

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



EADTU
NEWSLETTER



[Read more about EADTU](#) ➔

November 2018



IN THIS ISSUE:

- * OOFHEC2018 Conference
- * MID2018 Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days
- * MOOC BOOK
- * Anadolu University's 60th anniversary!
- * A Computer Engineering Curriculum Model for Teaching: Software Development to Bridge the Gap between Academia and Industry
- * NIDL Team Receive Research Awards
- * OUC Research Center for Algorithmic Transparency
- * WEKIT project on smart wearable technology moves into exploitation phase
- * Open University of the Netherlands goes to the European Parliament
- * DIKU
- * Award for rector OU NL
- * UNED is rewarded with the E-xcellence label
- * MOOC on: How to combine PBL & Learning Analytics?
- * DCU Pilots Online Student Development Services
- * Open University studies can increase equality in education
- * OUC Library ranked 1st at Transcribathon Cyprus



OOFHEC2018 Conference

Aarhus University in Denmark was the perfect academic setting for EADTU's Online, Open and Flexible Higher Education Conference 2018 (**OOFHEC2018**), bringing together key players in innovating education within the scope of this year's conference:

"Blended and online Learning: Changing the Educational Landscape". Contributions in plenary and parallel sessions focused on three emerging areas of provision in higher education: degree education; continuing education and continuous professional development and open education.

Please find the Online, Open and Flexible Higher Education Conference 2018 – [Proceedings here](#)

We hope to meet you all next year at the OOFHEC2019, 16–18 October 2019, hosted by UNED in Madrid, Spain.



MID2018 Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days (MID2018)

Opportunities of blended and online higher education

On 13–14 December 2018, the 2nd 'Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days' will take place at Bonnefantenmuseum in Maastricht, the Netherlands. Stakeholders will discuss challenges and opportunities of internationalisation and mobility by new modes of teaching and learning.

The Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days are organised by [EADTU](#) in cooperation with the [city of Maastricht](#), [Maastricht Convention Bureau](#), [Bonnefantenmuseum](#) and experts from [BizMOOC](#) and [EMBED](#).

Topics of the days will be blended and online education, online short learning programmes, virtual mobility and MOOCs. The event includes a Policy Forum of key representatives in innovating higher education (HE),

focusing on opportunities of blended and online higher education. This will be supported by the EMBED multiplier event on building a European Maturity Model for Blended Education and BizMOOC roundtable on the potential of MOOCs for the labour market.

Please check out the MID2018 [programme](#) and [register here](#)

MOOC BOOK

MOOC BOOK

Whatever you need to know about MOOCs is available in a [MOOC BOOK](#), the free online resource to MOOCs for businesses, workforce and universities to better exploit the potential of MOOCs in upgrading labour-market relevant skills.

Recently an updated version was realised under the umbrella of the EU-funded project [BizMOOC](#) – adding 50 key lessons learnt, 25 recommendations and 20 good practices based on extensive empirical research carried out between September 2017 and July 2018. In addition, various resources and tools are available. An Open Textbook based on this MOOC BOOK will be published soon.

MEMBER NEWS



Anadolu University's 60th anniversary!

Anadolu University, one of the world's leading open-education institutions with over one million students, celebrates its 60th anniversary in 2018. Anadolu University was founded in 1958, and started delivering open education in 1982.

To mark this milestone, the University has launched a series of activities and events including workshops, conferences, exhibitions and meetings in Eskişehir and across Turkey. Anadolu University has taken the 60th anniversary as an opportunity to reflect on its relationship

with the society, and planned events that bring together the public and University members.

On the occasion of the University's anniversary, the Open Education System (OES) has published special issues of its newsletter, planned a special issue of its academic journal, and awarded certificates of achievement to open education students in several cities. The OES is also promoting its programs to transform public attitude towards open and distance learning.

To find out more about Anadolu University, follow the link [here](#).



A Computer Engineering Curriculum Model for Teaching: Software Development to Bridge the Gap between Academia and Industry

Software development has been traditionally taught in universities starting with programming, then analysis and design phases of software engineering, and ending up with software management processes. However, this bottom-up approach (from the specific to the general software view) is precisely the opposite of the typical accepted software development processes and life cycles found in the professional field. With the aim to bridge this gap between academia and industry, multidisciplinary team of eleven lecturers of the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya participated in a long-term research study with the aim to propose a new engineering curriculum model in the scope of software development. This paper reports on this study. [read more](#)



NIDL Team Receive Research Awards

Staff and doctoral students in the National Institute for Digital Learning (NIDL) at Dublin City University (DCU) were pleased to accept “best paper” awards at two recent European conferences. At the EDEN Research Workshop, PhD students Elaine Beirne and Conchúr MacLochlainn and Professor Mairéad Nic Giolla Mhichíl received an award for their paper on *Moody MOOCs: An Exploration of Emotion in an LMOOC*. The paper was singled out for its originally, unique methodological design and investigation of a relatively new area of research in the area of online learning. At the European Conference on e-Learning, PhD student Colette Kirwan supervised by Dr Eamon Costello and Dr Enda Donlon received an award for her paper on *Computational Thinking and Online Learning: A Systematic Literature Review*. Colette is an Irish Research Council scholar currently investigating the teaching of computational thinking online.



