Going digital, staying human

Challenges for Future-Oriented Education @KU Leuven

Piet Desmet, vice rector KU Leuven

JMOOC – Waseda University
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KU LEUVEN

1. Profile of KU Leuven

One of Europe's **oldest** universities
       founded in 1425
       600th anniversary in 2025
       located in the heart of Europe

Comprehensive university
       15 Faculties clustered into 3 Groups
              Humanities and Social Sciences
              Science, Engineering and Technology (SET)
              Biomedical Sciences

More than **60.000 students**

Multicampus organisation
       14 campuses, spread across 10 cities in Flanders.

Internationally oriented and **research-intensive** university

Ranks among the best universities worldwide
       #45 in the **Times Higher Education** World University Ranking
       #1 Europe's **most innovative** university (Reuters Ranking) (and #7 worldwide)

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2. *Going Digital* as part of our Strategic Plan

"On Crossroads, For A Sustainable Society"
Strategic Plan for KU Leuven (2017-)

A long term vision in **5 projects**:   1. Truly International

2. Future-Oriented Education

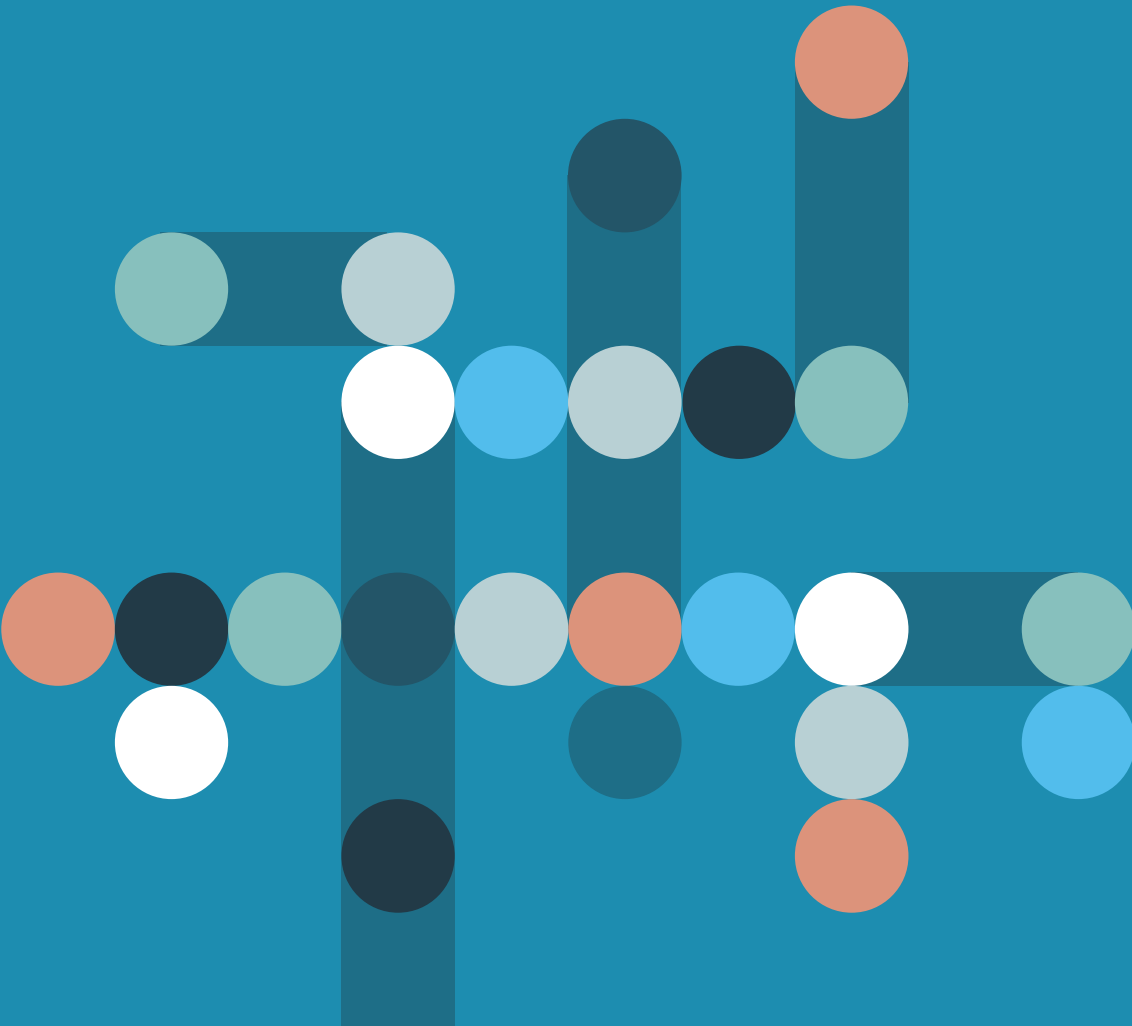3. Going Digital

4. Interdisciplinarity

5. Sustainability

Our goal is to make decisions for the long term: ten to fifteen years.
This approach is necessary: if each management team only thinks about the next four years,
we can never properly start the debate about the long-term development of our university.

