

OECD/Canada/Alberta Conference on E-Learning in Post-Secondary Education: Policies, Practices and Research



June 26-28, 2005 • Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Calgary TELUS Convention Centre

Conference Purpose

The purpose of the *OECD/Canada/Alberta Conference on E-learning in Post-Secondary Education: Policies, Practices and Research* is to bring together policy makers from governments, public and private higher education institutions to identify and discuss policy opportunities and challenges as they relate to post-secondary e-learning.

Key objectives of the conference are to provide a forum for:

Institutions to present and share promising practices based on the results of the *OECD/CERI (Centre for Educational Research and Innovation) E-learning Case Studies in Post-Secondary Education & Training* report.

Participants to discuss key policy issues in e-learning in post-secondary learning environments.

Participants to identify opportunities for research and collaboration to address post-secondary e-learning policy issues.

Stakeholders (governments, institutions, and industries) to share 'state of the art' initiatives and practices.

Exhibition

An Exhibition will stimulate interest and collaboration in post-secondary e-learning by highlighting 'state of the art' initiatives in post-secondary e-learning, including innovative projects, policy, research and best practices. The Exhibition will operate concurrently with the conference, and will be available for viewing beginning on Sunday, June 26 at 1:00PM until 5:00PM. The Exhibition will also be available on Monday and Tuesday beginning at 7:30AM.

Organizing Committee

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) together with Industry Canada, Human Resources Skills Development Canada and Alberta Advanced Education are hosting the conference. The Organizing Committee is comprised of partners from Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), CANARIE, Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC), Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC), E-Campus Alberta, Athabasca University and Alberta Education.

13:00 - 17:00

Registration

13:00 - 17:00

Exhibition Opening

17:00 - 20:00

Introductions / Opening Reception / Dinner Banquet

Presenter: Dr. Margaret Haughey, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Research, University of Alberta, Plenary Chair/Conference Moderator

Welcome Addresses

Presenters: Dr. Tom Schuller, Head of OECD/CERI
Hon. Dave Hancock, QC, Minister, Alberta Advanced Education

Keynote Speaker

Presenter: Mr. Don Tapscott
Don Tapscott is an internationally sought authority, consultant and speaker on business strategy and organizational transformation. Mr. Tapscott has authored or co-authored seven widely read books on the application of technology in business.

07:30 - 09:00

Additional Conference Registration

07:30 - 09:00

Continental Breakfast at the Exhibition

09:00 - 09:30

Plenary Session

Opening Remarks and Introduction to Conference Themes and Process

Presenter: Dr. Margaret Haughey, Plenary Chair/Conference Moderator

Opening Remarks

Presenters: Dr. Tom Schuller OECD/CERI representative
Dr. W.J. Byrne Deputy Minister Advanced Education

09:30 - 10:00

Session 1 - Plenary

Presentation on OECD/CERI E-Learning Case Studies in Post-Secondary Education and Training: Final Report

This presentation will highlight the results of the report by focusing on trends, reviewing strategic policy alliances and exploring opportunities for implementing e-learning in post-secondary environments.

Presenters: Dr. Richard Garrett, Deputy Director, Observatory on Borderless Higher Education, UK
Dr. Stéphan Vincent-Lancrin, Analyst, OECD/CERI

10:00 - 10:30

Break – Refreshments Served at the Exhibition

10:30 - 12:00

Session 1 (Continued) – Plenary

Perspectives on OECD/CERI Final Report

Three experts from different regions will reflect on the findings of the *OECD/CERI Final Report* and offer perspectives on the following questions:

1. What do the report findings tell us about the overall status of post-secondary e-learning?
2. What are the opportunities for further study/action?
3. How may this report inform future government/institution actions?

A question and answer period will follow.

Presenters: Dr. Carol Twigg, Executive Director, Center for Academic Transformation, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, New York
Ms. Maruja Gutierrez-Diaz, Head of Unit, European Commission-Directorate General for Education and Culture
Dr. Jeong Taik Lee, Senior Research Fellow, The Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education and Training (KRIVET)

Day 2 (continued)

12:00 - 13:15

Lunch – Served at the Exhibition

13:15 - 14:15

Session 2 – Plenary – Setting the Context

Impact of emerging technologies on teaching and learning

This session will focus on the impacts of learning and innovation relating to e-learning, including developing appropriate assessment measures and determining priority areas of research. A moderator will introduce a panel of experts who will briefly provide context for the small group discussions.

Afterward, participants will move to their small group of choice. Throughout the discussions international experiences will be shared.

Moderator: Dr. Margaret Haughey, Plenary Chair/Conference Moderator

Panel: Topic 1: Dr. Tony Bates, President, Tony Bates Associates, Ltd.

Topic 2: Dr. Malcolm Read, Executive Secretary, UK Joint Information Systems Committee

Topic 3: Dr. Terry Anderson, Professor and Canada Research Chair, Athabasca University

Topic 4: Dr. Kuzvinest Peter Dvimbo, Rector, The African Virtual University

Student perspective: To be finalized

14:15 - 14:45

Break – Refreshments Served at the Exhibition

14:45 - 16:15

Session 2 – Small Group Discussions

Impact of emerging technologies on teaching and learning

Participants will break into small groups, each group addressing one of the following topics:

Topic 1 – Policy Issues

What policies and supports may be needed to advance effective integration of technology in post-secondary instruction? What policies and support may be needed to support effective learning outcomes? What are the roles of institutions, government and industry in helping to support emerging technologies?

Session Moderator: Dr. Tony Bates, President, Tony Bates Associates, Ltd.

