Introduction to the day and methodology

Expert presentations, theme workshops

Digital Credentials Master Class Bled, Slovenia
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Forecasting activity to identify the potential impacts of modularization of Higher Education in 5-7 years timeframe – Micro-credential perspective

**Theme 1 (Thursday)**

*Technology powering the future of micro-credentials*

Min. 5 impact statements generated by each group

**Theme 2 (Thursday)**

*Micro-Credentials in the Future European Policy Landscape*

Min. 5 impact statements generated by each group

**Theme 3 (Friday)**

*Impact of Micro-Credentials on Institutional Processes and Governance*

Min. 5 impact statements generated by each group

**Theme 4 (Friday)**

*Impact of micro-credentials on new learner paradigms*

Min. 5 impact statements generated by each group

**Ranking of impact statements**

(Friday)
Overall question that is addressed in the themes
“How will further modularisation of education impact Higher Education Institutions in five to seven years from now?”

In the workshop, we limit the scope of microcredentials in breaking down a degree:
The higher education student has the flexibility to combine credentials from different sources to form a degree

Workshop Structure & Guidelines

Workshop

Session 1 & 2: Thursday (Themes 1,2)
Session 3 & 4: Friday (Themes 3,4)

For each session
- 30 minutes for presentations
- 1 hour workshop with 4 parallel groups
  - 40 minutes for brainstorming
  - 20 minutes for writing statements
Followed by Ranking exercises
Relation of the theme sessions

Technology as a driver?

Micro-credentials
Themes 1-4

Policy initiatives as a driver?

Factors that facilitate change
Themes 3-4

Institutional practices:
- .....?
- .....?

New learner paradigms:
- .....?
- .....?

Theme 1
Facilitates adoption

Theme 2
Facilitates adoption

Theme 3
Impact on

Theme 4
Impact on
**Theme 1: Technology powering the future of micro-credentials**

The discussion will focus on the principles that technology (such as Blockchain, open badges, artificial intelligence) can enable for microcredentials.

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**STEP 1:**

Identify a technology that can support adoption of microcredentials for HE (such as blockchain): 1 post-it note

**STEP 2:**

Identify a related technological principle that can facilitate adoption of microcredentials (Such as immutability enables forge-proof credentials): 1 post-it note

Repeat 3 times to identify multiple impacts
Theme 2: MicroCredentials in the Future European Policy Landscape

It will focus on the impact of European policy initiatives, such as Digital Education Plan, Bologna Digital, Single Labour Market on adoption of microcredentials in HE

STEP 1:
Identify a policy initiative/activity that can influence microcredential adoption (such as Europass): 1 post-it note

STEP 2:
How can the policy initiative/activity facilitate microcredential adoption (such as creating common standards for recognition of microcredentials): 1 post-it note

Repeat 3 times to identify multiple impacts
Theme 3: Impact of Micro-Credentials on Institutional Processes and Governance

The discussion will focus on The university of the future via micro-credentials. Stackability of micro-credentials, unbundling, ultra-mobile digital students.

STEP 1:
Identify an impact of microcredentials on institutional processes and governance in 5-7 years time (such as unbundling the degree into smaller units): 1 post-it note

STEP 2:
Identify a factor that can facilitate that change/make the impact reality (such as stackable credentials): 1 post-it note

Repeat 3 times to identify multiple impacts
Theme 4: Impact of micro-credentials on new learner paradigms

The discussion will focus on Lifelong Learning through Micro-credentials: impacts on education funding, lifelong learning etc. Europass and LLL passports, skills matching for labour market.

STEP 1:
Identify an impact of microcredentials on new learner paradigms in 5-7 years time (such as flexibility in choosing what they study): 1 post-it note

STEP 2:
Identify a factor that can facilitate that change/make the impact reality (such as adaptable curriculum): 1 post-it note

Repeat 3 times to identify multiple impacts
Future Statements as a forecasting method

Each group generates a fixed number of impact statements (5-7 years timeframe) in each session

How Statement is Formulated

For Themes 1-2 (Facilitating adoption of microcredentials)

e.g.: _______ (policy initiative or technology) enables adoption of microcredentials in HE via_____

Sample Statement: Blockchain technology enables adoption of microcredentials in HE because it offers forge-proof credentials via immutability

For Themes 3-4 (Impact and impact enabler)

Should be a statement that addresses the question of ‘what is the impact’ and ‘how’ the impact is enabled

e.g.: _______ (facilitating condition) enables the impact of Microcredentials on _______

Sample Statement: Stackability of credentials enables the impact of microcredentials on unbundling of a degree into smaller units

How Statements should not be Formulated

Statements should not be conditional (without the use of ‘if’, ‘or’)

The overall objective is to answer the question

“How will further modularisation of education impact Higher Education Institutions in five to seven years from now?”
Follow-up activities for you to participate on

- **Stage 1:** Masterclass Workshop
- **Stage 2:** Impact statement adjustment
- **Stage 3:** Impact statement adjustment V2
- **Stage 4:** Futures Workshop & Result Compilation
- **Identification of the experts**
- **Online Questionnaire**
- **Future scenarios to inform policy initiatives**

Your participation to each step is critical. Contact the session moderators for information.
Thank You