Luc Sels, Rector

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2.1. Going Digital -

Rationale

Going digital as a powerful tool to stimulate

(a) Better learning and assessment

Active and collaborative **learning**

  cf. *learning experience platforms*
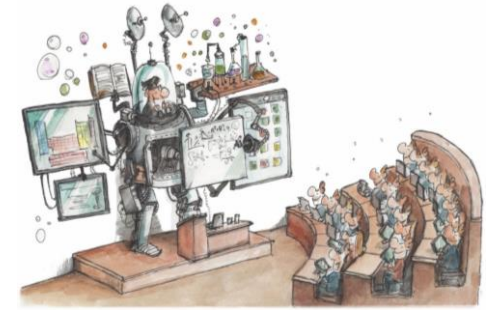
  collaborative learning spaces

  blended learning & flipped classrooms

Effective and efficient **assessment**

  cf. *online testing platform*

  online examination centers

(b) New learning contexts

Multilocation learning

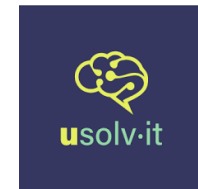Lifelong learning (continuing education, working students, etc.)

(c) Better incoming students and better study results

Better orientation and preparation

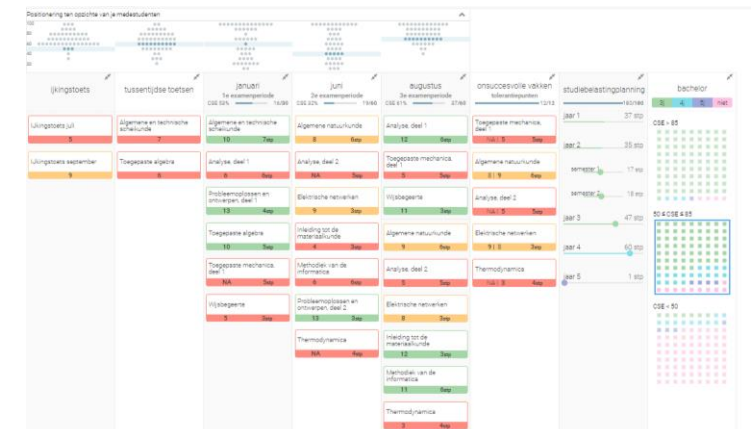   cf. *calibration tests for prospective students ("ijkingsproeven")*

    cf. *admission examen for Medical School*

Better monitoring, lower drop-out and better reorientation

    cf. *adaptive learning environments*

    cf. *learning dashboards*

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(d) Stronger internationalisation
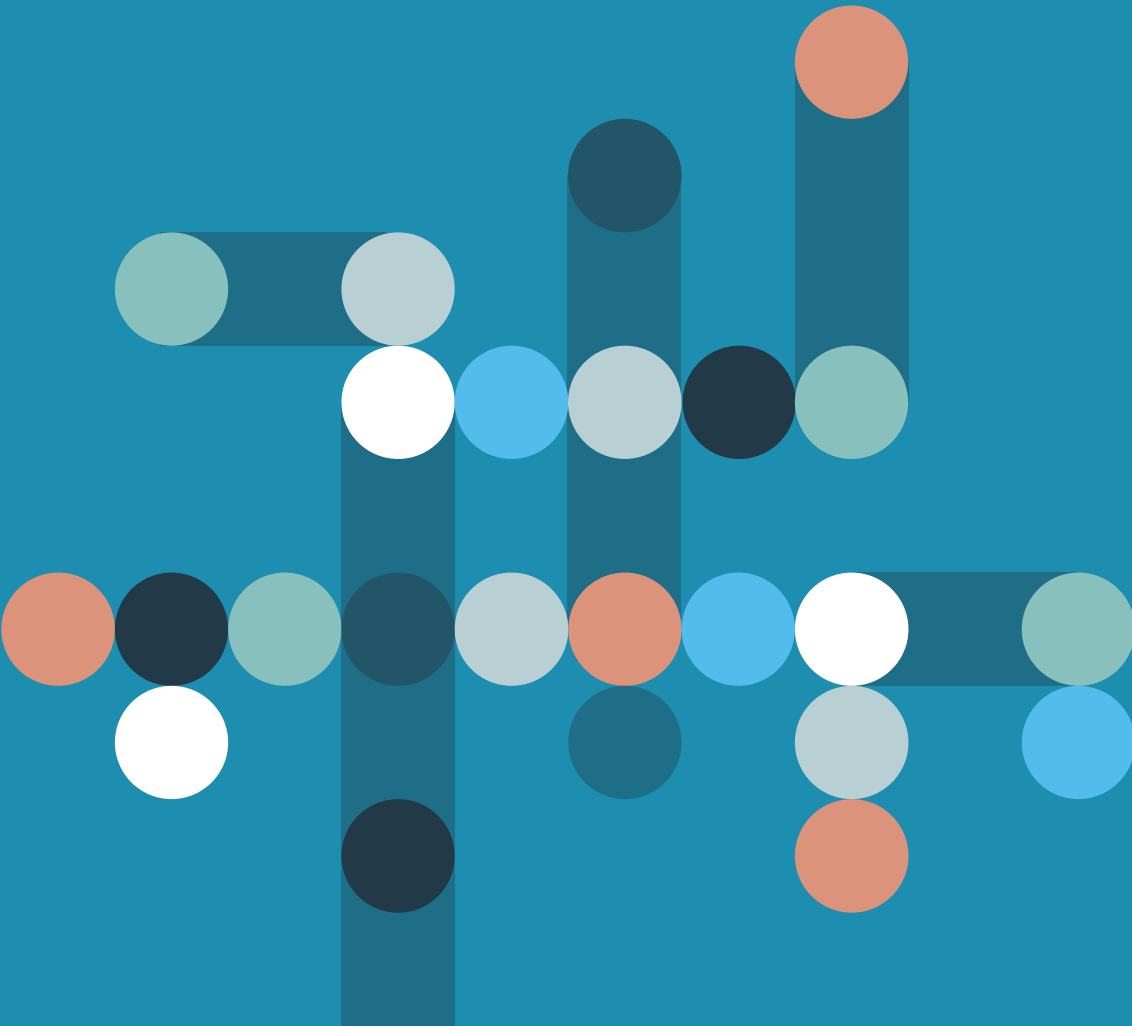
International students

