



INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL FOR OPEN AND
DISTANCE EDUCATION

ICDE World Conference Newsletter

17th September 2019

World Conference
on Online Learning
DUBLIN Ireland 2019



INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL FOR OPEN AND
DISTANCE EDUCATION



NIDL
National Institute
for Digital Learning

28th ICDE
World Conference
on Online Learning

3-7 November 2019
Convention Centre Dublin, Ireland

The Seasons are Changing

While the long days of summer are now behind us in Europe and we are slowly moving into Autumn (Fall) the next few months are one of the best times to visit Dublin. The city streets are a little easier to get around with slightly fewer tourists and there is nothing like finishing your day with a hot cup of tea, coffee, and/or pint of Guinness or famous Irish whiskey in one of Dublin's world-renowned pubs. The warm and cosy atmosphere of a Dublin pub is a unique experience and our themed walking tours at the close of Day-2 (Tuesday 5th November) will ensure that you end up somewhere special to continue your conversations with new friends and colleagues from around the world. Make sure you select one of these walking tours when [registering](#) for the event as we have increased the number of places to meet the high-level of demand for this "pedagogy in the pub" feature of the [ICDE World Conference](#). Of course, you will need to pack a warm coat with you as the weather in Dublin is likely to a little unpredictable but that's part of the Irish experience.



The end of October and first few days of November also has particular significance in Ireland as we celebrate [Samhain](#). You can learn more about Samhain (pronounced 'sow-in') further below under the "Taste of Ireland" section and why November is ideally timed for us to meet in Dublin to discuss some of the divides, dangers and dilemmas facing online education as we look to deliver on the theme and our underlying mission of "[transforming lives and societies](#)". There is still time for you to join us in November but places are filling quickly if you wish to help shape the conversations and contribute to the Dublin Declaration on the future of online education.



Watch the video from this year's ICDE World Conference Chair for more information.

What's New?

The last 2-weeks since the [previous](#) World Conference newsletter at the start of September have been particularly busy with a number of initiatives and new developments.

Principles ***of*** ***Participation***

We have been busy finalising a set of [principles for participation](#), which serve like a code of conduct for delegates. These principles are intended to guide your participation at this year's event (irrespective of whether you attend in person or engage virtually) and they identify a number of basic rights and responsibilities all delegates should follow to ensure that everyone has a rewarding, successful and highly professional conference experience. We believe that it is important to establish our expectations from the outset in order to create a really welcoming, courteous and respectful atmosphere.



Guidelines for Presenters

We have also been busy finalising our Guidelines for Presenters for each paper category and contributors should expect to receive an email from us this week with detailed instructions and helpful tips and suggestions for your presentation. The presenter guidelines will also be available on the conference website. More information about the guidelines appears below under the “Update for Presenters” section and we strongly encourage authors to read the relevant guide(s) before you start preparing your slide-deck. This request is particularly important for authors of Digital Posters and Lightning Talks, as your slide-decks are required before the start of the conference. And remember at **10:00am** GMT on **Friday 20th September** we will be offering our first webinar for contributors to help explain the guidelines and answer any questions you may have about the conference. You can login to participate in the webinar at the following link:

Conference

Programme

Also last week we continued work on the difficult task of assigning paper submissions to one of the 10 parallel tracks running over all 4-days of the conference. We apologise for the delay in making this more detailed programme information available, as we try our best to accommodate specific requests and wait for Visa and registration confirmations. The good news is that we have now completed a draft of the detailed programme and contributors should receive an email message shortly with specific information about your assigned breakout session(s). The information will also be available on the conference website but we reserve the right to make further changes over the next few weeks as the programme remains a living document.

Linked

Events

We have a number of linked and embedded events associated with this year's ICDE World Conference. Our pre-conference workshops on Sunday 3rd November at the St Patrick's Campus of Dublin City University (DCU) have proven to be particularly popular with the likelihood of standing room only. Our Doctoral Research Symposium has also been popular with over 50 registrants and due to high demand we have decided to extend the length of this event so that it will now take place over the entire day. If you have already registered for one of parallel workshops on Sunday morning, then you will be contacted shortly with a choice of attending the full-day Doctoral Research Symposium or just the afternoon programme. We hope the decision to extend the Symposium will contribute to a really impactful event and may also free up some spaces in the other pre-conference workshops.



