EADTU
CONFERENCE

THE ONLINE, OPEN AND FLEXIBLE HIGHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE

ENHANCING EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION;
“OPPORTUNITIES AND IMPACT OF NEW MODES OF TEACHING”

19-21 OCTOBER 2016

Blended Learning – What Blend?
Flexible Learning – How Flexible?

Sir John Daniel & Stamenka Uvalić-Trumbić
Blended Learning: What Blend?

Flexible Learning: How Flexible?
Are MOOCs the future of education?
From *Inside Higher Ed - USA*
Blended Learning: What Blend?

Flexible Learning: How Flexible?
Tony Bates

https://opentextbc.ca/teachinginadigitalage/
The Babson Reports
Online Learning in US HE 2003-2016
Babson definitions: % online

Online: 80%

Face to face: 29%

Blended (hybrid): 30%
What does the research say?

1. We should aim for hybrid learning, designing for optimum synergy between online learning and face-to-face teaching interventions.
What does the research say?

2. - Face-to-face teaching is not more effective than online learning. Bates' *Principle of Equal Substitution* suggests that we should now reverse current practice and treat online learning rather than classroom teaching as the default mode.
‘academically, most courses can be taught equally well online or face-to-face’
What does the research say?

3. Students engage more deeply with online learning and work harder than in classroom courses.
What does the research say?

4. The more independent study and work students do, the better they learn.
What does the research say?

5. The 21st century requires a blend of skills and knowledge. Interactive teaching is particularly important in helping students to develop certain skills in context and to grasp the academic knowledge underpinning their discipline.
Blended learning  
Flexible learning  

PEDAGOGY  
ADMINISTRATION
Flexibility has many dimensions…

For students:
- Easier access
- Choice of where to study
- More credentials
- More autonomy for scheduling lives
Flexibility has many dimensions…

For teachers:
- Greater range of pedagogies
- Free teaching resources
- Less ‘stand-up’ teaching
- Greater variety of assessment
Too rigid = break  Too flexible = collapse
Beware of too much flexibility in:

- Timing of study
- Variety of outcomes
- Unbundling
is asynchronous when to study?
a mechanism to motivate them to give some priority to their studies when to study?
Beware of too much flexibility in:

- Timing of study
- Variety of outcomes
- Unbundling
New Credentials

What’s a Micro Degree?

Nanodegrees
Industry credentials for today’s jobs in tech
what are OPEN BADGES?

Learning today happens everywhere. But it's often difficult to get recognition for skills and achievements that happen online or out of school. Mozilla Open Badges helps solve that problem, making it easy for any organization to issue, manage and display digital badges across the web.
Beware of too much flexibility in:

- Timing of study
- Variety of outcomes
- Unbundling
Face-to-face teaching (integrated process)
Face-to-face teaching (integrated process)

Online teaching (elements distinct)
Unbundling higher education

Programme design
Content development
Course delivery
Student support
Assessment
Credentialling
Happy world of choice…or…anarchy?
Will students want unbundling?

- Students want an institution they trust
Will students want unbundling?

- Students want an institution they trust
- Faculty like to know ‘their’ students
Will students want unbundling?

- Students want an institution they trust
- Faculty like to know ‘their’ students
- Institutions like to identify ‘their’ students
Rebundling higher education

Programme design
Content development
Course delivery
Student support
Assessment
Credentialling
In classroom education, the teacher teaches.

In distance education, the institution teaches.

Desmond Keegan
Central support functions for ODL

“any involvement of the central administration in the teaching functions tends to provoke resistance...”
Central support functions for ODL

“any involvement of the central administration in the teaching functions tends to provoke resistance…”

The answer: SUBSIDIARITY
Rebundling higher education

Programme design
Content development
Course delivery
Student support
Assessment
Credentialling

HELP STUDENTS RE-BUNDLE
Blended learning – what blend?

Flexible learning – how flexible?

What about unbundling?
We should aim for hybrid learning, designing for optimum synergy between online learning and face-to-face teaching interventions.
The Law of Equal Substitution
(Bates, 2015, p. 315)

‘academically, most courses can be taught equally well online or face-to-face’
Beware of too much flexibility in:

- Timing of study
- Variety of outcomes
- Unbundling
THANK YOU

Stamenka Uvalić-Trumbić

Sir John Daniel