International positioning
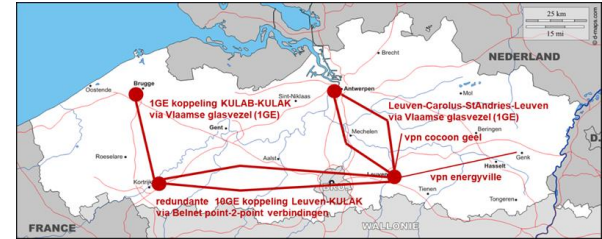
International *network of excellence*

2.2. Going Digital -
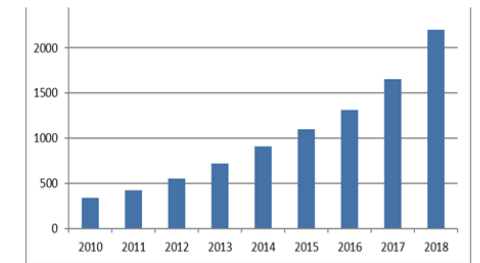
10 policy objectives

Objective 1: technical constraints & conditions

- Keeping   our **backbone**   up to date
  our **datacenter**
  the **connection with our 14 campusses**

- Further roll-out of **high-density wifi**, also on our **campusses**

- Strenghten our **infrastructure**
  in all existing learning spaces

Aantal KU Leuven wifi antennes

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# Objective 2: Toledo as a *Learning Experience Platform*

- **Maximal use** of the ecosystem
  Keeping it **up-to-date**
  Enhance it with **new functionalities**
    (e.g. online editing of documents)

- **Universitywide** roll-out
  but also room for **domainspecific** applications and **experiments**

- First experiments with **feedback on complex learning tasks**

Objective 3: Online assessment

- Exploratory study on **examination centers** (PC-rooms, flexible larger rooms, etc.)

- Pilot projects on exams with **BYOD**

- Automatic generation of assessments and exams based on metadated **itembanks**
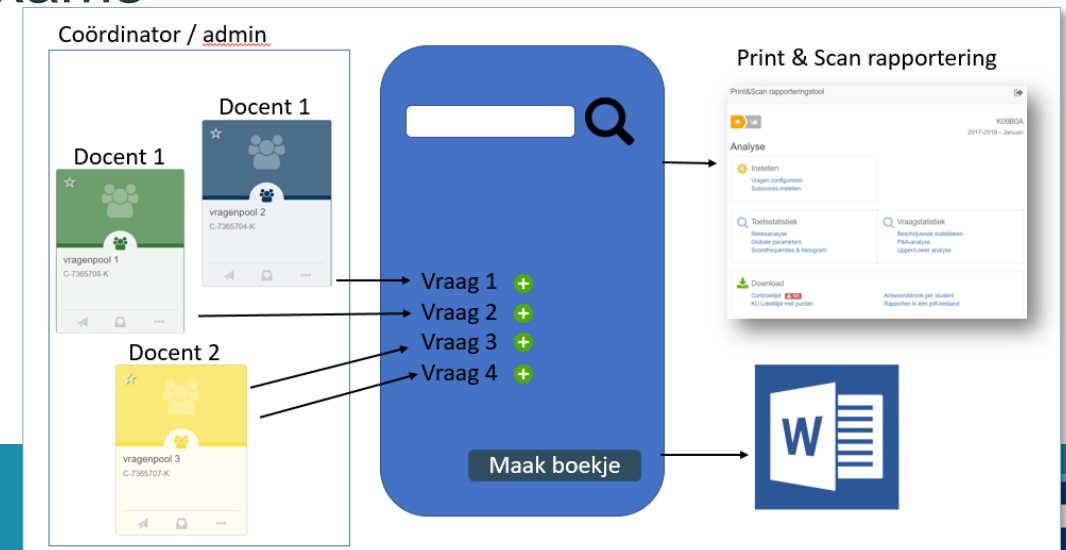
Objective 4: MOOCs

