

PCF COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING 50 YEARS

9-12 September 2019 | Edinburgh, Scotland

Room: MacPherson 2 / Time: 10:30 – 11:25 Panel

**Title of the Workshop/Panel:** MOOCs and Open Education in the Global South: Challenges, Successes, Opportunities

This unique panel of experts will discuss a wide range of MOOC initiatives and open education projects in rapidly changing, highly diverse, and economically emergent countries and regions. As such, the audience will learn how MOOCs and open educational resources are impacting learners in different ways around the world. Those attending this session will have an enhanced understanding of the educational, cultural, political and economic challenges and issues facing various stakeholders in MOOCs and open education environments in the Global South. The session moderators will ask questions related to social challenges, key lessons learned, digital resources and future opportunities about MOOCs and OER development, implementation and evaluation. In return, the panelists will highlight pressing issues and controversies where there presently is impassioned debate and controversy. The panelists are all contributors to an upcoming edited book titled MOOCs and Open Education in the Global South to be published by Knowledge. There are 48 contributors from 25 countries to the 30 chapters of this book. Chapter contributors come from Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, the Pacific/Oceania and the Caribbean.

**Audience Interaction:** Audience polling, questioning, and awards for best questions

**Facilitator/Moderator:** Curtis J. Bonk, Indiana University, USA

**Speakers/Panelists:**

- Som Naidu, The University of the South Pacific, Fiji Islands
- Shironica P. Karunanayaka, The Open University of Sri Lanka
- Deepak Bharti, The University of the South Pacific, Lautoka Campus, Suva, Fiji Islands
- Martha Cleveland-Innes, Athabasca University, Alberta, Canada
- Tadinada V. Prabhakar, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, India

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**Panelists: 1. Briefly introduce yourself**

- Som Naidu**, Pro-Vice Chancellor Flexible Learning and Director, Center for Flexible Learning, The University of the South Pacific, Fiji Islands
- Shironica P. Karunanayaka**, Professor in Educational Technology, Dean/Faculty of Education, The Open University of Sri Lanka
- Deepak Bharti**, Open Education Design Architect, Centre for Flexible Learning, The University of the South Pacific, Lautoka Campus, Suva, Fiji Islands
- Martha Cleveland-Innes**, Professor of Educational Innovation, Athabasca University, Alberta, Canada
- Tadinada V. Prabhakar**, Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK), India



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**Panelists:**

**2. Could you please tell us about the status of MOOCs and OER in your country/education systems/institution including successful achievements and collaborations as well as the challenges?**

**Coursera For Refugees**

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**Panelists:**

**3. What can we learn from the Global South to leverage MOOCs and OER for sustainable development?**




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**Panelists:**

**4. Some predict that the primary focus areas of MOOCs in 2040 will target adult learners in the workforce with opportunities for professional development and job reskilling and upskilling. Embedded in these predictions are visions of MOOCs playing a role in late adulthood hobbies, entertainment interests, and career change. What's perhaps more striking, many of these people expect that Global South participants will be the majority of MOOC participants by 2040. Is any of this accurate? If so, what are the ramifications? Who wants to comment?**

101M Students 900+ Universities 11.4k Courses



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**Panelists:**

**5. Some also predict that as part of this transformation in legitimacy and acceptance of open forms of learning and training, MOOC experiences will be increasingly reflected and expected on one's resume. In addition, they say MOOCs will also offer free and credentialed educational experiences for all secondary school academic requirements as well as the first year or two of higher education by 2025. What are your thoughts and experiences?**

	Courses	College Credits	Degrees
Coursera	✓	✓	✓
edX	✓	✓	✓
FutureLearn	✓	✓	✓
Udacity	✓	✓	✓
Udacity	✓	✓	✓

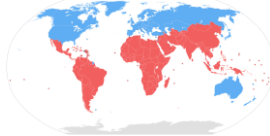
UNDERSTANDING MICROCREDENTIALS



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**Panelists:**

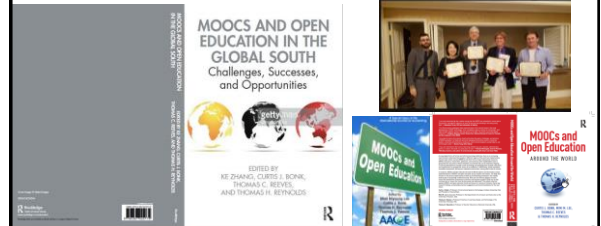
6. If time permits....Is there anything we haven't discussed terms of future directions/opportunities about MOOCs and OER development and implementation in your country/institution and in the Global South in general? Any visions we have not heard or addressed?



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Zhang, K., Bonk, C. J., Reeves, T. C., & Reynolds, T. H. (Eds.). (in press). *MOOCs and Open Education in the Global South: Challenges, Successes, Opportunities*. NY: Routledge.

<http://moocsbook.com/>



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**Questions and Comments?**

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