

Presentation title

“OportUnidad OER Project in Latin America ”

**Presentation
Abstract**

Shared/joint presentation Benefit: Share our cross-regional perspective and integrated strategy / complementary perspectives on the OER/OEP phenomena, according to presenters' expertise and role in the OportUnidad initiative. The format of the proposed joint-presentation may also convey the promotion of a culture of sharing.

OportUnidad (www.oportunidadproject.eu) is an action-research project supported by the European Commission under the EuropeAid ALFA III programme with the aim of promoting the adoption of Open Educational Practices (OEP) in Latin America. The OportUnidad project explores the adoption of strategies and channels that embrace the principles of openness and re-usability within the context of educational institutions. It fosters the adoption of open educational practices and OER in Latin America as a bottom-up approach to develop a common Higher Education Area in the region. The initiative also opens the possibility to provide free educational resources for self-learners, in terms of informal and lifelong learning. Based on the analysis of best practices worldwide, the initiative defines the OEP Agenda which outlines policies and actions to maximise the benefit of the use and re-use of OER for university course development in Latin America, as mean of the equal and democratic access to knowledge. Based on the OEP Agenda, LA universities define an institutional roadmap, i.e. a localization of the Agenda to the local, cultural and institutional framework. It is a localcontextualised plan in a global strategic plan.

Local teachers and educators will be trained to the use (and reuse) of OER through an on-line training course organized in a logical sequence going from the presentation and framing of the OER movement, until the integration of open practices into mainstreaming activities.

The OportUnidad action, highlights the challenges and notes the successes and culminates with conclusions on how openness of resources can bring new possibilities of learning to on-campus students and also beyond the walls of the institutions.

OportUnidad multi-actors bring together twelve Universities from Europe and Latin America to raise awareness and widen higher education participation in open educational practices and resources. As part of the project, 60 Latin American Higher Education organisations will be selected to participate as OportUnidad Fellows.

The joint-presentation includes aspect related to:

- How to foster OEP in a regional setting: the process of creating a set of regional hubs in Latin America for OEP development (raise awareness, recruiting fellows and mapping the OEP state-of-the-art in Latin America at large and local scale);
- How OEP can be embedded in an institutional culture: OportUnidad's strategy for supporting fellow universities to develop short-term open strategies (local roadmaps);
- Empower local academic communities by the delivery of a training programme as a capacity building initiative embedded in institution's local context and strategy;
- How OEP contribute to enhance quality in higher education: OportUnidad's contribution to widen participation in Latin American HE by promoting sharing of global quality resources and localizing practices;
- How to establish a LA-EU Common Higher Education Area based on OEP: sharing common resources and practices, developing an integrated community of practitioners, contributing to standardize HE procedures.

PRESENTERS



Dr. Cristobal COBO
University of Oxford
UNITED-KINGDOM

Cristobal Cobo is a research fellow at the Oxford Internet Institute. He currently works on the Network of Excellence in Internet Science (European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme), in the OportUnidad project (Open Educational Resources, ALFA III) as well as in the European Community's Interreg Atlantic Area Programme 'K-Network' project, focused on creating a strong knowledge sharing and dissemination network in the Atlantic Area to promote the exchange of good practices and implementation strategies for building and exploiting a 21st Century Knowledge and Information Society. In addition, he collaborates on the Socio-Economic Services for European Research Project to study social and economical implication aspects of the Internet (ICT Research in FP7, UE). Invited reviewer at the MIT Press. In 2009 he was visiting researcher at the Centre on Skills, Knowledge and Organisational Performance (SKOPE), University of Oxford, due to a scholarship awarded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Social Science Research Council (SSRC). His second book "Invisible Learning" (co-written with John Moravec) was published by the University of Barcelona in May 2011 and has been presented in several countries. Recent academic collaborations include institutions like the International Development Research Centre (IDRC-Canada); International Labour Organization, MIT Press, InfoDev (WorldBank) – UNESCO, TEDx and European Commission (Seventh Framework Programme). He is supervising master students at Oxford Internet Institute and Department of Education, University of Oxford. He has held lectures in Mexico, all over Latin America, Portugal, United States, Spain, UK, Netherlands and China.



Dr. Marcelo MAINA
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya
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Marcelo Fabián Maina is a lecturer in Technology Enhanced Learning at the eLearn Center, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC). He teaches courses of the Master in Education and ICT (e-learning) and of the Joint Certificate Online Course Design and Teaching (UOC-University of New Mexico). He has also lectured in Argentina (Universidad Nacional de Entre Ríos and Universidad Nacional del Litoral) and participated as a teaching trainer in Canada (Université du Québec à Montreal and Université de Montreal).

He obtained a BA in Communications and Education from the Universidad Nacional de Entre Ríos (Argentina), a Master in Communication Sciences from the Université de Montreal, and his PhD in the Information and Knowledge Society Programme at the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya. His dissertation is on learning design, with a special focus on teacher practice exchange. He has worked as a researcher for the LICEF Research Center in issues related to technology in education. His current research interests encompass such topics as learning design methods and tools, formalization of different pedagogy approaches, personalized learning, open educational resources and practices, and learning ecologies. He is currently member of the Edul@ab research Group where he develops his research interests. He has also coordinated research and innovation projects as well as lead European project work packages. He has co-authored peer-reviewed publications in scholarly journals and conference proceedings. He has participated in conference scientific committees, as well as a reviewer in teaching innovation symposiums.

