



Appendix 11: Beyond Borders Conference Programme and Speakers

Beyond Borders Conference Programme

Tuesday 20th April 2010, Said Business School, University of Oxford

- 9.00 **Registration, coffee and refreshments in the foyer**
- 10:00 **Welcome**
- 10:05 Beyond Borders introduction - Melissa Highton, Oxford University.
- 10.20 Content, Collaboration and Innovation: Past, Present and Future - Andy Lane, OpenLearn, Open University.
- 10.50 Giving Knowledge for Free - Jan Hylén, OECD
- 11.30 Q&A
- 11.45 **Coffee**
- 12.00 Connecting Teachers with Content - Fred Mednick, TeachersWithoutBorders.
- 12.30 ICT for Development, African OER: ideologies and realities - Tim Unwin, UNESCO.
- 13.00 **Lunch**
- 14.00 Open Content (OER) Case Studies from Oxford Introduction - Peter Robinson
Speakers: Marianne Talbot, Peter McDonald, Tristram Wyatt, Martin Kemp
- 15.00 **Coffee**
- 15.20 Challenges Panel
Panel: Peter McDonald, David Robertson, Marianne Talbot, Andy Lane, Fred Mednick, Emma Smith
- 16.20 Keynote speaker, Robin Wilson
- 16.50 **Talks end**
- 17.00 Wine Reception sponsored by Cisco
- 18.30 Finish

Biographies of speakers

Melissa Highton - Head of the Learning Technologies Group at Oxford

Melissa will open the conference and welcome visitors to Oxford. Melissa is project champion for the OpenSpires project at Oxford University this year. She will explain some of the background to the project and how this activity fits with the wider use of technology to support learning and teaching.

“Our work in Oxford University Computing Services to provide support at the centre has been rewarded by the number of academics who have become involved and our growing community around this activity. Working closely with Oxford colleagues and hearing their enthusiasm for wide dissemination of their work made me confident that our project to support the creation of open educational resources would be a success. I am happy to support colleagues in making informed choices about how their materials can and may be re-used.”

Professor Andy Lane - Director of OpenLearn

“Much of my working life has been at The Open University and I completely share its mission and philosophy of making education accessible to all. OpenLearn offers the opportunity to take that to another level, reaching tens of millions of people each year around the world, not just the hundreds of thousands as at present.”

Professor Andy Lane has been in the Systems Department of the Technology Faculty at the Open University since 1983 and held various offices, including being Head of Department, and Dean of the Technology Faculty. He was promoted to Professor of Environmental Systems in 2005 and in 2006 he was appointed as Director of the OU’s OpenLearn Initiative. He is also a Chartered Environmentalist.

Dr. Jan Hylén - former OECD Analyst

Dr. Hylén’s responsibility at OECD was mainly in one project — Open Educational Resources, which is a growing feature in the educational landscape. These include open courseware and content; open software tools; open material for e-learning capacity building of faculty staff; repositories of learning objects; and free educational courses. Concentrating on post-secondary education, the project provided an overview of current trends. He is the lead author of *Giving Knowledge for Free: The Emergence of Open Educational Resources*. Jan has worked in the National Agency for Education in Sweden among other things as Director of Research. He served as Political Advisor to the Minister of Schools and Adult Education and has acted as Executive Secretary for the Swedish Committee on the European Schoolnet, and Chairman in the Working Group for a New National ICT Strategy for Schools within the Ministry of Education and Science.

Dr. Fred Mednick - Founder of Teachers Without Borders

After more than 20 years as a teacher and principal, Dr. Fred Mednick founded Teachers Without Borders (TWB) in 2000, a non-profit organisation that provides professional training for teachers worldwide and helps them to play a more vital role in their communities. Believing that a

commitment to global education is a universal responsibility, Dr. Mednick has travelled extensively throughout the world and lent his time, skills, and training to onsite development forums, most recently in Dujiangyan, China-the region of the May 2008 earthquake that killed tens of thousands of people. Fred's work with Teachers Without Borders has led his invitation to the prestigious Global Creative Leadership Summit (100 of the world's promising leaders) and was Cisco Systems' guest at the Nobel Prize summit in 2006.

Professor Tim Unwin - UNESCO Chair in ICT4D

Tim is Professor of Geography at Royal Holloway University of London and UNESCO Chair in ICT4D. He is also Chair of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission.

In 2007-2008 he was Director and then Senior Advisor to the World Economic Forum's Partnerships for Education programme with UNESCO. From 2001-2004 he led the UK Prime Minister's Imfundo initiative based in the Department for International Development, creating partnerships to deliver ICT-based educational initiatives in Africa.

Peter Robinson - Manager for Learning Technology Services at Oxford

As the leader of the Oxford on iTunesU and OpenSpires projects, Peter will facilitate the afternoon session which includes OER case studies from across Oxford.