- Further extension of our MOOC-portfolio.
  Now also **MOOCs for credit**

- **"On campus"-use** (BaMa and LLL)
  of own and internationally available MOOCs

- Strong **partnerships** (a.o. TU Delft and UNA Europa)

TU Delft tops new global MOOC rankings

NEWS - 28 NOVEMBER 2019 - COMMUNICATION
TU Delft has topped the latest World University Rankings Based On MOOC Performance (WURMP). The new
rankings examine the performance of universities based on five criteria:

Objective 5: Learning spaces

- Launch of level 2:

  remote, hybrid & virtual classrooms

- In existing lecture halls, learning spaces & meeting rooms

  Wireless projection

  Videoconferencing

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Objective 6: Learning analytics

- **Learning support** through analytics on data about incoming students (freshers, internationals, lateral incomers, etc.) and on scores and study results

- **Learning dashboards**
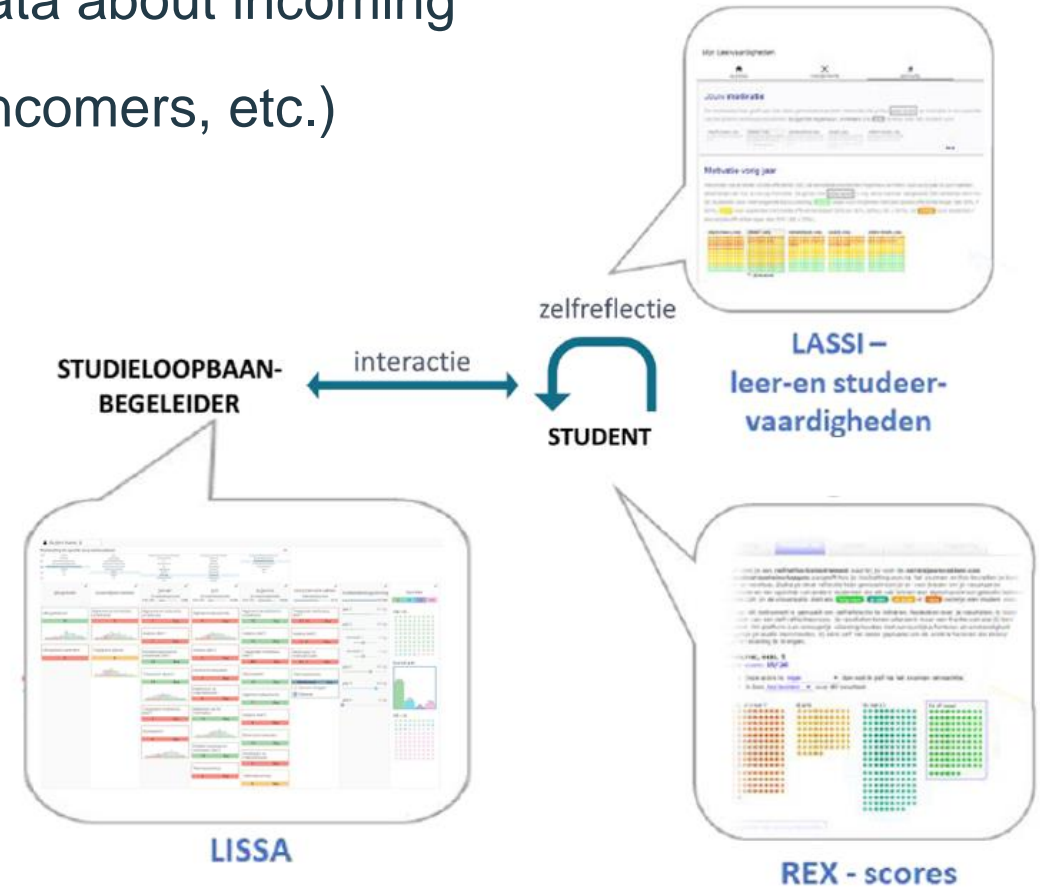
Objective 7: KU Leuven Learning Lab
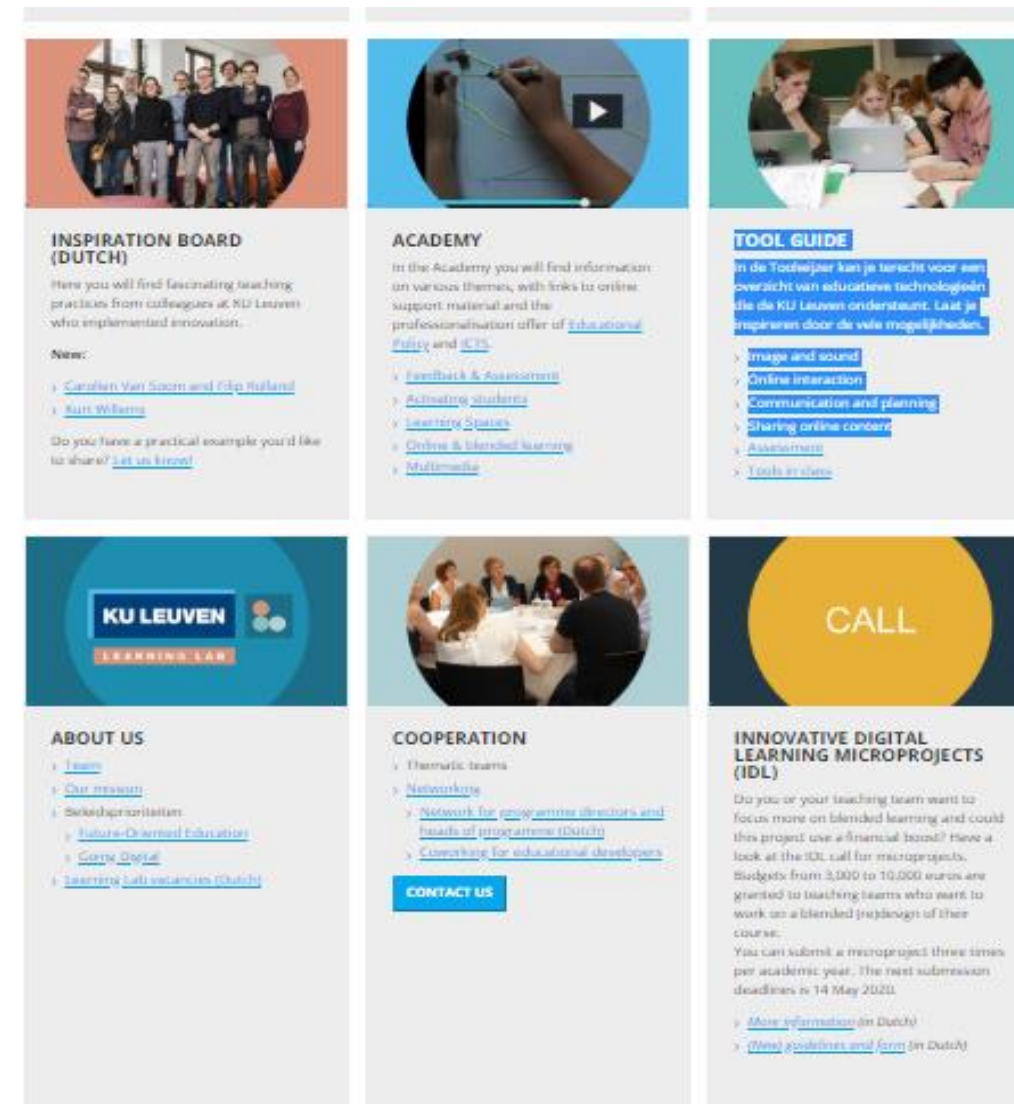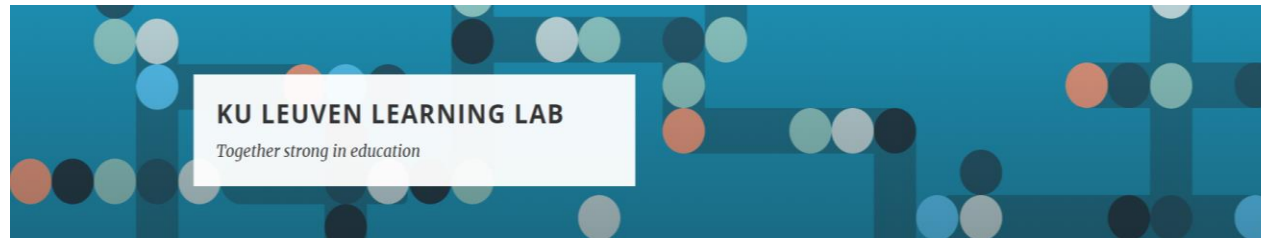
Objective 8: New team members

Powerful **team** with new staf at the level of the 3 groups (clusters of faculties):

   Humanities & Social Sciences

   Science, Engineering & Technology

   Biomedical Sciences

Actionplan for each of the 3 groups

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Objective 9: First line support

- Powerful **team** within each of the 15 Faculties

- Operational **actionplan** in all Faculties

- *Train-the-trainer* program
  for educational support staff members of our Faculties

INHOUDELIJKE TRAJECTEN

EXPERTEASE

Zet in op het thema feedback en permanente evaluatie.

