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Newsletter December 2020



EMOOCs 2021: European MOOCs Stakeholders Summit 2021

The seventh European MOOCs Stakeholders Summit (EMOOCs) will be co-located with ACM Learning at Scale (L@S) at Hasso Plattner Institute in Potsdam, Germany in 22–25 June 2021. Combining EMOOCs and L@S brings together international top-quality educational research with teaching practitioners, platform providers, policy makers, and educational businesses. They aim to hold the conferences on-site at Potsdam. Depending on how the situation develops, they are also prepared to hold the event hybrid or online.

EMOOCs 2021 will bring together experts in the area of MOOCs and e-Learning in general from all European regions. In total it features 6 tracks covering different aspects of this area and additional workshops.

Click here for more information about the event

Andy Lane new chair of the OpenupEd Steering Committee

As of November 2020 the OpenupEd Steering Committee has a new chair: Andy

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Lane from the Open University, The United Kingdom. Andy has been at The Open University since 1983 and held various offices in the former Technology Faculty including being Associate Dean (1992–97) and Dean (2000–06). Andy was the founding Director of The Open University's OpenLearn platform from 2006–09, served as a Board member of the OpenCourseWare Consortium (now Open Education Global) from 2008–10, and been involved in several major national and international OER initiatives since 2006. He is currently the External Engagement Lead in the School of Engineering and Innovation at The Open University and the Academic Director for the Transformation by Innovation in Distance Education (TIDE) international development project which promotes open education in Myanmar. Andy has authored many publications dealing with systems of open education, especially the use of open educational resources.



A European approach to Micro-credentials

The need for more flexible and inclusive learning paths will increase as the student population is becoming more diverse and the learning needs more dynamic. While a growing number of higher education institutions, including those involved in the Erasmus+ European Universities initiative, are already working on the development of these microcredentials, a common definition and a common approach on their validation and recognition is lacking (Commission, 2019a). In this context, the Commission aims at filling this gap by presenting a proposal for a Council Recommendation in 2021 to build trust in microcredentials across Europe and aims at having all the necessary steps in place by 2025 for their wider use, portability and recognition (Commission, 2020c). For this purpose, the European Commission established an ad-hoc consultation group with experts on higher education from various European countries to propose a common definition and recommendations for a European approach to the development and uptake of micro-credentials in Europe.

EADTU represented its expertise in microcredentials in this consultation group and more specifically the Common Microcredential Framework (CMF) On December 14th the final report on a EUROPEAN APPROACH TO MICRO-CREDENTIALS was launched. It will form an excellent basis for wider consultations next year covering all sectors of education and training. This will feed into a proposal for a Council Recommendation on micro-credentials for lifelong learning and employability by the end of 2021.

Read the full report here



---NEWS ON MOOC OFFERING---

Re-launch of the EMBED MOOC: Making Blended Education Work

How do you create an exceptional blended learning environment? As technologies advance, universities face fresh challenges delivering courses through this evolving method of teaching, more so than ever amidst the #COVID-19 disruptions. Making Blended Education Work, a free self-directed online course, offers solutions to the higher education community on how to create, implement and advance blended learning courses.

Sign up now on https://edin.ac/2XisiuR



New open course about the writer Fernando Pessoa

In the context of EADPLP – The Distance Education Association of Portuguese Speaking Countries – the Universidade Aberta (Portugal) Jaunched an open course https://elasticemail.com/account#/campaigncreator/662272 dedicated to Fernando Pessoa, one of the most representative poets not only of Portuguese Literature but also of World Literature. The open course FERNANDO PESSOA. A MYTH CREATOR OF MYTHS proposes an introduction to the study of this modernist poet, who created several literary "isms" under pseudonyms, semiheteronyms and heteronyms.



Introduction to Technology-Enabled Learning

Learn more about teaching with technology in this MOOC from Athabasca University in partnership with the Commonwealth of Learning.

Teachers who want to learn more about teaching with technology will find this MOOC, Introduction to Technology-Enabled Learning (TEL), informative and engaging. Using up-to-date learning design and simple, accessible technology, the five-week course runs on an easy-to-use learning platform available via the Internet. The course is designed to accommodate teachers' busy schedules and offers flexibility with options for learning the content. Certification is available.

TEL MOOC runs 10 January to 13 February 2021.



Registration is free and open now at http://telmooc.ca

Learning to learn online

Learn how online education differs from traditional classrooms while you develop personal strategies for online learning success in Learning to Learn Online, a MOOC from Athabasca University.

You will be guided through an interactive self-reflection process to determine your learning preferences and create your own personal strategy for successful online

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learning. LTLO addresses common misconceptions, frustrations and fears, and introduces techniques to overcome such obstacles. Models of online courses will be explored as well as the concept of a "personal learning space." This course is suitable for both students and teachers.

LTLO runs 18 January to 21 February 2021.

Registration is free and open now at http://contactnorth.ltlo.ca



More New BOCs on OpenLearn as Digital Badges Reach 100,000

Two new badged open courses (BOCs) have been added to OpenLearn in the last month, taking the total to 67, while the number of digital badges issued in 2020 is set to pass 100,000 – five times more than were awarded in 2019. The athlete's journey: transitions through sport is designed to help you understand the journey an athlete undertakes during their career, be they professional or recreational; and Youth justice in the UK: children, young people and crime explores what happens to children in different parts of the UK when the things they do are labelled as criminal (this course also sits in our newly– launched Race and Ethnicity Hub).

Read more here



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