Challenges and opportunities by the pandemic

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Our experts

Prof. Armen Edigarian, Jagiellonian University, Poland, armen.edigarian@uj.edu.pl

Professor of mathematical sciences, in the 2016-2020 and 2020-2024 terms, Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs at Jagiellonian University.

In 1993 he graduated from mathematics studies at the Jagiellonian University. His teaching and research career is also associated with the Jagiellonian University (he obtained his doctorate in 1995, a postdoctoral degree in 2002, and the academic title of professor of mathematics in 2011). Between 2003–2016 he founded and headed the Department of Financial Mathematics at the Institute of Mathematics of Jagiellonian University, and from 2008 to 2011 he was the director of this Institute. During the period 2011–2016 he was the Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of Jagiellonian University. He also worked at the University of Applied Sciences in Tarnow.

He is a specialist in the field of complex analysis and financial mathematics. He completed research internships in France (1996) and in Bloomington, Indiana University (2007) as a Fulbright scholar. He was also Scholarship holder of the Foundation for Polish Science Fellowship (2000).


Rod Brazier, St Patrick's College, London, UK, Rod.Brazier@st-patricks.ac.uk

Vice Principal for Teaching Excellence and Student Success at St Patrick's College, London. The college, which is part of the Global Universities Systems network, is a widening participation institution, committed to providing access and transformational outcomes for students from underprivileged backgrounds.

Rod is an experienced experiential educator whose doctoral research explored the impact of experiential teaching upon undergraduate students and their soft skill development. Rod has implementing widespread academic change within his institution; through innovative student-centred teaching methodologies, known as Chunked Experiential Learning, and inspirational and motivational staff development programmes.
Prof. Dr. Iris Lorscheid, University of Applied Sciences Europe in Hamburg, Germany, iris.lorscheid@ue-germany.com

Vice-Rector Research and head of the Digital Business and Data Science Program at the University of Applied Sciences Europe in Hamburg, Germany. She holds diploma degrees in computer science and administrative science, as well as a doctorate in computer science from Hamburg University of Technology. Prof. Lorscheid is elected member of the management board of the European Social Simulation Association. She is also editorial board member of the Journal of Artificial Societies and Social Simulation and reviewer in various established international scientific journals. As an expert in the field of agent-based simulation, Prof. Iris Lorscheid is researching how the analysis of complex adaptive systems and theory building can be successful.

Prof. Wojciech Cellary, Poznan University of Economics and Business, Poland, cellary@kti.ue.poznan.pl

WOJCIECH CELLARY received the M.Sc., Ph.D. and Dr. Hab. degrees all from the Technical University of Poznan (Poland). In 1989 he received the title of Professor. From 1974 to 1992 he was with the Technical University of Poznan, from 1987 to 1991 serving as the scientific director of the Institute of Computing Science. From 1992 to 1996 he served as the vice-president responsible for research of the Franco-Polish School of New Information and Communication Technologies. In 1996 he joined the Poznan University of Economics and Business as a head of the Department of Information Technology. He has been a visiting professor at: the University of Nancy I and II, University of Paris-Sud, University of Paris-Dauphine (France), University of Genova, University of Ancona (Italy), United Nations University in Macao and United Nations University in Guimaraes (Portugal). He has lead numerous national and international industrial projects. He has been a main organizer of 52 scientific national and international conferences and he has been a member of the program committees of over 330 conferences. He is author or co-author of 10 books, an editor or co-editor of 17 books, author of 29 chapters in books, and over 150 articles in journals and conference proceedings. Currently his department is specializing in Virtual/Augmented Reality, Internet of Things, mobile environments, cybersecurity and privacy, e-economy, e-business and e-governance. More: http://www.kti.ue.poznan.pl/en/cellary

Simone Zalla Aumaj, ECHO Center for Diversity Policy, Belgium, simone@echo-net.nl

Simone Zalla Aumaj is a newly graduate with a research master in Gender Studies and a bachelor in Cultural Anthropology from Utrecht University (NL). In her studies she has become specialized in diversity, inclusion, student engagement and migration. She has worked as research assistant on two international research projects concerning the inclusion of refugees. Besides her academic affinity with these topics, she also has non-academic work experience in these fields. As former project manager of Work in Progress, she encouraged diversity and inclusion practices and student engagement at the Utrecht University. In this process she contributed to the emergence of a national academic alliance against racism consisting of students and junior researchers in The Netherlands. She has also been active as a project officer of ECHO- centre for diversity policy. As Humanity in
Action's John Lewis Fellow she is part of an international network of students, practitioners, scholars and activists who tackle equity related issues on a global scale.

