

## PLE-PhD Project Workshop

on

# Doctoral education and e-Supervision

*Thursday 31 October, 2013, Barcelona*

### Purpose

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Since 2011 the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP) and the International Association of Universities (IAU) are joining forces in the area of doctoral education, bringing together two projects: [Project on Innovative Approaches to Doctoral Education in Africa](#), led by IAU and the [African-Spanish Higher Education Management Platform](#), led by ACUP. One of the main outcomes of this collaboration is the development of the joint IDEA platform ([www.idea-phd.net](http://www.idea-phd.net)) on innovative approaches to doctoral education.

The above mentioned projects led to the identification of supervision of doctoral students as one of the key challenges African higher education institutions are facing. In the recently initiated Personal Learning Environment (PLE)-PhD project (<http://plephd.blogs.uoc.edu>) financed through the IAU LEADHER programme, the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), Kenyatta University (KU) and the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP) are looking into how digital technologies, more specifically the web 2.0 tools, can respond to this challenge.

In order to present and debate the project outcomes, create a community and network of experts as well as sharing experiences and practices and exploring new avenues for cooperation, UOC, KU, ACUP and IAU are co-organizing this one-day workshop on e-supervision.

### The seminar intends to

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- Present and discuss the importance and pertinence of e-supervision and the academic challenges and opportunities involved;
- Analyse the use of *Personal Learning Environments for Doctoral Students* (PLEDS) as new models of effective e-supervision;
- Share concrete experiences and practice in the field of e-supervision: how does it work; what are the basic principles that should guide e-supervision; what are the challenges (advantages and opportunities or difficulties);
- Identify the institutional actors to involve (programme designers, professors, students, administrators);
- Debate challenges and possible solutions to develop successful e-supervision;
- Etc.

## Organizers

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Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP), International Association of Universities (IAU), Kenyatta University (KU), Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)

## Host and venue

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Sala W. Mitchell de l'Edifici MediaTIC (Universitat Oberta de Catalunya); Roc Boronat, 117; 08018 Barcelona

## Language

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The seminar will be conducted in English.

## Programme

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### Thursday, 31 October 2013

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| 8h30  | <b>Registration</b>  |
| 9h00  | <b>Opening Session</b><br><br><i>Jaume Casals, Vice-Chancellor, Universitat Pompeu Fabra in representation of the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP)</i><br><br><i>Olive Mugenda, Vice-Chancellor, Kenyatta University (KU), Kenya</i><br><br><i>Marta Aymerich, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)</i><br><br><i>Hilligje van't Land, Director, Membership and Programme Development, IAU</i> |
| 9h30  | <b>Introduction</b><br><br><i>e-supervision: framing the debate</i><br><br><i>Ismael Peña-López, lecturer and researcher, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)</i>  |
| 10h00 | <b>Keynote speech</b><br><br><i>e-supervision to support the development of doctoral studies in Africa</i><br><br><i>Olive Mugenda, Vice-Chancellor, Kenyatta University (KU), Kenya</i>   |
| 10h45 | <b>Networking break</b>  |

11h00

Session I

***Innovative tools enabling e-supervision***

**Miquel Solà**, *Director Graduate School, Universitat de Girona (UdG)*

**Xavier Gabarell**, *Secretary, Graduate School, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)*

**Chrissie Boughey** and **Sioux McKenna**, *Rhodes University, South Africa*

**Oskar Casquero**, *Universidad del País Vasco, Spain*

12h30

Session II – Round Table Discussion

***From theory to practice: models, experiences, opportunities and challenges of e-supervision***

***Panelists***

**Francesc Balagué**, *Co-founder of Wonference, Spain*

**Miquel Duran**, *Universitat de Girona (UdG), Spain*

**Ricardo Torres Kompen**, *PLE- consultant, Spain*

**Ricard Espelt**, *PhD student, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), Spain*

***Discussion***

14h00

Lunch Break

15h30

Session III - Round Table Discussion

***How can e-supervision contribute to improve doctoral education in Africa***

***Panelists***

**Paul Okemo**, *Dean of Graduate School, Kenyatta University (KU), Kenya*

**Ousmane Thiaré**, *IT Specialist, Professor, Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis, Senegal*

**Chrissie Boughey** and **Sioux McKenna**, *Rhodes University, South Africa*

**Itir Akdogan**, *Social Research/Media and Communication Studies, Helsinki University (via videoconference)*

***Discussion***

16h30

Concluding Session

**Olive Mugenda**, *Vice-Chancellor, Kenyatta University (KU), Kenya*

**Hilligje van't Land**, *Director, Membership and Programme Development, IAU*

**Magi Almirall**, *Director Learning Technologies, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)*

**Josep M. Vilalta**, *Executive Secretary, Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP)*

17h30

**Closing ceremony and Reception**

**Workshop moderator: Ismael Peña-López**, *lecturer and researcher, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)*