ITU-ACADEMIA PARTNERSHIP MEETING

Developing skills for the digital era

Budapest, Hungary
19-21 September 2017

DRAFT PROGRAMME
(as of 12 July 2017)
Tuesday, 19 September 2017

08:30 – 09:30  Registration

09:30 – 10:00  Opening ceremony

- Dr Monika Karas, President, National Media and Infocommunications Authority of Hungary
- Dr Cosmas Zavazava, Chief of Department, Projects and Knowledge Management, Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU

10:00 – 10:30  Keynote address

- Mr Zaid Hamzah, CEO and General Counsel, Asia Law Exchange, and Adjunct Fellow, Centre of Excellence for National Security, RSIS, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

10:30 – 11:00  Group photo and coffee break

11:00 – 12:30  Session 1: Developing skills for the 21st century digital economy: the role of academic institutions

The world is undergoing a major digital transformation, driven by robotics, big data analytics, Internet of Things and artificial intelligence. These developments will have an impact on how we live as well as how we learn. The session looks at the role of universities in shaping this transformation, how technological change is shaping the future of e-learning and how universities are changing their programmes to embrace these emerging topics and technology trends. Some of the issues to be addressed in the session are:

- The characteristics of the future digital ecosystem
- The role universities are playing in shaping the future digital ecosystem
- The sets of skills required for the future
- New academic programmes and changes in the curriculum to better prepare 21st century students

Panelists:

- Dr Virginia Dignum, Associate Professor, Social Artificial Intelligence, Delft University, Netherlands
- Dr Sara Bernardini, Lecturer, Department of Computer Science, Royal Holloway University, United Kingdom
- Dr Diego Kuonen, CEO and CAO, Statoo Consulting and Professor, Research Center for Statistics, Geneva School of Economics and Management, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Mr Enrique Shadah, Head, Strategic Relationships, Office of Digital Learning, MIT, United States
- Dr Jian Song, Professor, Department of Electronic Engineering, Tsinghua University, China

12:30 – 14:00  Lunch break
14:00 – 15:30 **Session 2: Enhancing capacity in Internet governance through academic programmes**

The spread of the Internet and connectedness does not only bring opportunities but also huge challenges, for example in areas such as security and privacy. Internet governance is thus becoming a priority topic at global, regional and national levels. The rapid evolution of ICTs also led to an increase in the scope and level of complexity in the field of Internet governance. Internet governance now encompasses matters related to the technical administration of the network, and to an ever growing myriad of issues related to policy and regulatory realms. The need for capacity development, a precondition for meaningful involvement in the decisions about the future of technology, is therefore paramount. Over the years, the topic has increasingly gained importance as an academic discipline with many universities including Internet governance-related components in their curricula or even offering advanced-level degree programmes. This session discusses the role of academic institutions in building skills in the field of Internet governance, and examines the work undertaken in this area. Some of the issues to be covered are:

- Understanding key issues of the Internet governance ecosystem
- The role of academia in shaping and/or influencing public policy in Internet governance
- Best ways of addressing Internet governance as an academic discipline
- Fostering multistakeholder partnerships for capacity development in Internet governance

**Panelists:**

- Dr Lee Andrew Bygrave, Professor, Department of Private Law, University of Oslo, Norway
- Mr Ryan Budish, Senior Researcher, Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University, United States
- Dr Hans Klein, Associate Professor, School of Public Policy, Georgia Tech, United States
- Dr Jeanette Hofmann, Director, Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet and Society, Germany
- Dr William Drake, International Fellow and Lecturer, Institute of Mass Communication and Media Research, University of Zurich, Switzerland

15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee break**

16:00 – 17:00 **Session 3: New paradigms for teaching and learning in academic institutions**

The new digital environment demands new sets of skills, and new modes of acquiring these skills. There is also a new generation of learners emerging whose learning styles may be different from those of the previous generation. Universities need to align their learning methodologies and teaching paradigm with the new environment. This session will cover:

- Characteristics and attributes of the learner in the digital era
- The new learning paradigms and their impact on teaching
• New modes and methodologies of teaching (e-learning, flipped classroom, labs and studios based learning, collaborative and co-creation learning, online coding, hackathons etc.) and student assessments
• How universities need to respond and adapt to these changes

Panelists:
• Dr Paula Alexandra Silva, Lecturer, Design Innovation, Maynooth University, Ireland
• Dr Abtar Singh, Professor and Dean, School of e-Education, Hamda Bin Mohammed Smart University, United Arab Emirates
• Dr Supavadee Aramvith, Associate Professor, Electrical Engineering, Chulalongkorn University
• Speaker from Hungary

17:30 Excursion followed by dinner

Wednesday, 20 September 2017

09:00 – 10:30 Session 4: Re-defining the role of academia in the digital economy: universities as incubators of ICT innovation

Universities play a key role as drivers of innovation and entrepreneurship. Many ICT sector disruptors and innovators made their technological breakthroughs while they were at university. Universities are called upon to redefine their role and approach to learning to accommodate the needs of a performance-oriented digital economy. The session looks at the role universities should play as incubators of innovation, cultivators of the entrepreneurial spirit, and as platforms for technology start-ups in the ICT sector. Some issues covered are:

