INFO5992 Introduction to IT Innovations
Week 2

Tutorial 2: Importance of IT innovations in the Education sector

In the lecture (week 2), we discussed several innovative IT solutions that are reshaping the education and training sector. We will further investigate these solutions and focus on two enabling technologies: Massive open online courses (MOOCs) and Personalised Learning Plan (PLP).

Form a group and read the selected short articles below and then *search for other relevant information*:

[Short article] Adam Gordon, 'MicroMasters' Surge As MOOCs Go From Education To Qualification, 2018, https://www.forbes.com/sites/adamgordon/2018/02/13/voice-of-employers-rings-out-as-moocs-go-from-education-to-qualification/#e7fdd1f564b6

[Short article] C. Newton, "Inside Facebook's plan to build a better school", The Verge, https://www.theverge.com/2015/9/3/9252845/facebook-education-software-plp-summit

Discuss the following points:

a) Identify the key enabling IT solutions, common across all the articles, (software, hardware, etc.) that are used in the education and the training sector.

b) Discuss the evolution of the education industry due to the introduction of MOOCs. You may apply 'Innovation System' concept, where you consider all the stakeholders involved in innovation, into your discussion.

c) Following from b., Micromasters is a new program three-way arrangement between educator, student and employer. What is the innovation in this new program, and how does it differentiate itself? Why is such a model only available via MOOCS?

d) Now look at the PLP. Similarly, identify the key enabling IT innovations for PLP, and how the technologies are used to enable a different style of learning.

e) **[Optional/Homework]** Peer-assessment for MOOCs is an area which needs further development – what are its challenges and emerging/existing solutions?

Towards the end of the class, a member of the group will present the group's findings. Summary of the discussion will be available after the tutorial.

Readings before the class: You are encouraged to read the papers below.

- C. Kulkarni et al., "Peer and Self Assessment in Massive Online Classes", Design Thinking Research, Part of the series Understanding Innovation, pp 131-168, 2014
  http://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007%2F978-3-319-06823-7_9

- S. Manca, and M. Ranieri, "Is Facebook still a suitable technology-enhanced learning environment? An updated critical review of the literature from 2012 to 2015", *Journal of Computer Assisted Learning*, 2016.
  http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jcal.12154/full

- T. Keane et al., "Beyond traditional literacy: Learning and transformative practices using ICT, Education and Information Technologies", 21(4), pp 769–781, 2016
  https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10639-014-9353-5