Topic 2 – Practices

How are current and emerging technologies (e.g. digital learning objects, videoconferencing, Voice over Internet Protocol, e-learning management systems) impacting teaching and learning at the post-secondary level? What do these changing practices mean for institutions, government and industry? What are the roles of institutions, government and industry to support these changing practices?

Session Moderator: Dr. Malcolm Read, Executive Secretary, UK Joint Information Systems Committee

Topic 3 – Research

What are the priority areas of research to improve the impact on teaching and learning? What measures may be most appropriate to assess the effectiveness of technology integration in learning and e-learning outcomes? What are the roles of institutions, government and industry to support research?

Session Moderator: Dr. Terry Anderson, Professor and Canada Research Chair, Athabasca University

Topic 4 – Digital Divide

What are the dimensions and impact of digital divide in higher education at the international and national level? Digital divide issues may include domestic divide by gender, disability, age, or ethnicity and/or international divide between developed and developing countries. What are the roles of institutions, government and industry to bridge various aspects of digital divide?

Session Moderator: Dr. Kuzvinest Peter Dvimbo, Rector, The African Virtual University

18:00 - 22:00

Dinner and Entertainment

Alberta Advanced Education will host a dinner featuring the regional flavours of Canada and Alberta. The evening will also feature performances reflecting Alberta talent.

07:30 - 09:00

Continental Breakfast Served at the Exhibition

09:00 - 09:45

Session 3 – Plenary – Setting the Context

E-Learning Program/Course Delivery and Content Development

The focus of this session is on various aspects of e-learning development. A moderator will introduce a panel of experts who will briefly provide context for the small group discussions.

Afterward, participants will move to their small group of choice. Throughout the discussions international experiences will be shared.

Moderator: Dr. Margaret Haughey, Plenary Chair/Conference Moderator

Panel: Topic 1: Dr. Gabriel Ferrate, Rector, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Topic 2: Dr. Manuel Fernando Palácios, Department of Development of the Superior Education, Brazil

Topic 3: Dr. Candace Thille, Project Coordinator, Carnegie Mellon University's Open Learning Initiative (OLI)

Topic 4: Dr. Ulf Daniel-Ehlers, Coordinator European Research, University of Duisberg-Essen

09:45 - 10:45

Session 3 – Small Group Discussions

E-Learning Program/Course Delivery and Content Development**Topic 1 – Impacts of E-Learning on Organizations**

What have been the strategic planning challenges for organizations when incorporating e-learning into the culture? What management challenges have organizations encountered. (e.g. change in organizational culture, staff readiness.) What are some possible best practices for organizations regarding the integration of e-learning?

Session Moderator: Dr. Gabriel Ferrate, Rector, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya

Topic 2 – Policy Issues to Support E-Learning

What are the priority areas for integrated policy development to support e-learning? (e.g. access, content development, infrastructure challenges, intellectual property.) What are the components of a regulatory framework that would support integrated policy? What actions are required to move forward with an integrated policy framework?

Session Moderator: Dr. Manuel Fernando Palácios, Department of Development of the Superior Education, Brazil

Topic 3 – Digital Resources

What are the benefits and limitations of learning object repositories? What are the benefits and limitations of open-source resources? What are the key policy issues related to the use of learning objects repositories and open-source resources to improve access and usefulness?

Session Moderator: Dr. Candace Thille, Project Coordinator, Carnegie Mellon University's Open Learning Initiative (OLI)

Topic 4 – Quality Assurance of E-Learning Programs and Courses

What are the policy issues around quality assurance in e-learning? What are the current mechanisms for quality assurance? What priority areas in quality assurance require policy development?

Session Moderator: Dr. Ulf Daniel-Ehlers, Coordinator European Research, University of Duisberg-Essen

10:45 - 11:15

Break – Refreshments Served at the Exhibition

11:15 - 12:15

Session 4 – Plenary – Presentation

International Online Learning Delivery

The purpose would be to set the context for the afternoon session.

This session will be followed by a question and answer session.

Presenter: Sir John Daniel, President and Chief Executive Officer, Commonwealth of Learning, Canada

12:15 - 13:30

Lunch – Served at the Exhibition

Day 3 (continued)

13:30 - 15:30

Session 5 – Panel Discussion

Role of Government and Other Policy Makers in Post-Secondary E-Learning

Panelists will provide their perspectives of the following questions:

1. What is your organization hoping to achieve in the area of e-learning?
2. How would effective delivery of e-learning benefit from a coordinated and/or government-led response?
3. What recommendations do you have to enhance policy collaboration and coordination between partnering organizations and government? (higher education institutions – government – industries)

A moderated question and answer period will follow.

Moderator: Dr. Margaret Haughey, Plenary Chair/Conference Moderator

Panel: Gisèle Chrétien, President, Collège Boréal

To be finalized, Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

Dr. W.J. Byrne, Deputy Minister, Alberta Advanced Education

Dr. Tom Schuller, Head of CERI, OECD/CERI

To be finalized, a representative from the Canadian federal government

To be finalized, a representative from industry

Break – Refreshments Served at the Exhibition to be called by the Conference Moderator

15:30 - 16:00

Closing Remarks: What We Heard at the Conference

Presenter: Dr. Margaret Haughey, Plenary Chair/Conference Moderator to summarize the key findings/what was heard at the conference

Closing Remarks

Presenter: Dr. W.J. Byrne, Deputy Minister, Alberta Advanced Education

Dr. Tom Schuller, Head of CERI, OECD/CERI