OUC Research Center for Algorithmic Transparency

The [Cyprus Center for Algorithmic Transparency](#) – CyCAT has officially commenced operating on October 2018, bringing significant added-value to the research activity of the Open University of Cyprus and the research infrastructure of Cyprus, as being unique at national and European level. The main objectives are a) **basic research to understand the nature of social & cultural prejudices and biases in information access systems**, b) **promotion of digital literacy**, c) **training of target groups** (e.g. teachers and pupils) on **algorithmic transparency** and enhancement of their digital skills and d) **nourishing a culture of research & innovation in Cyprus**. [read more](#)



WEKIT project on smart wearable technology moves into exploitation phase

The ambitious three year European research and innovation project WEKIT is supported under Horizon 2020 to develop and test a novel approach to industrial training enabled by smart Wearable Technology (WT). The partners which includes a research team from the Welten Institute are turning their attention to exploitation and validation according as the project enters its final phase. This includes making sure they are visible at high profile events like the AWE Expo in Munich which took place in October. This year AWE which is the world's number one AR and VR conference and Expo attracted nearly 2000 attendees from all over the world and included a dedicated WEKIT stand where participants could find out about WEKIT outputs and take part in a demo. AWE tends more towards industrial AR/VR and is less about research however it provided a really important opportunity for the research team to develop potential collaboration opportunities and to know better where this industry is heading in the future. Apart from making sure they are visible at events like AWE, the project team are also busy with planning for the final round of trials with the industrial partners and putting conditions in place to facilitate the planned WEKIT spinoff company.

Read about WEKIT [here](#).



Open University of the Netherlands goes to the European Parliament

The Open University of the Netherlands has been asked to present the RAGE project on 20 and 21 November at a meeting of the European Parliament in Brussels. Together with 9 other projects, the RAGE project has been selected from hundreds of current research and innovation projects in the Horizon2020 Program of the European Commission. The theme of this meeting is "Technology, Science and Arts for the good". In organising this event, the European Parliament intends to draw attention to how multidisciplinary research can contribute to solving social problems.

Serious games are playing an important role in many areas, this includes education and training, health care and aging, inclusiveness, citizenship, innovation and the digital transformation. Research carried out in RAGE focuses on smart, reusable technologies for making serious games. This ensures that games not only more advanced, but it also makes their development more efficient and cheaper. With these new technologies, RAGE has also developed a number of serious games (on entrepreneurship and social skills) and has run successful tests with 1,500 participants. The RAGE project has already proved itself to be very successful. In 2017 RAGE was nominated and took part in the finals of the European Innovation Radar prize for promising "Early stage innovations". This year the European Commission has already recognised the RAGE project as one of the "flagships" of Horizon2020.

Read about RAGE [here](#).



DIKU

The Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education (Diku) aims to strengthen the quality of Norwegian education. We promote educational development and innovation, digital learning, and international cooperation.

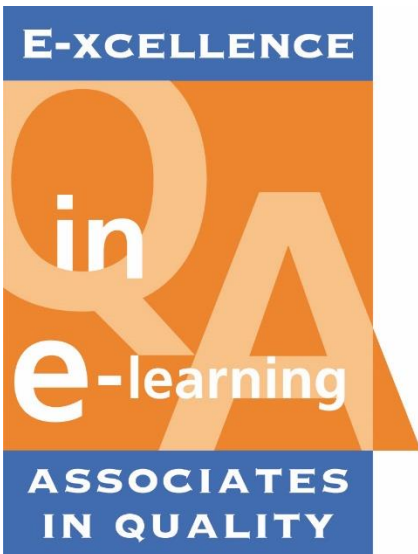
Diku is the result of a merger between the Norwegian Agency for Digital Learning in Higher Education (Norgesuniversitetet), the Centre for International Cooperation in Education (SIU), and the Norwegian Artistic Research Programme (PKU).