Kaat Delrue, Head of Department Education Policy AT Arteveldehogeschool, Belgium, Kaat.Delrue@arteveldehs.be

Kaat Delrue graduated as a master in psychological en pedagogical sciences in 1992, worked for about 10 years as a researcher at Ghent University and began a career at Artevelde University of Applied Sciences, first as a lecturer, then as the co-ordinator of the bachelor in primary education and later as the director of the bachelor in primary education and the Advanced bachelors in education. Since February 2020 she is Head of the department of education policy at the Artevelde University of Applied Sciences Ghent. The Artevelde University of Applied Sciences has a lot of experience in research, development and valorisation. Since Covid-19, the department of education policy worked on a concept of good education in these peculiar circumstances. The concept is @home@campus where blended learning+ becomes the new normal. Students are welcome at the campus to learn together, to practice skills and other goals can be achieved while working or practicing at home. In these context the colleagues at the Artevelde University of Applied Sciences experience a good policy but still have many questions and uncertainties in the educational landscape and have a great need and demand for professional (digital) support.

Prof. Elsa Estevez, National University of the South, Argentina, ece@cs.uns.edu.ar

Elsa Estévez is the chairholder of the UNESCO Chair of Knowledge Societies and Digital Governance at the National University of the South; Independent Researcher at the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET), and Full Professor at the National University of La Plata, in Argentina. She is also a consultant for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on digital government, particularly in Latin America. Previously, she was Senior Academic Program Officer and Academic Program Officer at the United Nations University in Macao and Portugal; Visiting Professor at Gdansk University of Technology, Poland; University of Minho, Portugal; Universidad Nacional de Rio Negro, Argentina; and Head of Information Technology (IT) departments in large financial and pharmaceutical organizations in Argentina. She was a consultant for governments, gave training courses to public managers and policy makers, and organized events on digital government in more than 30 countries, mostly developing countries. His research interests cover the structuring of the information technology function in government, the digital transformation of relations between citizens and the government, and the impact of this transformation on the capacity of states and cities to contribute to development. sustainable. She has a PhD in Computer Science, a degree issued by the National University of the South.

Prof. Dámaso López García, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain, vr.internacional@ucm.es
Dámaso López García holds a B.A. in English Philology and a B.A in Spanish Literature, both by Universidad Complutense de Madrid. In 1996, he obtained his PhD with a dissertation on the literary criticism and the Bloomsbury Group.

Since 1993, he is Full Professor at the Department of Anglo-American Studies at the Faculty of Philology, Universidad Complutense de Madrid. His academic interests include English Literature History, the Enlightenment, 19th-century literature, Anglo-American Modernism, the history of the novel, and Comparative Literature. He has also shown a particular interest on Translation and Interpretation Studies with his work “Sobre la imposibilidad de la traducción” (1991), Literature Theory (“Ensayo sobre el autor” 1993), and Traveller’s Tales (“Cinco siglos de viajes por Santander y Cantabria” 2000). Likewise, he has translated, written prologues, editorials and provided notes to English and North American works by Lytton Strachey, R.L. Stevenson, Joseph Conrad, Virginia Woolf, T.S. Eliot and Mark Strand. He has published over a hundred essays and reviews on different aspects of Literary History and Comparative Literature.

Prof. Jan Madey, University of Warsaw, Poland, madey@mimuw.edu.pl

Jan Madey, M.Sc., Ph.D., D.Sc., professor emeritus of Computer Science at the University of Warsaw, a past Vice-Rector of this University. Member of the Polish General Committee of the Olympiad in Informatics. Chairman of the Board of the Polish Children’s Fund. President of EUNIS (European University Information Systems Organization), 2009-2015.

Author of many papers, reports and books on programming languages, operating systems, software engineering and computer science education. He spent over 10 years at some leading educational institutions in Western Europe and North America. Member of the ACM, IEEE, the Society for Software Engineering, the Polish Mathematical Society and an Honorary Member of the Polish Information Processing Society.

Since 1994 he has been coaching of the University of Warsaw student teams for the ACM ICPC (International Collegiate Programming Contest). Currently, he shares coaching duties with Prof. Krzysztof Diks. The University of Warsaw teams regularly advance to the world finals and won the world championship in 2003 (Beverly Hills, CA) and in 2007 (Tokyo). Prof. Madey is also the National Organizer of the European Union Contest for Young Scientists.

