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.
### Day 1

**June 26, 2005**

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<tr>
<td>13:00 - 17:00</td>
<td><strong>Registration</strong></td>
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<td>13:00 - 17:00</td>
<td><strong>Exhibition Opening</strong></td>
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| 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. |

### Day 2

**June 27, 2005**

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>07:30 - 09:00</td>
<td><strong>Additional Conference Registration</strong></td>
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<td>07:30 - 09:00</td>
<td><strong>Continental Breakfast at the Exhibition</strong></td>
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| 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 | **Presentation on OECD/CERI E-Learning Case Studies in Post-Secondary Education and Training: Final Report**  
  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 | **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.
Day 3  
June 28, 2005

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 Duisburg-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 Duisburg-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