In addition to a special cohort instance of the micro-course “[Open Education, Copyright and Open Licensing in a Digital World](#)” which starts on **7th October 2019** and is available for free to all ICDE World Conference registered participants, along with a special embedded workplace and corporate learning and development strand on the final day of the conference, and [Innovations in Training \(IIT\) Dublin](#) that begins in the Convention Centre Dublin (CCD) on Thursday afternoon, and continues through until Saturday 9th November, we are delighted to be hosting two other post-conference events.



IUA Project video

Firstly, a formal launch by the [Irish Universities Association](#) (IUA) of the [Enhancing Digital Capacity in Teaching and Learning Project](#) takes place at 2:30pm on Thursday 7th November in the CCD. This major 3-year IUA-led project is funded through the HEA's Innovation and Transformation Programme and is aimed at enhancing the digital attributes and educational experiences of Irish university students through enabling the mainstreamed and integrated use of digital technologies across the teaching and learning process in seven universities. If you would like to attend the launch, which features a number of invited speakers and will showcase how Irish universities are responding to the new digital world, then [please register](#) separately for this event.

Secondly, [Eportfolio Ireland](#) is delighted to invite ICDE World Conference delegates to join a half-day seminar/workshop on Monday 11th November at Dublin City University's St. Patricks Campus. This free event will run from 9.30am to 12.30pm and features a keynote by [Kristina Hoepfner](#), Catalyst IT, along with a number of "Connect & Converse" sessions as participants share their experiences. To assist with planning and catering arrangements you must [register in advance](#) for this event.

Speaker Spotlight



In this newsletter we are pleased to let you know that [Professor Belinda Tynan](#) will give an invited plenary talk on the theme of strength in diversity and transformative leadership for changing times. Belinda is Chancellor (Education) and Vice-President of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) and is the current President of ICDE.

She is also a Director of RMIT Online, a subsidiary of RMIT. With a keen interest in digital technologies Belinda is responsible for a range of digital initiatives and services for students and staff alike. Prior to joining RMIT Belinda was the Pro Vice Chancellor of Learning and Teaching Innovation at The Open University, the UK's largest University. A feature of Professor Tynan's address will be the important role women need to play in leading and shaping the future of new online models of education. At the end of Belinda's talk she will be joined by a number of other women in key leadership roles for a panel discussion exploring some of the gender and diversity issues confronting the field as we seek to harness the transformative potential of new digital technologies in education. In keeping with the theme the plenary session will then end with the launch of a new book co-authored by Belinda and her colleague [Professor Darien Rossiter](#).

Why join us in Dublin



In this newsletter [Dr Morten Flate Paulsen](#), Acting Secretary General of ICDE, shares his experience of how the ICDE World Conference can open up a world of opportunities. In his own words he reports how he attended his first ICDE World Conference in Oslo in 1988. Looking back, I realize it was a defining moment for my career in open and distance education.

Of course, it was remarkable to see the Norwegian King and Prime Minister at the conference, but the most exciting was to meet so many experienced people from all around the world. Several of them have been my friends for decades. I vividly remember how nervous I was when I rehearsed my first international paper presentation over and over again in front of the mirror.

After my presentation, I met my future advisor Michael G. Moore. He encouraged me to pursue a doctoral degree at Penn State University and work for him as a graduate assistant at the [American Journal of Distance Education](#). Two years later, he took me along to organize a preconference for the ICDE World Conference in Venezuela. The experiences were so positive that I later joined several more ICDE conferences.

This summer, as Acting Secretary General of ICDE, I reconvened with the local organizers of the 1992 ICDE World Conference at [Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University](#) in Bangkok when I gave a keynote at the university's 40th anniversary. There, I realized how important the ICDE World conferences have been for my career. Now, I encourage all aspiring colleagues to come to our November conference, introduce themselves to the ICDE community and meet us face-to-face in Dublin.

I look forward to seeing both old friends and new colleagues in Dublin.