Susanna Niinistö-Sivuranta Director of Development University of Helsinki, Finland, susanna.niinistosivuranta@helsinki.fi

Susanna Niinistö-Sivuranta is the director of development in the University of Helsinki leading education development services, educational affairs and Open University. Further, she is responsible for university-wide services and educational planning of education, digital development of education, career services, admission services, student well-being services and internationalization of education.

Susanna has many years of experience as a teacher, developer and leader. She has been a vice rector of education and has been participating in many different kinds of national and international development and research projects. Her publications are related to development of higher education. She is a board member in several companies.
She thinks that as a leader it is important to support and inspire individual people as well as the teams to strive for challenging results. This is well supported by the field of expertise Susanna is having in communication in creative learning environments and higher education. She has the Ph.D. in education.
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Prof. Maurits Van Rooijen, Global University Systems, UK, maurits.vanrooijen@gus.global

Professor Maurits van Rooijen is Group Rector (CAO) of Global University Systems (GUS). In addition to this role, on 1st September, Maurits was appointed as Rector of the University of Applied Sciences Europe. Maurits is also Chairman of IBAT College Dublin and GISMA Germany. He studied and lectured at Utrecht University before joining the Erasmus University Rotterdam. In 1993 he moved to the University of Westminster, London from which he retired as Executive Vice President when he took up the position of Rector Magnificus and CEO of the Dutch ‘corporate leadership’ university, Nyenrode. In 2012 he joined forces with the entrepreneur Aaron Etingen and Global University Systems was created.

Maurits has held visiting and honorary appointments at universities around the world in his academic field (sustainable urbanisation) and has published widely on international education and on university management. He is actively involved in various international organisations including of course the EAN. He is the former President of the Compostela Group of Universities (2008-2016) and is the long serving co-chairman of the World Association for Co-operative and work Integrated learning (https://www.waceinc.org/). He holds various international awards such as the Constance Meldrum prize for Vision and Leadership (EAIE 2012) and the Emblema Ouro or Golden Insignia of the Universidad Santiago de Compostela (2014).

Prof. Debra Satterfield, California State University Long Beach, USA, deb.satterfield@csulb.edu

Debra Satterfield, Professor of Design, California State University Long Beach, has extensive research and publication in design for social inclusion, design for behavioral change and the design of educational learning experiences for children with cognitive and physical disabilities, and user participatory design for and with children with autism spectrum disorders. She has published work through the International Society for Autism Research (INSAR), the Design Research Society (DRS), the International Association of Societies of Design Research (IASDR), and Interaction Design and Children (IDC). She is a co-chair of the Human Side of Service Engineering (HSSE) organization. Her current work is on a grant-funded study examining the non-cognitive factors that influence time to graduation for university students. This work is conducted as part of a California initiative to improve 4-year graduation rates for students at state universities. Debra teaches in the BA in Design at CSULB and offers courses in inclusive UX.
Alessandra Scagliarini, University of Bologna, Italy, alessand.scagliarini@unibo.it

Alessandra Scagliarini is Full Professor at the Department of Specialist Medicine and Experimental Diagnostics and vice-rector of International Relations Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.

In 1996, she graduated in Veterinary Medicine at the University of Bologna, with marks 110 out of 110. In 2000, she obtained a PhD in Epidemiology and Zoonosis Control.

In 1997 she was visiting researcher at the Moredun Research Institute, Edimburgh-Scotland, in 1999 and 2005 at the Virus Research Unit, Department of Microbiology, Otago University, Dunedin-New Zealand, in 2003 at the Rega-Instituut, Virologie en chemoterapie Unit, Leuven-Belgium and in 2004 Imperial College of London (training in epidemiology of Infectious Diseases).

Since 1998 she has been working as a researcher at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine of the University of Bologna. From 2010 to 2014, she served as associate professor and from 2014 as a Full professor at the Department of Veterinary Medical Sciences of the University of Bologna. From May 2019 she moved to the Department of Specialist Medicine, Diagnostics and Experimental Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Bologna.

From 2000 she has held several teaching positions such as: Sustainable Development and Single Health, Infectious Diseases, Prophylaxis and Veterinary Police, Virology, practical training in Communicable Diseases - Biosecurity and Prevention of Zoonoses (Veterinary Medicine Curriculum), Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Prophylaxis of Communicable Diseases, Gene Delivery and Biomolecular Methods Applied to Transmissible Diseases (Animal Biotechnology Curriculum).

He has been teaching in the context of refresher courses, specialization and post-graduate specialization. He has served on international doctoral commissions at the College of Veterinary Medicine (Edimburgh, UK), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine Universiteit (Gent, Belgium), Faculty of Veterinary Medicine (Pretoria, South Africa).