BEKIJK HET TRAJECT

THUIS IN EIGEN HUIS

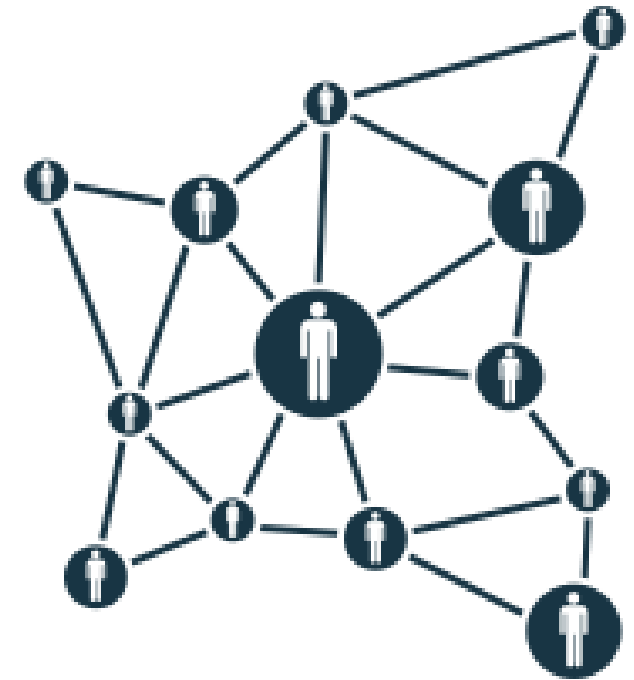Leer meer over de context, de structuren en de procedures van de KU Leuven.

BEKIJK HET TRAJECT

STEVIG IN JE SCHOENEN

Focus op de ontwikkeling van bepaalde vaardigheden of zoek strategieën en kaders om je rol als onderwijsondersteuner in te vullen.

BEKIJK HET TRAJECT

JE RUGZAK GEVULD

Vergroot je onderwijskundige expertise of leer meer over onderwijstechnologie.

BEKIJK HET TRAJECT

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Objective 10: Innovative Digital Learning Projects

SEED: INNOVATIVE DIGITAL LEARNING

The seed projects on Innovative Digital Learning (IDL) aim to stimulate and facilitate educational innovation within KU Leuven.

The seed projects include educational innovation projects and microprojects:

Educational innovation projects

These projects aim to thoroughly test a new approach on a defined student group.

Here, you can find more information on the 2019 projects, which focus on feedback and continuous assessment

The next project call for educational innovation projects will be launched in the spring of 2020.

Microprojects

KU Leuven Learning Lab provides microfinancing to teaching teams and POCs with a focus on blended learning and course design. This microfinancing consists of sums between 3,000 and 10,000 Euros for developing online components or digital learning materials for a course/group of courses/learning sequence/study programme.

SCALE-UP

Both innovation initiatives that started spontaneously and on a small scale, and innovation projects that receive support in the form of extra funding can form an interesting base for a broader initiative.

Both one project or a group of projects can form the base for a broader implementation, for instance:

> In one or more faculties
> In a specific setting (courses for large groups, courses with a lot of students transferring from a different study programme,…)
> For a specific target audience (students with accommodations, exchange students,…).

Are you, as a member of the teaching staff, teaching team or educational developer, part of an initiative like this? Please contact us for more information on the application procedure, modalities and goals.

More background information (in Dutch)

In 2019, the following scale-up projects were launched:

> Learning dashboards @ KU Leuven
> Online overview tool

More information on these scale-up projects will be available shortly.