Morten

Taste of Ireland

As mentioned above the timing of this year's ICDE World Conference has particular significance in Ireland as we celebrate [Samhain](#). You may be surprised to know that the origin of Halloween was actually in Celtic Ireland and Samhain started out as a Celtic tradition that dates back thousands of years to mark the end of the pastoral season. It also had multiple facets to it as Samhain was, sort of like a New Year's celebration. If you look into more popular Irish myths, legends, and folklore, you will learn that Samhain comes up quite often with many important meetings taking place at this time. It was also believed that this was the best time of year for druids to make predictions of the future. Therefore the ICDE World Conference is ideally timed for us to meet in Dublin to discuss the future and some of the [big questions](#) we face in the context of the overarching theme and underlying mission of ["transforming lives and societies"](#).

A celebration of Samhain and the changing of the seasons from light to dark is just one of several unique Irish cultural experiences that we plan to weave throughout the conference. In this respect we hope that delegates will learn not only a better appreciation of Celtic and Irish culture, but also more generally the importance of valuing, respecting and supporting indigenous heritage and ways of thinking in today's increasing globalised world.





We would like to introduce you to “Cara” our official ICDE World Conference emoji. For those of you not familiar with the term “emoji” this refers to an ideogram or smiley that can be used in electronic messages. The term “Cara” translates in the Irish language to “friend” and you can expect to see a lot more of this friendly image leading up to conference. There is even a rumour that Cara will be present during the conference in a life-size form.

Update for Presenters

As mentioned above we expect a more detailed conference programme showing your allocated presentation slot along with our Presenter Guidelines will be available by the end of this week. Please make sure you read this information carefully so there are no unwelcome surprises when you arrive at the conference. The guidelines provide useful tips, helpful suggestions and important instructions on the design, submission and presentation of your paper. Friday’s webinar for contributors (10:00am GMT, Friday 20th September) will elaborate on the guidelines and answer any questions you may have about presenting at the conference. You can login to join the webinar at the following link:

In the meantime, please note that Digital Posters need to follow quite precise instructions in terms of dimensions, orientation and file size. This information will be contained in the Poster Guidelines and an example digital poster developed in PowerPoint will be sent to presenters that you may wish to use as your starting template. Lightning Talks will follow a unique Irish style known as Gasta in which contributors have no more than 5-minutes to present a fast, snappy and high-energy talk. Therefore we suggest a maximum of **12-slides** to ensure that you do not run out of time. Importantly, both Digital Posters and Lightning Talks need to be submitted prior to the conference, as they need to be uploaded onto the CCD's internal network.



Concise Papers have a total of 15-minutes inclusive of question time. This means that as a general principle '**less is more**' with your presentation slides containing just enough information or a handful of well chosen images to enhance your talk rather than acting as your speech notes. Full Papers have 20 minutes. We suggest that authors focus on just key points and conclude their presentation with a challenging thought or single discussion question for delegates to ponder that refers back to one of the conference sub themes. Both Concise and Full Papers can be uploaded to the CCD network at the Presenter Desk when you arrive at the conference.

Please note that we expect you to attribute any images you embed in your presentation and strongly encourage you to include licensing information on your slides using a Creative

Commons Attribution 4.0 Licence. We also kindly request that all presentation files adopt the following naming convention: paper submission number followed by type of submission (e.g., XXX_Digital_Poster, XXX, Lightning_Talk, XXX_Concise_Paper, or XXX_Full_Paper). One final point, we expect all contributors during the ICDE World Conference will be guided by our Principles of Conference Participation to ensure a courteous and respectful professional learning environment.

Sponsor Feature

The support of our [sponsors and exhibitors](#) is crucial to the success of the ICDE World Conference on Online Learning. In a similar vein, a notable feature of this year's conference is the strong support from our official [partner organisations](#) which represent many leading professional bodies and associations around the world - for example, ALT, AAOU, ABED, ACODE, AdvanceHE, ASCILITE, COL, Contact North, EATEL, EDEN, EADTU, ECIU, EERA, FLANZ, Flexible Education Norway, Quality Matters, OLC, OERu, ODLAA, Open Education Consortium, USDLA and Unizin. We are particularly pleased to have support from a number of local Irish bodies, including the [Computers in Education Society of Ireland](#), [Education Studies Association of Ireland](#), [Irish Universities Association](#), Irish Learning Technology Association, [Irish Refugee Council](#), [SOLAS](#) and the [National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education](#). The National Forum is also a valued Bronze Sponsor.



