

Challenges and opportunities by the pandemic

29th EAN Annual Conference

October 27 – 29, 2020

Online –free of charge

General description of the aim of the 29th EAN Annual Conference

We live in exceptional times. All over the world governments, higher education institutions and other organizations are figuring out how to organize our society in the post-pandemic period. What can we learn from COVID-19, what are the opportunities and what are the pitfalls in deciding how to organize our future society. To be able to do this a good analysis is necessary. COVID-19 brought many challenges. EAN, which focuses on widening participation, is one of those organizations. With this conference we want to look at the challenges and the opportunities presented by the pandemic. How will higher education institutions in general and higher education in relation to widening access in particular cope with the impact on access to higher education? What has/will widen the gap, and where are the opportunities to close the gap?

The conference will use new opportunities created by an online meeting. Each subject will be presented and discussed during a panel. Five panel sessions will be organized within three days, the maximum time of 2 hours, in the morning and in the late afternoon what will allow to participate in the meetings members from Asia and Australia (in the morning) and from America (in the afternoon). Of course, all sessions are open for the participants from any country, any continent.

Subjects of four panel sessions have been proposed by the Organizing Committee. Prior to the main conference meetings four workshops will be organized, each devoted to a subject of the session. Each session will begin with a presentation of the workshop and the open discussion will follow. The sessions will be chaired by leaders of the earlier workshops.

The session in the third day 29th October is prepared by student organizations from the Netherlands.

Five panel sessions will be organized two in the morning and three in the evening to enable participants from Asia and America to participate at least in some of the meetings.

27th October at 10:00 hrs (CET)	28th October at 17:00 hrs (CET)
Situation of students in the COVID-19 pandemic time	Distant teaching and learning – from elementary school through HEI to retirement
prof. Armen Edigarian	prof. Wojciech Cellary

27th October at 17:00 hrs(CET)	28th October at 15:00 hrs (CET)	29th October at 17:00 hrs (CET)
Economic aspects of pandemic for the HEI	How the equity problems in HEI can be solved at international, national and institutional levels?	Re-imagining Online Student Belonging in Higher Education
prof. Iris Lorscheid	Mr. Rod Brazier	Ms. Simone Zalla Aumaj

Pre-conference online workshops

The Organizing Committee asked five experts to organize the pre-conference workshops. These leaders invited teams of experts who were responsible for preparing the sessions of the conference. The online workshops will be 2 hours meetings, and the conclusions, ideas, proposals will be presented at the panel sessions of the conference. The outcomes of the workshops will be available for registered participants and will create the ground for discussions.

Technical aspects

The platform for the online workshops and panel sessions will be prepared and operated by the Adam Mickiewicz University (AMU) in Poznan, Poland. In the reply mail each registered participants will receive a link to the selected panel session.

Organizing Committee

Marek Kręglewski – President of the Compostela Group of Universities, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland

Imran Uddin, President of the European Access Network, Director of Education & Student Policies, Artevelde University of Applied Sciences, Belgium

Mary Tupan-Wenno, Member of the EAN Board, Executive Director, ECHO, The Netherlands

Katja Urbatsch, Member of the EAN Board, Executive Manager, arbeiterkind.de, Germany

Maurits van Rooijen, Member of the EAN Board, Chief Executive Academic, Global University Systems, UK