Innovatiefase — Beslissing door Learning Lab Stuurgroep — Scale-upfase — Beslissing door Learning Lab Stuurgroep — Implementatie- en productiefase
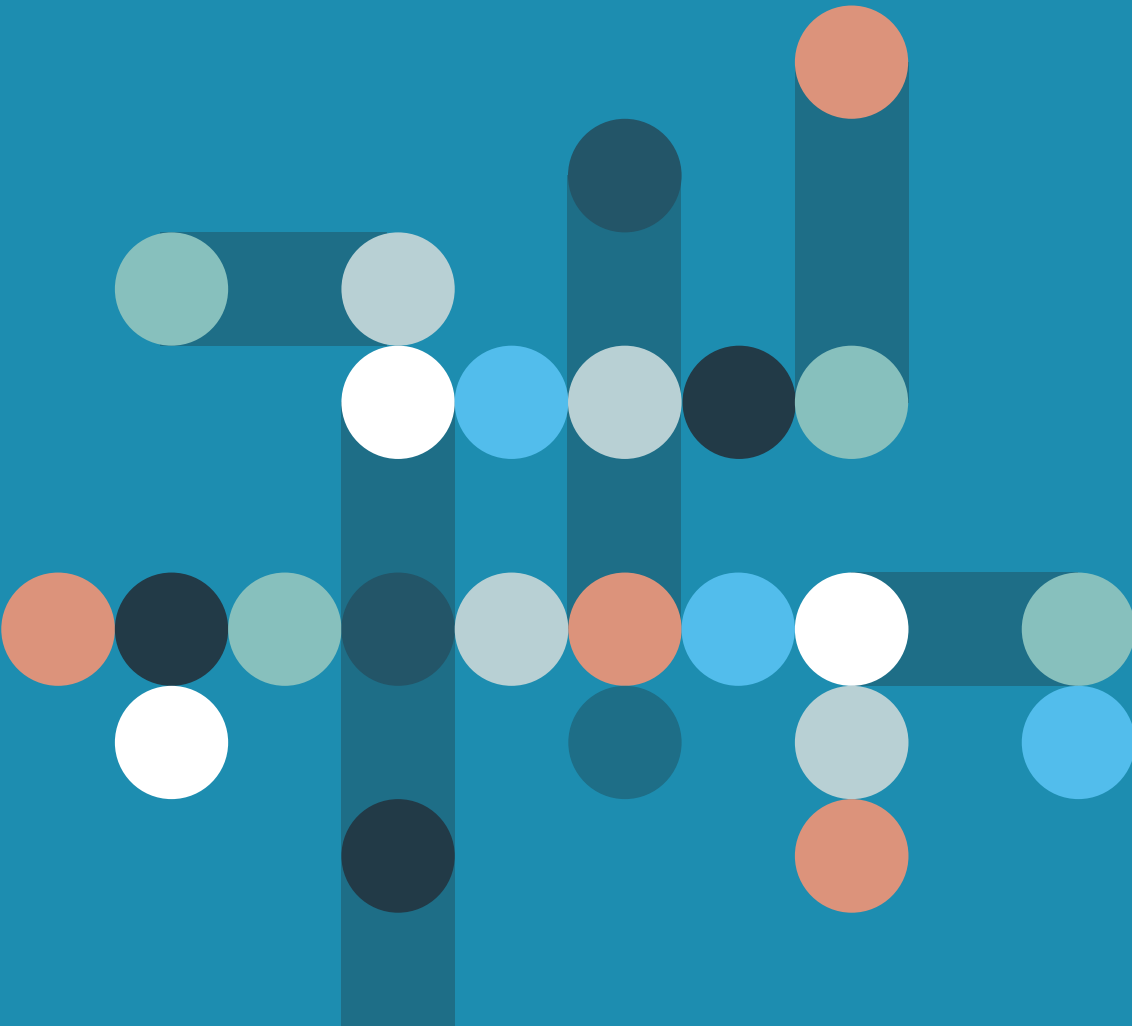
3. Edtech & the COVID-19 pandemic

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3.1. Edtech & *COVID-19's first wave*

Online learning

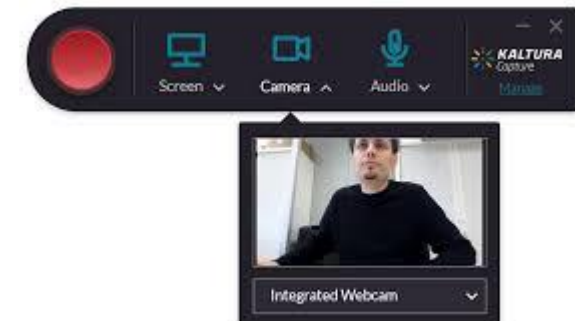capitalize maximally on Going Digital!

Major focus on 4 out of our 10 objectives

Objective 1: technical constraints & conditions

EXTRA: increase of storage capacity
extension of software licencies

Objective 2: Toledo as a Learning Experience Platform (asynchronous learning)

EXTRA: widespread use of Kaltura & Kaltura Capture

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Objective 5 - Learning Spaces (synchronous learning)

Skype for Business/MS Teams

Blackboard Collaborate Ultra

Virtual classrooms

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ONLINE LEARNING

Continuing your studies online has its pros and cons. You're free to plan your study time how you like, but beware of procrastination. It's important to keep challenging yourself to stay focussed and motivated. Below you can find some tips for optimal online learning in times of corona.

Studying and exams
› Examination types June 2020
› Examination guidelines June 2020
› A good preparation
› Download your study and exam planner (pdf)

Online lectures
› Study tips
› Online learning FAQ
› How to use Collaborate

Master's thesis
› How to finish your master's thesis without extra stress
› KUBIC - KU Leuven Libraries Information Centre
› ILT Writing Centre

ONLINE LEARNING IN A NUTSHELL

Download this infograpic (pdf) and put it above your desk.