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AND LEARNING IN HIGHER EDUCATION

In the next newsletter we hope to share exciting news of another major world body that has chosen to formally support the ICDE World Conference and we will continue to feature some of our other sponsors and exhibitors.

Register Now

Get your skates on if you haven't yet registered for the ICDE World Conference as the clock is rapidly counting down. If you require a Visa for Ireland and haven't already applied then the window to submit your application and receive your documentation back in time is almost past the cut-off date. Also Dublin will be very busy in November with a number of other major events and the longer you leave it to register, the harder it will be to secure reasonably priced hotel accommodation. We have a number of payment options, so [register now](#) to avoid disappointment.

Register Today



Dublin Travel Tips

It is relatively easy to get to the city centre from Dublin Airport using public transportation. The most affordable option is by bus. All buses leave within an easy walking distance of the two main terminals and the most popular bus is [Airlink 747 or 757](#) which makes multiple stops in the city centre. Depending on the traffic the journey will take about 30-minutes, with a one-way ticket costing you €7:00. Both bus routes stop right outside the [Convention Centre Dublin](#) (CCD) on the banks of the River Liffey.

The good news is that the centre of Dublin is quite compact and easy to navigate on foot. This means that if you plan to stay in the city centre, which we recommend, you might not ever need to take public transportation. The central area is small enough that walking is usually the most efficient way to get around the city. The conference venue is about 10 to 15 minutes walk from the historic [Temple Bar district](#) and the two major shopping areas on either side of the River Liffey.



While Dublin is fairly condensed it still has an easy-to-use public transportation system. You can even grab a [hire bike](#) from one of the many stations, with the first 30-minutes of use free on every bike. Between walking, biking, the bus, LUAS, DART and train networks, there are so many ways to get around Dublin, that you'll actually be spoilt for choice. If you're planning on seeing some of the sights of Dublin then we highly recommend a hop-on-hop-off tourist bus. [Dublin buses](#) are double-decker style and like all traffic in Ireland drive on

the left side of the road. This is an important point to remember when crossing the road and trying to decide which direction to take the bus. You can buy tickets directly on the bus but you can only do so using Euro coins. No cards are accepted and no change is given, so it is best to have the exact fare already counted out in coins in your hand, ready to drop into the machine next to the driver when you board.



However, if you are planning to take Dublin Bus or other Dublin public transportation extensively, including hire bikes, then it may be worth investing in the [Leap Card](#). The reloadable travel card offers slightly lower fares on every journey and using one means that you'll never have any hassle of finding enough coins. For delegates planning to attend the [pre-conference events](#) on Sunday 3rd November at Dublin City University (DCU) a taxi should only take around 10-minutes from city centre. Depending on your hotel location, and weather, you can probably walk from the city centre to DCU's [St Patrick's campus](#) in around 30 minutes.

Booking your accommodation

The [Convention Centre Dublin](#) (CCD) is located in the [Docklands district](#) close to the very heart of Dublin, so there are multiple options for accommodation. We have listed a number of options on the [conference website](#) but you are spoilt for choice from budget accommodation through to upmarket hotels. A more extensive list of hotels, serviced apartments and bed and breakfast accommodation can be viewed on the [Dublin Convention Bureau](#) website. Please note that Dublin is a very popular business and tourist destination, with a number of major events taking place in November, so we highly recommend that you book your accommodation as soon as possible.



Follow us

There have already been over 1,000 posts with information about the ICDE World Conference on Twitter, so please remember to follow us on one or more of our social media channels: We will continue to share “bite sized” conference updates via Twitter, LinkedIn and Facebook as we get closer to the start of the World Conference.

Please remember to follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [Facebook](#) for further “bite sized”

conference updates as we share just in time and just enough information about this year's ICDE World Conference.



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