International seminar

“Opening higher education: what the future might bring”

8-9 December 2016

Jointly organised by
OECD Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI)
and Laureate International Universities (LIU)

BiTS (Business and Information Technology School)
Dessauer Straße 3, 10963 Berlin, Germany

Background
All countries are confronted with the increase in open forms of educational delivery. Technology and the availability of educational resources and educational offers via the Internet are changing the ways in which education is delivered and learning takes place. The impact of these new modes of education and learning on higher education institutions might be very profound. Open higher education might perhaps not be the ‘avalanche’ or revolutionary force that some observers claim it to be, but it definitely will be a game changer in education.

Open higher education includes various phenomena: open educational resources, open access and enrolments, open degrees, open data, open science, open teaching modes, etc. The concept of openness thus is expanding from content-oriented resources to cover the entire educational and learning process. The highly visible Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are a particular form of open education, but certainly do not exhaust the concept of openness. Other forms and practices will emerge in the coming years, facilitated by new developments in technology, and, more generally, the opening of higher education to internationalisation and the labour market. These developments have a pervasive impact on the existing, main institutional educational delivery modes. At the same time open higher education has the capacity to improve the effectiveness of higher education and its economic and social outcomes.
The OECD Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI) starts a new discussion on the impact of this “openness” movement on higher education. Laureate International Universities (LIU) is the largest international network of private universities with a presence in more than 40 countries around the world, delivering education online, transnational education, and trying to open higher education to new generations of students. The two institutions have joined forces to organize this seminar to discuss the trends, institutional and policy challenges related to this new trend.

**Objectives**

This seminar aims to:

- Provide a forum for higher education institutions and stakeholders to share experiences in these areas.
- Discuss the growth and implications of different forms of “openness” in higher education;
- Discuss the long-term effects, benefits and risk of these different modes for traditional institutional and policy models of higher education, as well as possible possibility responses.

*The working language of the seminar will be English.*
AGENDA

Thursday 8 December

8:30-9:00  Registration

9:00-09:30  Session 1: Welcome and opening

Chair: Stefan Stein

- Stefan Stein, (BiTS, Laureate)
- Juan Salcedo (Laureate International)
- Stéphan Vincent-Lancrin (OECD)

9:30-10:00  Session 2: Keynote presentation

- Jamil Salmi (Global tertiary education expert): The Future of Tertiary Education in the Digital Era
- Q&A

10:00-11:00  Session 3: Roundtable

The round table will set the background for the seminar and discuss the evolving role of open higher education systems, how it changes higher education, and related policy issues. What dimensions of openness have the potential to challenge current institutional and systemic business models?

Moderator: Stéphan Vincent-Lancrin (OECD)

Welcome by Peter Greisler (German Federal Ministry of Education and Research)

Panel: Peter Greisler (BMBF), Miguel Carmelo (Laureate Europe Laureate), Francisco Marmolejo (World Bank), Ulf-Daniel Ehlers (EURASHE), Andreia Inamorato Dos Santos (European Commission, JRC-IPTS), Jamil Salmi

11:00-11:30 Coffee break
11:30-13:00  **Session 4: Widening access to higher education**

Open higher education can be seen as a way to widen participation in higher education to students from disadvantaged backgrounds as well as completion. Some institutions have open enrolments (community colleges, etc.) or focus on this population of students while some initiatives try to open the doors of elite institutions.

**Chair:** Diana Dias (Universidade Europeia, Portugal)

**Presentations (15-20’):**

- Tom Bailey (Columbia University, United States): Open enrolments: opportunities and difficulties of community colleges and open-admission institutions
- Gonzalo Vargas (Vertebral, Chile): Widening access: open enrolment institutions, free access and affirmative actions programmes
- Florian Rampelt (Kiron University Project, Germany): Kiron Open Higher Education - opportunities and challenges of a MOOC based blended learning concept for refugees
- Questions and answers

13:00-14:00: **Lunch**

14:00: 15:30  **Session 5: Open distance learning in higher education**

Some more or less recent developments in higher education have enriched the offer of higher education and opened access to higher education contents. This is the case for open educational resources at the higher educational level, that provide higher education resources or courses; more recently, massive open online courses have built on this trend to provide courses to thousands of students in diverse locations.

