged views and experiences on topics

such as innovations in education, Short Learning Programs, foreign language course offerings, and academic staff mobility opportunities. Theo Bastiaens, Vice-President for Digitalisation and International Affairs, already looks forward to the next International Day in autumn 2018.

[More information](#)



AKADEMA Certification Ceremony

AKADEMA, the social responsibility project of Anadolu University Open Education System, delivered 52 courses that started March 2017. Participants from 41 courses of these courses were awarded a Certificate of Completion. 437 participants received Certificates of Completion, which totaled 705 in number. In addition, a certification ceremony was held in Hall 2016 for successful participants on Thursday, October 5, 2017. In the ceremony, 14 participants received their Certificates of Completion.

[More information](#)



UNINETTUNO with "FIEST" trains young Mediterranean movie-directors

The International Telematic University UNINETTUNO continues its mission on professional and academic training of the new Mediterranean generations, with the project "FIEST- Formation Internationale à l'écriture de séries TV".

"FIEST" – funded by the European Commission and in partnership with COPEAM, RAI, FRANCE 2 and the Schools of Cinema of ALBA (Lebanon), ESAC (Tunisia) and ESAV (Morocco) – aims to train young students from Beirut, Tunis and Marrakech to write TV series.

UNINETTUNO organises all the distance learning activities including webinars and interactive sessions that will be realised on the e-learning platform of the university, one of the few in the world also available in Arabic.

"FIEST", together with the [project "À Première Vue"](#) for young Mediterranean movie-directors, enriches UNINETTUNO's activities in collaboration with the institutions and schools of the Arab countries in the Mediterranean Area.



New book by OUC Professor Michalinos Zembylas

OUC Professor of [Educational Theory and Curriculum Studies](#) [Michalinos Zembylas](#) and Dr. Z. Bekerman of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem have published their new book titled "Psychologized Language in Education Denaturalizing a Regime of Truth".

The authors explore how psychologized language has come to dominate education and schooling, and focuses on the ways that normative language/vocabulary use works to shape students' and teachers' perceptions of identity and difference. Taking a critical lens to some major constructs in education and their grounding in psychologized discourses, the authors suggest possible ways to overcome these psychologized discourses and remedy their consequences.

[Read more](#)

EVENTS 2017/2018

- [OEB 2017: 6–8 December 2017, Berlin \(Germany\)](#)
- [OBHE–Global Forum “Ready or Not – The Role of Online Learning in Higher Education”:](#) [11–12 December 2017, London \(UK\)](#)
- [International conference FIED: 13–14 December, Paris \(France\)](#)
- EADTU–EU Summit 2018: 17 April 2018, Brussels (Belgium)
- [OER18: Open to All: 18– 19 April 2018, Bristol \(UK\)](#)
- [EMOOCs 2018: 23 April 2018](#)
- [OEGC: 24–26 April 2018, TU Delft Aula Conference Centre, Delft \(The Netherlands\)](#)
- [International week on Competence–based Learning in the Digital Age: 15–18 May 2018 at TAMK in Tampere \(Finland\)](#)
- [OOFHEC2018: 24–26 October 2018 in Aarhus \(Denmark\)](#)



International Staff Week for VET teachers

The School of Vocational Teacher Education at Tampere University of Applied Sciences (TAMK) invites colleagues from partner (and potential partner) universities to join its International Week in Tampere in May 2018. The theme of the week is Competence–based Learning in the Digital Age. The week offers workshops, networking and visits to various learning

environments. Topics covered during the week include e.g. Learning Analytics, Digital Literacy, and Competence-based Curriculum in Guidance Counselling Education.

[More information/application form](#)

Follow us on [Facebook](#)

If you no longer wish to receive mail from us, you can [unsubscribe](#)

EADTU | Parkweg 27 | 6212 XN Maastricht | The Netherlands
Tel. +31 (0)43 311 87 12 | secretariat@eadtu.eu | www.eadtu.eu