The Agency is owned by the Ministry of Education and Research, and is also working for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the European Commission, and the Nordic Council of Ministers. [read more](#)



Award for rector OU NL

Anja Oskamp, rector of the Open University of the Netherlands received the SURF education award on November 6th 2018. SURF motivated granting the award as follows: “rector Anja Oskamp has a vision on activating online education which she propagates with enthusiasm. At her university she was one of the initiators of the new pedagogical model and of the digital learning environment yOUlearn. On a national level she is a member of the steering group of the acceleration agenda for digital higher education. She was also president of EADTU and member of the taskforce Short learning programs.” SURF is the collaborative ICT organisation for Dutch education and research. SURF offers students, lecturers and scientists in the Netherlands access to the best possible internet and ICT facilities.



UNED is rewarded with the E-xcellence label

E-xcellence is EADTU's benchmarking instrument for quality in online and blended education. In total more than 50 universities all over Europe have done the E-xcellence assessment leading to enhanced e-learning performance of universities. The Excellence label further reflects the cycle of continuous improvements in online and blended education universities are investing in. The label demonstrates that these universities offer quality controlled e-learning and keep up to date with latest developments in innovating education.

Recently the National Distance Education University (UNED) in Madrid applied successfully for the E-xcellence label.

Universities interested in becoming an associate in quality under Excellence can [apply here](#) and find guidance by EADTU's open source [E-xcellence manual](#).



MOOC on: How to combine PBL & Learning Analytics?

PBLA18 is the Online Course and Community on "Problem-Based Learning and Learning Analytics: How to combine?". PBLA18 introduces the new PBL 3.0 model and compares it with other successful PBL approaches. Furthermore, the online course introduces the concept of Learning Analytics. "Our overall objective is to discuss with all participants how problem-based learning and learning analytics can improve our future lifelong learning", says Dr. Christian M. Stracke (OUNL). Afterwards, the online community allows to connect with all other learners to build networks, share experiences and discuss implementations. PBLA18 is launched now. Join today for the free and open online course! [read more](#)



Studiosity 

On demand, online study support

Writing Feedback

- ✔ Constructive writing feedback within 24 hours
- ✔ Any course, any assignment
- ✔ Upload your work anytime of day, 24/7
- ✔ Help with grammar, structure, referencing and more

"The feedback was really helpful and using Studiosity was very easy. I got the feedback in a timely manner which gave me enough time to make changes before submitting my final copy."



DCU Pilots Online Student Development Services

Dublin City University (DCU) is currently piloting an online student support and development service through a strategic partnership with [Studiosity](#). This online service offers: (i) formative feedback to students on their draft written assignments within 24-hours, and (ii) the ability to connect outside of normal business hours with a study coach or subject expert to provide just-in-time advice on learning activities and assessment tasks. An evaluation of the pilot initiative will continue over the next 6-months to identify the value and impact of the new student support services, as part of the DCU's wider commitment to providing a world-class online learning experience. [see more](#)



Open University studies can increase equality in education

Alternative Path to University (TRY) is a higher education development project funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture. The project includes 11 Finnish universities. The Open University of the University of Jyväskylä is the coordinator of the project.

The student admission system of higher education in Finland will be renewed by 2020. The aim of the TRY project is to develop, pilot and establish different paths to higher education in addition to matriculation examination and entrance exams. The alternative routes to university have a significant societal function: they promote equality by removing educational dead ends. But how it will happen? [Read more](#)



OUC Library ranked 1st at Transcribathon Cyprus

Open University of Cyprus (OUC) Library won first place at the "[Transcription Marathon - Transcribathon Cyprus](#)", which took place in the context of the European Cultural Heritage Year and during the EUROMED2018 Conference in Cyprus. The transcription, commentary, and presentation of manuscripts of World War I and hidden stories of Cyprus were the fields in which the participating teams competed. OUC team was asked to transcribe and comment on illegible manuscripts of WWI (letters, soldiers' diaries, photographs, etc.) that concerned Cypriot citizens and that had been collected during an earlier invitation from the European Digital Library 'Europeana'. [read more](#)

EVENTS 2018

[IEEE TALE 2018 Engineering Next-Generation Learning, 4-7 December 2018, Wollongong \(Australia\)](#)

[13-14 December 2018: Maastricht Innovation in Higher Education Days \(MID2018\); Policy forum under the title "Opportunities of blended and online higher education in degree, continuous and open education" Maastricht \(The Netherlands\)](#)

[ICDE Lifelong Learning Summit 2019: Shape the Future of Lifelong Learning in the Age of Digitization, 11-13 February 2019, Lillehammer \(Norway\)](#)

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