Planning
Digital or online learning is not always easier, nor always more difficult. It's just different. Like with live lectures, it's essential to make time for online classes, to prepare well, and to keep up with what you've learned. A good planning goes a long way, as it adds structure to your days and gives you peace of mind.

Download your monthly planner

Online examination

maximally on campus (in examination centers/PC-rooms)

only specific exam formats fully online (= 14% of all exams)
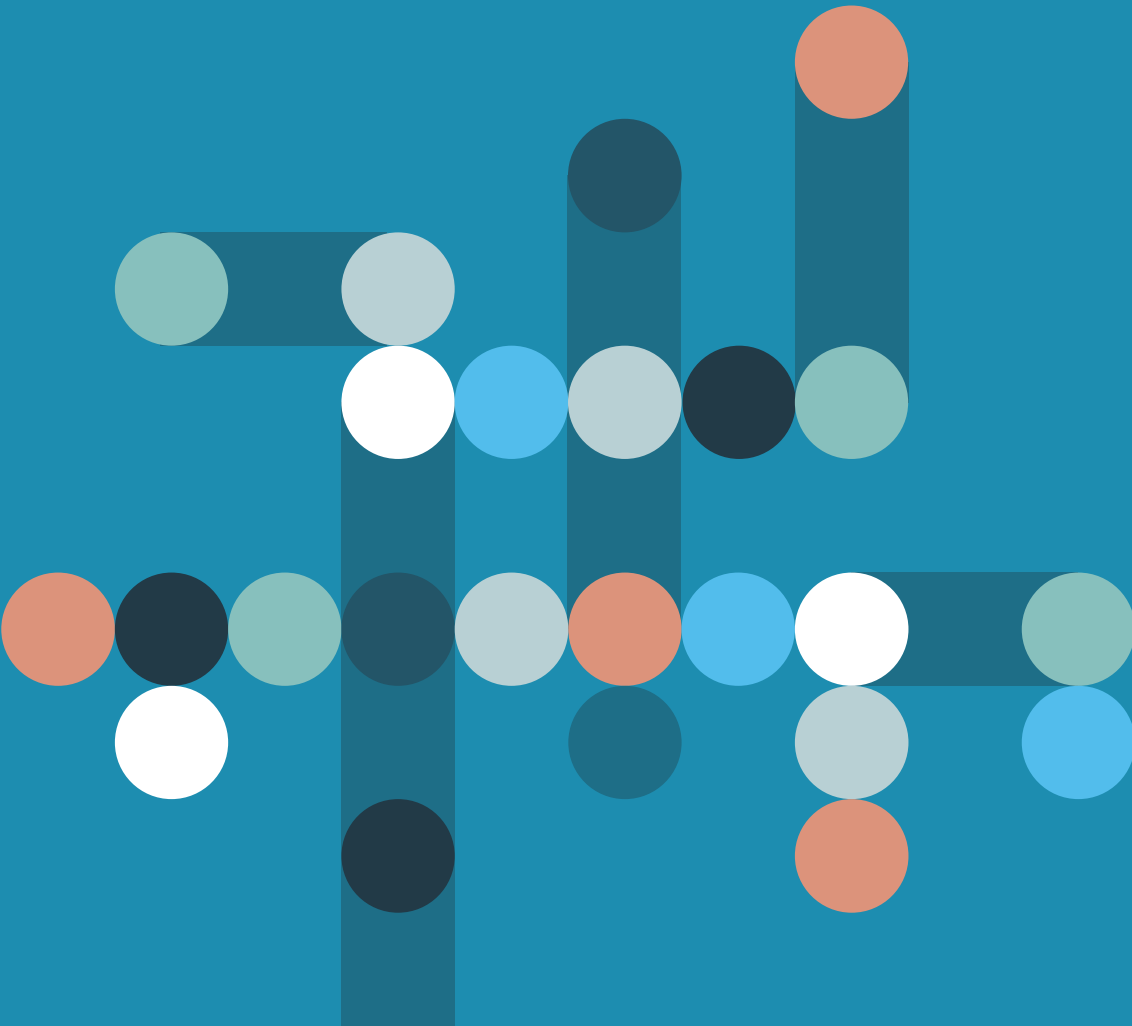cf. fraude-resistance

always an oral component/check

online examination portal Xtoledo for assignments & tests

Skype for Business or Blackboard Collaborate for oral exams (open book)

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3.2. Edtech &
Back to the "new normal"

Overarching principle:

from **rotation in teaching**

        reduced audience in the lecture hall
        + (no or limited) interaction with remote learners (poll, audio, video)

to **blended & integrated learning**

Extra focus on

Objective 3: online assessment

        examination centers (with BYOD?)
        computer-assisted testing (with itembanks)
        fraude-resistant online exams

Objective 4: MOOCs for credit

Objective 6: Learning analytics

        integrated technological solutions for future & enrolled students
        from descriptive to predictive analytics

Objective 9: first line support (including a train-the-trainer program)

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Contact

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