



## THE OBSERVATORY on Borderless Higher Education

The Observatory on Borderless Higher Education are delighted to invite you to  
**The Global Forum 2017**

### Ready or Not The Role of Online Learning in Higher Education

**11-12 December • One Drummond Gate, London**

Whatever you call it- online, digital, virtual, e-learning- it has been a rough ride. In the 1990's, champions imagined a near-future of dramatically better access to higher education, a wealth of online learning resources and plummeting costs. All over the world, students would be able to enrol at the best universities, and all but the top institutions would perish. Reality proved a bit more complicated.

Twenty years on, bricks-and-mortar universities are very much alive, and most international students still travel, but it is undeniable that online learning is growing in popularity. Internet access has surged, bandwidth exploded and smartphones are ubiquitous. MOOCs, adaptive learning and AI-based student advising are the latest examples of online education. A growing number of traditional universities are partnering with the private sector to launch online degrees.

## IS ONLINE HIGHER EDUCATION ABOUT TO REALISE ITS PROMISE?

**The OBHE's 2017 Global Forum will reassess the potential of online and blended learning in higher education, to meet the needs of domestic and international students.**

We will be drawing on The Observatory's unique series of country studies from around the world. In 2017, the Observatory assessed the state of online and blended higher education around the world, from the United States to India, and Mexico to China.

**This is your opportunity to find out what we have learnt from our 2017 online higher education country case studies and hear our take on whether, where and why online learning is ready for action.**

#### Speakers include:

- Simon Nelson, CEO, FutureLearn
- Mary Stiasny, Chief Executive, University of London International Programmes
- Duncan Bentley, DVC (Academic), Swinburne University of Technology
- Chris Ziguras, Professor and Deputy Dean at RMIT, Australia
- Paul Bacsich, Sero Consulting and Matic Media
- Josep Planell, Rector, Universitat Oberta Catalunya (UOC), Spain

Join us and engage with the latest data, learn from experience and consider new models and technologies.

To register or for more information:

[www.obhe.org](http://www.obhe.org)

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### DELEGATE FEEDBACK FROM RECENT OBSERVATORY GLOBAL FORUMS:

*"Such a stimulating, thought-provoking event"*

*"The talks were of a uniformly high quality and kept me engaged from beginning to end"*

*"Observatory conferences are distinctive in terms of the thought which goes into the programme, the calibre of the contributions, and the quality of debate and insight generated"*

*"We are living through some interesting times in global higher education, and it is important for all of us to be able to share thoughts in such a useful forum"*

*"The opportunities for appropriate networking at a senior level were excellent"*



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