

International Conference 2026

**ADVANCING EXCELLENCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT:
TOWARD AI-DRIVEN PRACTICE AND INNOVATION**

SEAMEO RETRAC, October 14-15, 2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 14, 2026

08:00 – 08:30	REGISTRATION
08:30 – 09:15	OPENING CEREMONY ❖ Introduction of Delegates and Opening Ceremony Agenda ❖ Welcome Remarks ▪ Ms. Le Thi Thuy Duong Director, SEAMEO Regional Training Center (SEAMEO RETRAC), Vietnam ▪ Dr. Randall Martin Executive Director, British Columbia Council for International Education (BCCIE), Canada ▪ Ms. Karen Dalkie Vice President, Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), Canada Group photo
09:15 – 10:00	Keynote Speech (<i>International Hall</i>) AI Adoption in Higher Education Dr. Justin Williams, Associate Vice President, British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada Moderator: Dr. Jeff Zabudsky, President, British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada Q&A
10:00 – 10:15	Refreshment

WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 14, 2026

10:15 – 11:15

Plenary Session 1

EDUCATIONAL POLICY, LEADERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Moderator: **Ms. Karen Dalkie**, Vice President, Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), Canada

1. **Artificial Leadership: Thinking about AI in Institutional Administration**
Dr. Ralf St. Clair, University of Victoria, Canada
2. **The Employability Paradox: Artificial Intelligence's Effect on Critical Thinking and Cross-Cultural Competencies**
Dr. Dennis C McCornac, Georgetown University, Qatar
3. **From Knowing to Doing: Design Principles for Simulation-Based Learning Across Feedback Paradigms**
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Huy Pham, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Vietnam
4. **Closing the Loop: AI-Driven Leadership Across the Global Student-to-Talent Pipeline**
Prof. Dr. Natalya Bürkle, Schiller International University, Germany

Q&A

11:15 – 12:00

Plenary Session 2

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND ACCREDITATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Moderator: **Dr. Pengchi Zhang**, Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore

1. **From Data to Quality: An AI-Enabled Internal Quality Assurance Framework for Evidence-Based Leadership in Higher Education**
Ms. Ngo Dinh Hoang Diem, Lac Hong University, Vietnam
2. **Leading Research Transformation in the AI Era: Reframing STEM Innovation for Equity, Cultural Diversity, Sustainability and Regional Impact**
Dr. Rusmawati Othman, SEAMEO RECSAM, Malaysia
3. **Data-Driven Internal Quality Assurance Management in Higher Education: A Case Study of Can Tho University**
Ms. Nguyen Thi Phuong Thao, Can Tho University, Vietnam

Q&A

12:00 – 13:30

Lunch Break

WEDNESDAY – OCTOBER 14, 2026

13:30 – 14:15

Keynote Speech (International Hall)

The GEDI Paradox: Navigating Interdisciplinary Curriculum and Automated Bias in the AI Age

Dr. Lai Suat Yan, Coordinator, Master of Gender Studies Program, Universiti Malaya (UM), Malaysia

Moderator: Dr. Hubert Benitez, President, Saint Peter's University, USA

Q&A

14:15 – 15:15

Plenary Session 3

TEACHING, LEARNING & INCLUSION IN THE AI AND DIGITALIZATION ERA

Moderator: Dr. Dennis C. McCornac, Georgetown University, Qatar

- The Three-Phase Case Sequence: Integrating AI and Inclusive Pedagogy**
Dr. Jane Ali, Canada
- Designing AI-Enhanced Experiential Learning in Applied Science Education: A Multi-Disciplinary Study**
Dr. Pengchi Zhang, School of Applied Science, Temasek Polytechnic, Singapore
- Rethinking Technology Education in the AI Era: Human Agency, Ethical Judgment, and Curriculum Transformation**
Dr. Choon-Sig Lee, Gyeongin National University of Education, Republic of Korea
- Designing AI for Critical Thinking: A Question-Based Agent for Personalized Learning in Higher Education**
Dr. Hanh Pho, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Vietnam

Q&A

15:15 – 15:30

Refreshment

15:30 – 16:30

Plenary Session 4

TEACHING, LEARNING & INCLUSION IN THE AI AND DIGITALIZATION ERA (Cont')