**Chair:** Mateja Bercan (Ministry of higher education, Slovenia)

**Presentations (15-20’):**

- Richard Garrett (OBHE, United Kingdom): Trends in Open Universities and Distance Learning
- Haixia Xu (Ministry of Education, China): Open distance education in China: trends and developments
- Anant Agarwal (EdX, United States) (videolink): New developments in the world of MOOCs
• Questions and answers

15:30-16:00 Coffee break

16:00-17:30 Session 6: Opening higher education: towards new business models for higher education

This session will revolve around some other innovations that could possibly change the business model of higher education institutions (and systems): what happens when open learning is taken into account by formal educational institutions? How do the boundaries of institutions change when formal higher education courses from many institutions are openly available to all students? Could students take their courses in multiple institutions to get their degree? Could higher education institutions recognise open learning (as well as prior learning)? Are new forms of “micro-credentials” challenging the traditional quality model of higher education and helping to better assess competencies?

Chair: German Ramirez (Laureate Europe)

Presentations (15’):

• Olivier Crouzet (42, France): A free computing school with no teachers, no degrees and no high school requirements

• Pedro Lara (European University of Madrid, Spain): New business models for competency-based higher education: the opportunities of openness

• Oliver Janoschka (National Expert Forum on the Digital Future of Higher Education, Germany): Collaboration in process - the “Digital Turn” (made) in Germany

• Pavel Luksha (Global Education Futures, Russia), Skills of the future and transformation of global educational ecosystem

• Questions and answers

17:30 Close of Day 1
Friday 9 December

9:00-10:00 Session 7: Roundtable: Policy challenges: quality assurance, accreditation, certification

In this opening session, some higher education stakeholders will reflect on the discussions of the first day and give their views on the challenges and opportunities presented by different forms of openness to the traditional organisation of higher education: how will higher education institutions, quality assurance and accreditation, employers, etc., adapt to these new trends? What could they bring for the future of higher education?

Moderator: Dominic Orr

Panel: Andrée Sursock (EUA), Louise Hoj Larsen (Education International & Trade Union Advisory Committee), Christer Bengtsson (Confederation of Swedish Enterprise & Business Advisory Committee), Kaur Kittus (Estonian Ministry of Education and Research), Mats Lindstedt (EMREX, Finland), Ahmad Mobayed (Bard College Berlin, former student at Kiron)

10:00-12:30: Session 8: Small group discussion (breakout session with coffee)

After a short plenary introduction of the objectives of the small group discussion, we will split the participants in four groups to allow for a more in-depth discussion.

The groups will broadly explore how the trends discussed during the first day could affect the future provision and organisation of higher education. The groups will discuss the following aspects and questions:

- **Group 1:** In light of trends in the open movement, what are the future challenges and opportunities for the two main forms of degree-granting open higher education: (i) open universities and (ii) open-enrolment institutions?
- **Group 2:** Same topic as group 1.
- **Group 3:** In OECD countries, what are the possible implications of MOOCs, OERs and other types of informal learning for the traditional higher education systems?
- **Group 4:** Same as group 4 with a focus on developing countries.

Each group will develop two futures scenarios related to its topic(s): a trends scenario and a disruptive scenario.
The session is split in four breakout groups:

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<tr>
<th>Group 1: Scenarios for (i) open universities and (ii) open enrolment institution in the light of open learning trends.</th>
<th>Group 2: Scenarios for (i) open universities and (ii) open enrolment institution in the light of open learning trends.</th>
<th>Group 3: The implications of MOOCs, OERs and other forms of informal learning on traditional higher education institutions in OECD countries.</th>
<th>Group 4: The implications of MOOCs, OERs and other forms of informal learning on traditional higher education institutions in developing countries.</th>
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<td>Moderator: Ruud Nauts</td>
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<td>Moderator: Tawfiq Rkibi</td>
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12:30-13:30: Lunch

13:30-15:30  Session 9: Final plenary

Moderator: Stéphan Vincent-Lancrin (OECD)

- Report back of small group discussion and futures scenarios
- Discussions of proposed policy options

15:30-16:00  Session 10: Wrap up and next steps

- Juan Salcedo (Laureate Universities)
- Stefan Stein (BiTS, Laureate Universities)
- Stéphan Vincent-Lancrin (OECD)
- Haris Hassabis (Laureate Germany)

16:00  Coffee and close of the meeting