"In less than a year over 100 Oxford academics and visiting speakers have donated material to support their subject communities, each contributor has signed a Creative Commons licence that allows their material to be promoted for reuse in education world-wide. The materials include politics, economics, globalisation, environmental change, business, research ethics, medicine, physics, english, philosophy, classics, and art history. The project focused on audio-visual recordings and supporting resources. We published these in popular open outreach channels such as the University video portal and iTunesU. Institutional marketing and a clear communication strategy ensured the discoverability of the digitised material leading to consistent download figures."

Marianne Talbot - Lecturer in Philosophy, Department for Continuing Education, the University of Oxford

Marianne has become an iTunesU sensation with her OER lecture podcasts- Philosophy for Beginners, reaching the global number 1 position in October 2009 with over 250,000 downloads across the world.

"That's 18,000 people [per week] I hope I've turned onto philosophy"

From 1996-2000 Marianne chaired the National Forum for Values in Education and The Community. This group was responsible for the values that inform the National Curriculum. Every year almost 15,000 people take part in courses offered by the Department for Continuing Education, making Oxford University one of the largest providers of continuing education in the UK.

Dr. Peter D McDonald - Fellow of St Hugh's and Tutor in English, Oxford University

"In the late-19th century Oxford was one of the pioneers of the university extension movement, which enabled audiences around the UK to hear what some of its lecturers had to say on a wide range of topics. The OpenSpires project is the 21st-century equivalent, though, with the benefit of the web, the audiences are now global and we hope even more diverse. It is a pleasure to contribute to this important venture, which is opening up Oxford like never before."

Dr McDonald has produced a series of OER podcasts discussing the issues surrounding the state censorship of literature in Apartheid era South Africa. Unique conversations between Dr McDonald and other professors at the University, looking at the issue of state censorship from legal, political and literary perspectives is one of the highlights of Oxford OpenSpires.

Professor Martin Kemp - Emeritus Research Professor of the History of Art, Oxford University

Martin has written and broadcast extensively on imagery in art and science from the Renaissance to the present day. Leonardo da Vinci has been at the centre of this endeavour, and has been the subject of a number of his books and exhibitions. His wider research has involved the sciences of optics, anatomy and natural history in various key episodes in the history of naturalism. He writes a regular column on 'Science in Culture' in the science journal Nature.

In his March podcast Martin discusses 'La Bella Principessa', a profile portrait of a Milanese lady, and the roles of himself, Pascal Cotte, and others including Paul Biro, in attributing this radiant and exciting picture to Leonardo da Vinci. Martin describes his story in coming across the picture, and moves on to the attribution process, first in terms of materials and technique, and then the new technology used in scientific investigation, and social and cultural aspects of the sitter.

Professor David Robertson - Professor in the Department of Politics and International Relations , Vice Principal and Tutorial Fellow in Politics at St Hugh's College, University of Oxford

David has worked closely with colleagues at St Hugh's to produce podcasts as part of the OpenSpires project at Oxford.

"I have been in Oxford since 1979, after starting my career at the University of Essex in 1970. I was originally a political sociologist, and while at Essex I was Co-Director of the British Election Studies. I have worked in three areas over my career: the political sociology of elections and party competition; strategic studies; constitutional politics and constitutional law. Having just finished my second major book on judges and politics, I am returning to the second area, strategic studies. I intend to write next on the genesis, development and impact of doctrine in military organizations.

Professor Robin Wilson - Professor in the Department of Mathematics at the Open University, a Fellow by special election of Keble College at Oxford

Robin Wilson is the author of a recent book: Lewis Carroll in Numberland: His Fantastical Mathematical Logical Life. Robin's podcasts are available on Oxford's iTunesU site and as part of the OpenSpires project. His theme for the keynote will be 'Communicating mathematics': an area in which he has passion and success.

"Lewis Carroll's maths rehabilitation is down to Robin Wilson, Gresham professor of geometry, professor of pure maths at the Open University (OU) and fellow of Keble College, Oxford, who, along with Marcus du Sautoy, has spearheaded recent efforts to popularise the subject and make it intelligible to less numerate mortals." (Guardian 7 Oct 2008)

Dr. Emma Smith - Lecturer in English, University of Oxford, Fellow and Tutor at Hertford College

Dr Emma Smith works at Oxford University as lecturer in English at the Oxford University Faculty of English Language and Literature, and Fellow and Tutor in English at Hertford College. She also works as Tutor for Admissions at Hertford, and teaches on the Foundation Certificate Course at the Department for Continuing Education. She has been involved in developing online courses via the Alliance for Lifelong Learning. She has also worked on the Institute for the Advancement of University Learning Diploma in Learning and Teaching in Higher Education, and acts as professional supervisor for current participants. Last year she released a series of six lectures introducing six plays from the Elizabethan and Jacobean theatre under creative commons licences via OpenSpires.

Dr. Tristram Wyatt - Emeritus Fellow, Kellogg College

Tristram Wyatt received his PhD from the Zoology Department at the University of Cambridge. After time at Leeds University, University of Wales (Cardiff), and University of California (Berkeley), he came to Oxford University in 1989 as University Lecturer in Biological Sciences at the Department for Continuing Education. In 2008 he left there to concentrate on research and writing at the Zoology Department. His interests are in pheromones and animal behaviour - how animals communicate by smell and how such communication evolves.