Moderator: Ms. Jamilah Kadir, Director, SEAMEO SEN, Malaysia

- AI as a Cognitive Partner: Exploring the Impact of Generative AI Dependence on Divergent Thinking Among University Students**
Prof. Dr. Binu Thomas, Department of Computer Applications (Aided), Marian College Kuttikkanam (Autonomous), Kerala, India
- From AI Detection to Inquiry Governance: The ALPE Framework for Quality Assurance in AI-Mediated Higher Education**
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Franklin Garvida, José Rizal University, Philippines
- ChatGPT Feedback Literacy, Feedback Engagement, and Perceived Writing Improvement among First-Year English Majors at Vinh Long University of Technology Education**
Mr. Pham Minh Trung, Vinh Long University of Technology Education, Vietnam
- Herbarium Digitisation Database Development as a Teaching and Learning Tools: The Case of Herbarium SEAMEO BIOTROP (BIOT)**
Prof. Dr. Edi Santosa, SEAMEO BIOTROP, Indonesia

Q&A

END OF DAY 1

THURSDAY – OCTOBER 15, 2026

08:30 – 09:15	Keynote Speech (<i>International Hall</i>) Human-Led, AI-Enhanced: Transformational Higher Education Leadership and Management Through Applied and Responsible AI Dr. Airini, President & Vice-Chancellor, Thompson Rivers University, Canada Moderator: Dr. Randall Martin, Executive Director, British Columbia Council for International Education (BCCIE), Canada Q&A
09:15 – 10:15	Plenary Session 5 LEADERSHIP AND TRANSFORMATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION Moderator: Dr. Rusmawati Othman, Deputy Director, Training and Research, SEAMEO RECSAM, Malaysia AI Will Change How Universities Operate, Leaders Must Decide What Cannot Change: Keeping Mission at the Center of AI Ethical Transformation <i>Dr. Hubert Benitez, Saint Peter's University, USA</i> Enduring Partnerships through the Human Factor <i>Dr. Raynie Wood, ABIE, Canada</i> Leadership in an AI-World – What Leadership Choices Do We Need to Make Because of AI, Transnational Education, and Lifelong Learning <i>Ms. Mariam Riza, Instructure (maker of Canvas & Parchment)</i> Leveraging AI-Integrated Robotics to Transform Higher Education Leadership and Workforce Readiness <i>Mr. Andy Lee, Innovation First International, Hong Kong</i> Q&A
10:15 – 10:30	Refreshment
10:30 – 11:30	Plenary Session 6 FROM LEADERSHIP & FACULTY READINESS TO TEACHING PRACTICES Moderator: Dr. Chelsey Laird, Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE), Canada Blended Thinking Intelligence to Enhance Faculty readiness for Skillful Purposeful Thinking in AI era <i>Dr. Raymond Tsoi, TSOI-BTI Consulting, Singapore</i> Generative AI-Enhanced Role Play for Interactive and Authentic Learning in Higher Education <i>Dr. Thanh Pham, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Vietnam</i> Leadership Practices and the Implementation of English Medium Instruction in Taiwanese Higher Education: A Qualitative Case Study <i>Mr. Chun-Wen Kung, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan</i> How University Lecturers Adapt to Students' Use of Generative AI: Pedagogical, Ethical, and Supervisory Responses <i>Ms. Cahya Kusuma Ratih, SEAMEO SEAMOLEC, Indonesia</i> Q&A
11:30 – 13:30	Lunch Break

THURSDAY - OCTOBER 15, 2026

14:00 – 14:45

Plenary Session 7

FROM LEADERSHIP & FACULTY READINESS TO TEACHING PRACTICES (Cont')

Moderator: Dr. Raymond Tsoi, TSOI-BTI Consulting, Singapore

- AI as a Strategic Sector: Language for Specific Purposes as Infrastructure for Talent Development**
Dr. Jennifer MacDonald, Languages Canada, Canada
- A Proposed Management Model for Digital Competence Development of University Academics in the Artificial Intelligence Era**
Ms. Nguyen Tran Huynh Mai, Can Tho University, Vietnam
- Deliberate AI-Assisted Programming: A Five Stage Classroom Workflow and Platform for First Year Computing**
Mr. Thong Huynh, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Vietnam

Q&A

14:45 – 15:00

Refreshment

15:00 – 15:45

Plenary Session 8

CURRICULUM DESIGN & LEARNING ASSESSMENT WITH EMERGING, INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Moderator: Dr. Jane Ali, Canada

- Measuring Learning in the AI Era: Rethinking Authentic Assessment for Higher Education**
Dr. Nguyen Thi Van Anh, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Vietnam
- Generative AI Adoption on Workplace Productivity: The Mediating Role of AI-Induced Metacognitive Laziness**
Asst. Prof. Norliza M. Nordan, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, Philippines
- From Safety Culture to AI Readiness: Adapting Aviation's Operational Practices for Faculty AI Governance in Higher Education**
Ms. Nguyen Thuy Hang, Vietnam Aerospace University, Vietnam

Q&A

15:45 – 16:15

CLOSING CEREMONY