My dear IACEE Colleagues:

Hope you all are doing well and staying safe. Maybe you are still working from home like me, maybe you are able to visit your workplace a couple of days a week. Regardless, we are still not out of danger and should all follow our local guidelines.

In this rather unusual year, the IACEE Council met virtually on August 26th for its annual meeting. Above you will find one of the many screenshots I took. The in-person meeting has its own charm; a virtual meeting, while not bringing it in its entirety, can at least provide some way of seeing each other and strengthens the bonds amongst us. We planned for the next year of IACEE activities and hoped that soon we would have an opportunity to see each other.

I thought I’d end my note to you with a personal thought. In these often-monotonous months of working from home, I have understood, there is a silver lining! I am taking the advantage of “virtually attending” a number of events without travel costs. In the recent past, I have never attended so many events and learned so much in this short time. So, I am calling this year: The Year of Learning!

Stay well, my friends. Until next time…

Soma Chakrabarti, PhD
IACEE President
The Future of Continuing Engineering Education in the Era of Digitalization and Personalization

IACEE members presented a workshop with the SEFI Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning Special Interest Group

Dr. Soma Chakrabarti, ANSYS, Inc., Education Division, Cambridge, United Kingdom
Dr. Patricia Caratozzolo, Tecnologico de Monterrey, Santa Fe, Mexico
Dr. Ellen Sjoer, The Hague University of Applied Sciences, The Hague, The Netherlands
Dr. Bente Norgaard, Aalborg Centre for Problem-Based Learning in Engineering, Science & Sustainability, Aalborg, Denmark

We asked these questions to ourselves at the workshop:
• What knowledge and skills will the industry need in the post-pandemic world?
• Will it radically change from the pre-pandemic need?
• Will the industry change so rapidly over the next few years that the engineers will need to reskill and upskill themselves continuously?
• Will academia be able to prepare the students for a life of continuous learning?

The outcomes, as given below, will be used to write a position paper, and will be further discussed at the World Conference for Continuing Engineering Education next year (see page 4 for more information):
• continued emphasis of newer technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Robotic Process Automation, Blockchain and Simulation-Based Product, Service and Operations Design in undergraduate, graduate, and professional engineering education curricula
• role of the educator as a facilitator for the students so that they continue in “learning to learn” for the future of work.
An Incredible Learning Opportunity for Our IACEE Colleagues Through Four Webinars at No Cost

The topics are relevant and timely for all Higher Education professionals as we grapple with significant change and the many challenges impacting the sector both as a result of the global pandemic and the underlying transition to industry 4.0.

Registration Link: https://www.cahootlearning.com/webinars/connected_cse/index.html

**Global and emerging trends in Higher Education**

Excited at the prospect of radical reform in Higher Education? Join this informal panel discussion with leading thinkers and practitioners as we consider the global and emerging trends in Higher Education, their severity and impact.

*Presenter(s):* Paul Marca, Professor Claire Macken, Warren Kennard, Nelson Baker, Michelle Westfort

**Zero-to-one in Higher Education**

Prepare yourself for a radical thought experiment in discovering what the possibilities of a zero to one shift (Peter Thiel) in Higher Education could bring. Join an exciting panel discussion together with brilliant minds from the sector.

*Presenter(s):* Akiba Covitz, Seema Mishra, Stephen Endersby, Ryan Craig, Rob Westervelt

**Inside OPM and OPX**

Partnerships in Higher Education, such as Online Program Management (OPM) are arguably more prevalent today than ever before.

Join the conversation about the role (and benefit) of the OPM and the emergence of an new category defined as OPX.

*Presenter(s):* Warren Kennard, Patrick Brothers, Whitney Kilgore, Ryan O'Hare

**Leading Higher Education**

We need bold leaders in Higher Education. The impact of the 4th Industrial Revolution together with the accelerant of a pandemic have made the role of leading Higher Education deeply complex.

Our panel will seek to unpack the qualities and attributes needed by current and emerging leaders, the challenges they face and what can be done to support them.

*Presenter(s):* Beverley Oliver, Joe Sallustio, Terri Givens, Marybeth Gasman, Yvonne Breyer

Registration Link: https://www.cahootlearning.com/webinars/connected_cse/index.html
Along with so many other conferences and events scheduled over the next year, the IACEE World Conference has been re-formatted as a fully online conference. We will certainly miss the opportunity to visit the lovely city of Trondheim, Norway and, even more, to connect with so many of you in person. However, we are confident that the virtual conference will still be a valuable time of networking and connection, with highly relevant topics and inspiring speakers.

If you were originally going to be unable to travel to attend the conference, we encourage you to save the dates for the virtual conference now! 25-28 May 2021 will be a time of learning and connecting, and we hope to “meet” you there.

The 2021 conference will focus on “The Future of Work and Learning”, and will particularly address innovation, sustainability, and inclusion.

Some of our keynote speakers include Dr. Carol O’Donnell, Michael Fors, and Berit Svendsen.

Special thank you to our 2021 World Conference Diamond Sponsors: