

August 9, 2017

To: Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Chief Executives of OERu partners.

### **Invitation: 5th meeting of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers**

[Contact North | Contact Nord](#) is pleased to host the **5th meeting of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers** to coincide with the [World Conference on Online Learning](#), the 27th International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) World Conference, in Toronto, Canada. See: [www.onlinelearning2017.ca](http://www.onlinelearning2017.ca) for more information.

The [OER universitas](#) (OERu) is an international consortium of “like-minded” institutions from six major regions of the world who through their community service agendas, are widening access to more affordable education opportunities for learners excluded from the formal sector using open education approaches. The OERu shows considerable potential for new [business models](#) associated with disaggregated services, micro Open Online Courses and micro credentials.

The OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers was established in 2013 and functions as an assembly of senior leaders called together for consultation, deliberation and discussion on strategic OERu futures. This is an important meeting to discuss implementation plans for the [OERu 1st year of study](#).

We are writing today to extend a formal invitation to the Vice Chancellors, Presidents and Chief Executive Officers of the OERu partners (or their senior leader nominees) to attend the **5th meeting of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers** at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel, Toronto, Canada on the morning of 16 October 2017.

The meeting of Chief Executives will follow the 2017 annual OERu international partner’s meeting on October 12 and 13, 2017. The current Chair of Council, Alan Davis will facilitate the meeting. During the meeting we will:

- Evaluate progress with the implementation of the **OERu 1st year of study**
- Review recommendations and decision proposals from the 6th meeting of OERu partners
- Review operational targets for 2018
- Discuss strategic directions for the OERu network.

We have published a website for the OERu 2017 meetings which provides further information: [meetings.oeru.org](http://meetings.oeru.org).

Please RSVP by completing the online registration form (<https://oer.nz/1m>) by **September 8, 2017**, or by sending an email directly to Wayne Mackintosh, Director of the OER Foundation and UNESCO- ICDE Chair in OER, [wayne@oerfoundation.org](mailto:wayne@oerfoundation.org).

We look forward to welcoming you personally to Toronto for the first series of OERu meetings to be hosted in Ontario.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maxim Jean-Louis", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Maxim Jean-Louis  
President - Chief Executive Officer, Contact North | Contact Nord  
Chair, World Conference on Online Learning

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Davis", written in a cursive style.

Alan Davis  
Chair of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers  
President and Vice-Chancellor  
Kwantlen Polytechnic University

## Annexure A OERu International Partners (August 2017)



The [OERu](#) is an international innovation partnership of universities, polytechnics, community colleges and non-teaching agencies who are widening access to more affordable education opportunities for all students worldwide using open education approaches. The OERu is also an official project of the UNESCO / COL / ICDE OER chair network. The OERu philanthropic network draws its strength from our international diversity with partner institutions from five global regions.

### Africa

- [University of South Africa](#) (South Africa)
- [National Open University of Nigeria](#) (Nigeria)
- [North-West University](#) (South Africa)

### Europe

- [Institute of Technology Sligo](#) (Ireland)
- [The Open University](#) (United Kingdom)
- [University of South Wales](#) (United Kingdom)
- [University of the Highlands and Islands](#) (United Kingdom)

### Middle East

- [Hamdan Bin Mohammed Smart University](#) (United Arab Emirates)

### North America

- [Athabasca University](#) (Canada)
- [BCcampus](#) (Non teaching partner – Canada)
- [Contact North | Contact Nord](#) (Non teaching partner – Canada)
- [eCampusOntario](#) (Non teaching partner – Canada)
- [Kwantlen Polytechnic University](#) (Canada)
- [Thompson Rivers University](#) (Canada)
- [Thomas Edison State University](#) (USA)

### Oceania

- [Ako Aotearoa](#) (Non teaching partner – New Zealand)
- [Charles Sturt University](#) (Australia)
- [Curtin University](#) (Australia)
- [NorthTec](#) (New Zealand)
- [OER Foundation](#) (Non teaching partner - New Zealand)
- [Otago Polytechnic](#) (New Zealand)
- [Swinburne University of Technology](#) (Australia)
- [University of Canberra](#) (Australia)
- [University of Southern Queensland](#) (Australia)
- [University of the South Pacific](#) (Regional University - 12 Pacific Island States)
- [University of Tasmania](#) (Australia)
- [University of Wollongong](#) (Australia)



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New Zealand



## Annexure B Schedule of OERu 2017 meetings and events



1. OERu Open planning consultation	
<b>When</b>	September 2017 (Dates to be confirmed)
<b>Where</b>	Online virtual meeting
<b>Who</b>	Open community, interested people and staff from OERu anchor partners
<b>Purpose</b>	Discussions to inform the meeting agenda and prepare inputs for the 6 <sup>th</sup> international meeting of OERu partners.
<b>Host</b>	OER Foundation

2. 6 <sup>th</sup> International meeting of OERu partners	
<b>When</b>	12 and 13 October 2017 (All day meetings)
<b>Where</b>	Chang School of Continuing Education, Ryerson University, Toronto
<b>Who</b>	Staff, Managers, Chief Executives from OERu partner institutions and observers
<b>Purpose</b>	To discuss strategy and implementation of the OERu 1 <sup>st</sup> year of study.
<b>Host</b>	eCampusOntario
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://meetings.oeru.org/">http://meetings.oeru.org/</a>

4. 5th meeting of the OERu Council of Chief Executive Officers	
<b>When</b>	16 October 2017 (9:00am to 2:00pm)
<b>Where</b>	Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel, ICDE World Conference on Online Learning
<b>Who</b>	Vice Chancellors, Presidents and Chief Executives of OERu partners (or senior leader nominees).
<b>Purpose</b>	Review outputs of the partners meeting and consider decisions for the OERu 1 <sup>st</sup> year of study.
<b>Host</b>	Contact North   Contact Nord. Meeting facilitated by Alan Davis, President and Vice-Chancellor of Kwantlen Polytechnic University, Chair of Council.
<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://meetings.oeru.org/">http://meetings.oeru.org/</a>