In 2009, she took part in the work of the Technical Table Technological Districts, Technological Platforms and Infrastructures at the Ministry of University and Research (MIUR) and 2013, she was a member of the Study Commission for access to the courses at programmed number of MIUR. Since 2006 she has collaborated in the activities of the European Technological Platform on Global Animal Health (ETPGAH) and since 2007 she has been a member of the Promoting Committee of the national technology platform ITPGAH (Italian Technology Platform on Global Animal Health). Coordinator of several national research projects funded by the Ministry of Education, University and Research, Ministry of Health, Emilia Romagna Region and international projects funded by the EU. Between 2008 and 2012 she took part in the Gap Analysis working group and was leader of the expert group on poxvirus infections of animals and humans within the European project (FP7) DISCONTOOLS. From 2012 to 2015 she coordinated the European project FP7 (research for the benefit of SMEs) POC4PETS and is currently scientific responsible for the
multidisciplinary research group UNIBO in the Erasmus+ Capacity Building initiative called ELEPHANT (Empowering universities' Learning and rResearch caPacities in the oneHealth Approach for the maNagement of animals at the wildlife, livestock and human interface in SouTh Africa) coordinated by the University of Utrecht and involving six South African universities and several public and private associated partners. It is also involved in research projects related to One Health in collaboration with national and international research centers. Author of over 150 publications in national and international journals and presentations at national and international conferences.
Since February 2020 she joined the Board of the International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID). From November 2015 to date, she is the Pro-rector of International Relations at the University of Bologna. In her Vice Rector position, she is deeply involved in the activities of a number of international network working groups such as The Guild, Coimbra Group, Scholars at Risk (SAR) and International Association of Universities (IAU).
In 2019 she served as Chair of the Board of Directors of the European Alliance UNAEUROPA and is part of the Self Steering Committee of the 1EUROPE Project funded under the Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership in 2019. In the UNAEUROPA Alliance she coordinates the UNA-OH Working Group on Single Health. Since 2015 she is a member of the Board of the Magna Charta Observatory (MCO) http://www.magna-charta.org/about-us/governing-body. She actively participates in the work of several multi-stakeholder networks such as the University Coordination for Cooperation and Development (CUCS).

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Dr. habil. István Tarrósy, PhD in Political Science, is Associate Professor at the University of Pécs, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Director of the Africa Research Center, as well as of the Center for Internationalization. Invited professor in the International Security and Development MA Program at Jagiellonian University of Kraków. Former Fulbright Visiting Professor at CAS, University of Florida (2013-14). Currently, Bolyai Research Fellow and his research is supported by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. His major research areas are on Afro-Asian relations and the foreign policies of Central and Eastern European countries toward Sub-Saharan Africa. He is member of the Executive Committee of the Compostela Group of Universities and institutional coordinator of the European Digital UniverCity (EDUC) European Universities Initiative alliance.

Katja Urbatsch, Arbeiterkind.de, Germany, urbatsch@arbeiterkind.de

Katja Urbatsch is the Founder and Managing Director of "Arbeiterkind.de", a German nonprofit organization to support first generation university students. Urbatsch has studied at the Free University in Berlin, as well as, at Boston University, earning an interdisciplinary Master’s degree in North American Studies and Business, combined with Communications and Media Studies. She worked as a research assistant at the International Graduate Centre for the Study of Culture (GCSC) at the Justus Liebig University Giessen and founded ArbeiterKind.de in 2008. ArbeiterKind.de’s vision is that every talented child from a non-academic family should have the opportunity for educational
advancement. The 6,000 volunteers involved in 80 local city groups are mostly first generation students themselves. They encourage other talented youth through their own example.

In 2018 Katja Urbatsch received the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany for her work in strengthening equal opportunities in education. ArbeiterKind.de has received many awards, among them the German Involvement Award and the Ashoka Fellowship in 2009. Urbatsch represents Germany in the Executive Committee Executive of the European Access Network (EAN) since 2011.

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Luca Verzichelli is Professor of Political Science and Vice-Rector for International Affairs at the University of Siena. He is the author of 7 volumes and more than 40 articles in several international journals. His main research interests are Comparative political institutions and Political Elites in Europe and in comparative perspective. He has been recently involved in a big Cost Action on the Internationalization of European Political Science. He has been a member of the Executive Committee of the European Consortium of Political Research. He is currently a member of the Executive Board of the Coimbra Group of European Universities.