Members of the International Programme Committee are experienced scientists, scholars, researchers in the area of ICT and distance learning from more than ten European and other countries.

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Maciej Tanaś
Dragoman National Pedagogical University in Kyiv, Ukraine

The topics of the conference include:

1. Effective development of teachers’ skills in the area of ICT and e-learning:
   - Computer training for prospective and practising teachers in the area of ICT and e-learning.
   - Teachers’ and learners’ competences in distance learning and computer science.
   - Distance Learning and Lifelong Learning.
   - Self-learning based on Internet technologies.

2. E-learning and Inter-cultural Competences Development in Different Countries:
   - Legal, social, human, scientific, technical aspects of distance learning and e-learning in different countries.
   - Psychological and ethical aspects of distance learning and e-learning in different countries.
   - Collaborative learning in e-learning.

3. E-learning Methodology – Implementation and Evaluation:
   - European and national standards of e-learning quality evaluation.
   - Evaluation of synchronous and asynchronous learning and teaching methodology and good examples.
   - MOOC – methodology of design, conducting, implementation and evaluation.
   - Contemporary trends in world education – globalization, internationalization, mobility.

4. ICT Tools – Effective Use in Education:
   - Selected Web 2.0 and Web 3.0 technology.
   - LMS, CMS, VSCR, SSA, CSA.
   - Cloud computing, software, social media, multimedia resources and didactic materials, video tutorial design.

5. Theoretical, Methodological Aspects of Distance Learning:
   - Successful examples of e-learning.
   - Distance learning in psychology and science.
   - Quality of teaching, training programs and assessment.
   - E-learning for the disabled.

6. E-learning in the Development of Key Competences:
   - Key competences in the knowledge society.
   - Use of e-learning in improving the level of students’ key competences.

7. Computer Methods, Forms and Techniques in Distance Learning:
   - Simulations, models in distance learning.
   - Networking.
   - Distance learning systems, MI-learning.

8. E-environment and Cyberspace:
   - Environment of the University.
   - Smart Technology in education.
   - Internet of Things.

The Conference is organized under the auspices of the Rector of the University of Silesia

Prof. dr hab. Zenon Gajdżica
Dean of the Faculty of Ethnology

Co-organizers:

University of Ostrava (CZ), Czech Republic
Silesian University in Opava (CZ), Czech Republic
Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (SK), Slovakia
University of Extremadura (ES), Spain
University of Tartu (EE), The Netherlands
Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University (BGU), Ukraine
Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, St.Petersburg (Russia)
Higher School of Humanities in Szczecin (PL), Poland
Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (SK), Slovakia
Dniprodzerzhinsk State Technical University (DSTU), Ukraine
The Faculty of Ethnology and Sciences of Education at the University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland has extensive experience in the implementation of distance learning in other departments across the university. The Faculty’s Distance Learning Platform operates smoothly and continues to expand. The conference is designed to bring together all agents involved in e-learning – university students, faculty staff, and educators – to explore and share experiences in e-learning and distance learning, both at home and abroad. The partners and co-organizers of the previous editions of the conference (2009–2013) include the University of Ostrava (Czech Republic), Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica (Slovak Republic), Silesian University in Opava (Czech Republic), Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (Slovak Republic), and are also involved in many activities in the field of e-learning and ICT in particular within the framework of the joint project “E-learning as a road to communicating in the multicultural environment”, supported by International Visegrad Fund (IVF). Among our participants there were researchers and scientists from different countries. Strengthening and widening the international cooperation resulted in starting another international scientific project IRNet International Research Network for study and development of new tools and methods for advanced pedagogical science in the field of ICT instruments, e-learning and intercultural competences (www.imet.us.edu.pl), Project financed by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme, within the Marie Curie Actions International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (2014–2017) with participating 10 universities from 9 countries: University of Silesia in Katowice (US), Poland, (Coordinator), University of Twente (UT, The Netherlands), University of Extremadura (UEX, Spain), Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra (UKR, Slovakia), Lisbon Lisboa University (LIS, Portugal), University of Ostrava (UO, Czech Republic), Curtin University in Perth (AU, Australia), Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University (BGU, Ukraine), Dniprodzerzhinsk State Technical University (DSTU, Ukraine), Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, Russia (RU), Russian Federation. The ninth Annual Conference DLCC2017 will be with the support of a number of partner universities from West, Central as well as East Europe and Australia and finalized in the IRNet Project implementation.

The theme and priorities of the conference reflect the conceptual principles underlying the modernization of education and the reform of the educational systems in European countries, as well as national development strategies for the 21st century. One of the European Union’s key educational objectives is the provision of equal opportunities for all with regard to access to learning and knowledge, regardless of gender, financial and physical ability, and place of residence. That is why distance learning has now been granted a status of high priority, if introduced on a wide scale, distance learning and teaching may make a significant contribution towards the achievement of educational goals in member states.

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