• How universities should reinvent themselves to embrace their new role as incubators
• Translating academic research into concrete business models
• Successful examples of universities’ innovation labs, including start-up companies, and challenges to be addressed
• Academia-industry partnerships for creating innovation and entrepreneurship

Panelists:
• Dr Anders Flodström, Education Director, EIT Digital
• Dr Brian O'Flaherty, Coordinator, EU-XCeL, University College Cork, Ireland
• Ms Tiina Tuulos, Project Manager, Aalto Design Factory, Aalto University, Finland
• Dr Fabiano Hessel, Coordinator, Smart City Innovation Center, Tecnopuc Science and Tecnology Park, Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
• Ms Verena Maria Mai, Co-Founder & CEO, UNIspotter

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee break
Session 5: Developing a workforce fit for purpose: A dialogue between academia and industry

Advances in technology are rapidly changing the workplace and a different set of skills will be required in tomorrow’s digital economy. The business community is facing a shortage of skilled workers which will increase significantly in the future in view of the changing ICT environment. This will also require continuous updating and upgrading of skills and learning, which needs to be taken into consideration by training institutions, in particular universities. Therefore, the university educational system needs to be tailored to the needs of industry. This session examines the gaps in performance of today’s graduates, as seen by selected industry representatives and the role of academic institutions in filling this gap. It will address the following topics:

- Which are the most important workforce skills required by industry in the future?
- How can the skills required by industry be met by academic institutions?
- How can industry contribute to curriculum development in universities?
- Successful examples of collaboration between universities and the private sector for improving the quality of graduates
- The role of ITU in facilitating academia-industry collaboration

Panelists:

- Dr Ekkehard Ernst, Chief Macroeconomist, ILO
- Ms Balzhan Orazbayeva, Research Associate, Münster University of Applied Sciences, Science-to-Business Marketing Research Centre, Germany
- Dr Santhi Kumaran, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Engineering and Director, African Center of Excellence in Internet of Things, University of Rwanda, Rwanda
- Dr Piotr Pluta, Director Corporate Affairs, Europe, Middle East, Africa and Russia, Cisco

Lunch break

Session 6: Fostering collaboration between universities and ITU Centres of Excellence

ITU Centres of Excellence, many of which are academic institutions, have been at the forefront of ITU’s capacity development efforts for a number of years. Recently, ITU has been strengthening its collaboration with academia, both in terms of development and delivery of training programmes. This session will address the complementarity of the work of Centers of Excellence and academic institutions and explore avenues for further collaboration.

Panelists:

- Dr Toni Janevski, Professor, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technologies, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, TFYR Macedonia
- Dr Ikechukwu Adinde, CEO, Digital Bridge Institute, Nigeria
- Dr Carmen Oriondo, Training Coordinator, INICTEL-UNI, Peru
- Mr Atif Hamad, Deputy Director, Sudacad, Sudan

Coffee break
16:00 – 17:30  Session 7: ITU Academy partnerships between CoEs, industry and universities: a practical example of the work on spectrum management

Building on the discussions in the previous sessions, this session will illustrate a practical example of how different players can work together in strengthening capacities for the digital age, under the umbrella of the ITU Academy. Choosing the topic of spectrum management, the session will highlight the role of universities in developing training programmes and showcase different approaches to delivery, through partnerships between CoEs, the private sector, and academic institutions. The focus will be on highlighting the impact such partnerships can have in strengthening capacities in developing countries.

Panelists:

- Mr Mike Nxele, Senior Manager, Human Capacity Building Division, ITU
- Dr Andres Navarro, Professor, Department of Information and Communication Technologies, ICESI University, Colombia
- Dr Péter Vári, Deputy Director General, National Media and Infocommunications Authority of Hungary
- Dr Joseph Sevilla, Director, @iLabAfrica, Strathmore University, Kenya
- Dr Jan Holub, Professor, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Czech Technical University, Czech Republic
Thursday, 21 September 2017

09:00 – 10:30  Session 8: Strengthening ITU-academia partnerships for capacity development

Based on the discussions held on the previous days, this session will discuss ways and means of how ITU and the academic community can strengthen their collaboration to develop capacities and skills for the digital future. It will present examples of successful collaboration as well as discuss proposals for future partnership opportunities.

The session will consider, among others, the following areas of collaboration:

- Development of content on key emerging ICT topics
- Delivery of training
- Knowledge sharing
- Forum for debate and partnership creation
- Twinning arrangements and exchange programmes

Panelists:

- Dr Susan Teltscher, Head, Human Capacity Building Division and Head, a.i., ICT Data and Statistics Division, ITU
- Dr John Traxler, Professor of Digital Learning, University of Wolverhampton, United Kingdom
- Dr Hans Klein, Associate Professor, School of Public Policy, Georgia Tech, United States

10:30 – 11:00  Coffee break

11:00 – 11:30  Final conclusions

11:30 – 12:00  Closing ceremony