As an OER enthusiastic, he has participated and participates in European projects related to OER and OEP of the Life Long Learning programme "CONCEDE" and "OERTest", and of the AlfaIII programme "OportUnidad". He has contributed to the OER repository at UOC "O2" and to the UOC Open CourseWare initiative. He has promoted the approach through webinars and interviews and several diverse events.



**Dr. Andreia INAMORATO
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*Fluminense Federal
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Andreia is an international consultant in education and technology-enhanced learning, and a researcher in open educational resources (OER) and practices. She has worked at the Open University of the United Kingdom as a Research Fellow for OER projects such as OpenLearn and OLnet from 2006-2011. She has research papers and book chapters in education and particularly in OER, to include a national report about Brazil published by UNESCO IITE <http://iite.unesco.org/publications/3214695/>

Andreia is a research consultant for the European-funded OER project OportUnidad in Brazil, as well as a member of its steering committee. The project aims to raise awareness and disseminate OER and open educational practices (OEP) in Latin America.

Andreia holds a PhD from the Open University of the United Kingdom. Her thesis in the field of Educational Technology was focused on the discourses of teaching and learning online. She holds a Master's degree in Research Methods for Educational Technology from the same university. Earlier she obtained a Master's degree in Languages at the University of Sao Paulo (USP) and a Bachelor's degree in Languages and Literature.

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**Dr. António MOREIRA
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*University of Lisbon and
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António Teixeira is a Professor at Universidade Aberta (UAb), the Portuguese Open University (Department of Education and Distance Learning) and a researcher at the Centre for Philosophy of the University of Lisbon. He's also a Vice-President at EDEN – European Distance and E-learning Network (UK) and a Director at IBSTPI – International Board of Standards for Instruction, Performance and Instruction.

He has PhD and Mater degree in Philosophy by the University of Lisbon and received training in online education at the University of Turku. He was Pro-rector for innovation in Distance Learning at UAb from 2006 to 2009, having conceived the strategy and managed the university's transition process from a print-based distance learning institution to a fully online one. He was also responsible for the development of the university's open access scientific repository (Repositório Aberto).

From 2007 to 2009 he was a member of the Academic and Administration boards of Asia's International Open University (UAIA) and of the Portuguese Rectors Council (CRUP) specialized committees on Scientific Research and Knowledge Transfer, and Evaluation, Quality and Innovation. He's also on the scientific board of several international journals in education and philosophy (European Journal on Online and Distance Learning -Eurodl; Revista de Universidad y Sociedad del Conocimiento - RUSC; Revista de Enseñanza y Learning; Formamente – International Research Journal on Digital Future; Co-Learn; Women's Journal of Distance Education; Philosophy@Lisbon).

Over the years he has participated in over a dozen international research projects, funded by the European Commission or the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation. Additionally, he's been in a member of several task forces at the European Association of Distance Teaching Universities (EADTU) on open educational resources, lifelong learning, virtual mobility and sustainable development. He's a member also of the e-ASEM network (Asia-Europe Meeting), since 2008, and of the Expert's Board of the Horizon Report for Iberoamerica. He was also a visiting scholar at the Korean National Open University – KNOU in 2010. In that same year António Teixeira was awarded also an EDEN Fellowship for demonstrating excellence in professional practice of open, distance and e-learning.

Daniel Villar Onrubia is a DPhil student at the University of Oxford, Oxford Internet Institute researching open educational initiatives and practices in the Higher Education sector. He is interested in the social and cultural implications of ICTs in Higher Education contexts. His work attempts to provide an in-depth understanding of the socio-technical factors that both enable and constrain the provision of open educational resources (OER) at several Spanish universities. In this regard, it focuses on the role of open educational practices in relation to the strategic orientation of universities as well as to the values, attitudes, aims and day-to-day activity of educators.

He is currently involved in the OportUnidad project as a Research Assistant, and during his time at the OII he has also co-directed, along with Isis A. Hjorth, the Remix Cinema Workshop, a student-led initiative funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) as part of the Beyond Text programme. Additional support for this event was secured from UNIA Prácticas y Culturas Digitales, St. Antony's College, Modern Art Oxford and the Instituto Cervantes. Under the title Expanded University, in 2009 he co-directed a series of events consisting of a symposium and a workshop organised by the International University of Andalusia (UNIA) in collaboration with Spain's School for Industrial Organisation (EOI).

Daniel holds a BA in Media Studies from the University of Seville (Spain), an MA in Digital Technologies, Information & Communication and a Postgraduate Certificate in e-Learning, both the latter from the Spanish National Distance University - UNED. Prior to coming to the OII he worked at UNIA as coordinator of the area of digital corporate communication.

His doctoral studies are partially funded by the Regional Ministry of Innovation and Science of Andalusia and he is grateful for this support. He has been awarded the Oxford-Santander Graduate Award 2011-12.



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