Open Education for a Closing World

The post-World War II consensus that inspired the creation of UNESCO is breaking down. Countries are raising new barriers; multilateral institutions are struggling and this has been called the ‘post-truth’ era. Making education more open is a powerful antidote to these trends. Our speakers will discuss three facets of open education.

Former ADG/ED Sir John Daniel will explain the role and contribution of Open Educational Resources (OER). UNESCO coined the term OER in 2002 and the Paris Declaration, approved at its 2012 OER World Congress, urged governments to encourage the open licensing of educational materials produced with public funds.

This Declaration challenged UNESCO itself, which had previously issued its publications under copyright. Ian Denison, Chief of UNESCO’s Publishing and Branding Section, will describe how UNESCO introduced open licensing and reflect on the impact of this revolutionary change on the distribution and use of its publications.

OER have contributed to the steady growth of online learning, which now extends education to people everywhere. Mathieu Nebra’s and Pierre Dubuc’s commitment to educational technology began when they were just 13 and 11. They went on to co-found the extraordinarily successful French company, Open Classrooms, which now rides the crest of the wave of online education with 1,000 courses and over 2 million learner members.
Open Education for a Closing World
Cabinet members

France

Canada
Definition
"circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief."
Open as to:

• People
• Places
• Methods
• Ideas
In 2001 MIT put some 100 of its courses online for free and defined them as “. . . publicly available materials that are either a part of or a complete course usually from a higher-education institution such as a university or college.”
Declaration:

Participants expressed:

“their satisfaction and their wish to develop together a universal educational resource for the whole of humanity, to be referred to henceforth as Open Educational Resources”
OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES (OER)

educational materials that may be freely accessed, reused, modified and shared.
Caribbean

Latin America

Europe & North America

Asia-Pacific

Arab States

Africa

OER Consultations 2012
‘Governments can create substantial benefits for their citizens by ensuring that educational materials developed with public funds be made available under open licenses to maximize the impact of the investment’
‘a well-established properly regulated tertiary education system, supported by technology, *open educational resources* and distance education can increase access, equity, quality and relevance’
Massive Open Online Courses
Strategies for Successful Ageing

Find out how staying happy, healthy, socially-connected and active can help you age successfully, with this free online course.

MOOCS

Empire: the Controversies of British Imperialism

The British Empire continues to cause enormous disagreement among historians. Find out why and join the debate.

Go to course – started 21 Mar

Challenging Wealth and Income Inequality - The Open University
Online Learning
Thank you

Sir John Daniel

For text & slides:
www.sirjohn.ca