8th International Conference on Quality Assurance in Higher Education in Africa (ICQAHEA)

Hosted by The National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) and the University of Namibia (UNAM)
Universities in 2016: Open or Closed?

Sir John Daniel
First Moon Landing 1969
‘What a happy chance it is that we start on this task, in this very week when the Universe has opened. The limits not only of explorable space, but of human understanding, are infinitely wider than we have believed’

Inauguration of the Open University
1969
We are open as to places. This University has no cloisters - a word meaning closed.
Universities in 2016: Open or Closed?

Sir John Daniel
Open as to:

- People
- Places
- Methods
- Ideas
Universities in 2016: Open or Closed?

Sir John Daniel
The Left vs. Right Political Spectrum

Left Wing
- Anarchism
- Communism
- Socialism
- Liberalism

Right Wing
- Conservatism
- Monarchism
- Nazism
- Fascism

[Diagram showing a spectrum with red and blue dots, indicating positions on the political spectrum]
Africa’s fragile democracies

Since the end of the cold war, multi-party democracy has flourished. In many countries it is now at risk

Aug 20th 2016 | From the print edition
Political freedoms are not increasing
Ten Reasons to Look Forward to the Future

- Food
- Sanitation
- Life expectancy
- Poverty
- Violence
- The environment
- Literacy
- Freedom
- Equality
- The next generation
Education sustains Progress
Open as to:

- People
- Places
- Methods
- Ideas
M O O C
MOOCs began in Canada 2008

University of Manitoba

Connectivism & Connective Knowledge

25 students on campus
2,300 public - free
Course x6002 Circuits and Electronics

155,000 registrations
23,000 tried first test
9,000 passed mid-term
7157 passed = < 5%
A student of 14 MOOCs
My MOOCs

- The Mind is Flat (Warwick University)
- Talk the Talk (Open University)
- Start Writing Fiction (Open University)
- Challenging Wealth and Income Inequality (Open University)
- Childhood in the Digital Age (Open University)
- What is a Mind? (University of Cape Town)
- Empire: The Controversies of British Imperialism (Exeter U.)
- Logical and Critical Thinking (University of Auckland)
- Exploring English: Magna Carta (British Council)
- Basic Science: Understanding Numbers (Open University)
- Strategies for Successful Ageing (Trinity College Dublin)
- Mindfulness & Wellbeing for Peak Performance (Monash U)
- Cybersecurity (Open University)
- Ageing Well: Falls (Newcastle University)
Ageing Well: Falls

Explore why people fall, discover practical methods to reduce the risk of falling and recognise when to seek expert help.

Go to course – starts 5 Sep

Newcastle University

Future Learn
Course x6002 Circuits and Electronics

Ageing Well: Falls
Explore why people fall, discover practical methods to reduce the risk of falling and recognise when to seek expert help.

Go to course – starts 5 Sep
Meaning of every letter is negotiable!
Massive = Open to People

Open = Open to Places

Online = Open to Methods

Course = ????????
Course x6002 Circuits and Electronics

Not for Credit
What is higher education?
MOOCs are not in themselves the transformation of HE
If Harvard is going online it must be OK!
MOOCs are not in themselves the transformation of HE

But they have been the catalyst for that transformation