

Survey on “Digitally enhanced learning”- preliminary results, 19 June 2020

- Conducted from April-June 2020 under the [DIGI-HE project](#) by EUA & partners
- Online questionnaire to European HEI – requesting response from leadership (1 response per institution)
- 250+ responses from institutions in all but 7 EHEA countries (mid June)
- Some longitudinal data – comparison with [EUA’s 2014 survey](#)
- Survey results will be published in autumn. The following presents some first and preliminary results. Therefore pls. do not circulate further.

1) Responses to Covid 19

April/May: 95% shifted to distance learning - throughout the institution (4% - some faculties)

Other impact of the Covid Crisis:

- plans for enhancing digital capacity in the future beyond the crisis (70%)
- exploring new ways of teaching (87%)
- Enhanced online library use (66%)

N.B.: Apart from these questions, for the rest of the survey, institutions were asked to report the pre-crisis situation

2) Attitudes towards and support for digitally enhanced learning

How would you describe your institution’s position towards digitally enhanced learning and teaching?	Agree	Disagree	I do not know/not applicable
a) It is a strategic priority for the institution	76%	17%	7%
b) It is widely used throughout the institution	60%	35%	5%
c) Staff have a positive attitude towards it	60%	20%	20%
d) Students have a positive attitude towards it	74%	9%	17%
e) It brings benefits to the student experience	82%	5%	13%

- Most institutions (80%+) offer digital skills training, have online repositories for educational materials, a centre or unit that supports teachers on digitally enhanced learning & teaching.
- Slightly less common are online platforms for exchange and collaboration of teachers (75%)

3) Top 3 benefits of digitally enhanced learning

- It encourages the revision of teaching methods and innovates pedagogies
- It makes learning and teaching more flexible, regarding time and place
- It encourages exchange and collaboration among teachers

4) Transformative impact over the past and coming 5 years

At least half of the respondents felt that at their institutions over the past 5 years digitalisation contributed to major transformation of

- Learning and teaching methods and provision (3/4)
- Provision of open learning opportunities
- Widening access (LLL & disadvantaged learners)
- Collaboration with other HEI (nationally, and even more internationally), and in relation to international students
- But far less (33-45%) found that digitalisation contribution to transformation of collaboration outside of HE (industry, society) and for virtual mobility and collaboration,

Asked about the next 5 years, 70% or more expect transformative impact on all these issues.

5) Obstacles and enablers

Top 3 barriers to digitally enhanced learning and teaching at your institution?		
a. Lack of staff resources	1	30%+
b. Lack of staff motivation	2	
c. Difficulty to devise a concerted approach for the entire institution (e.g. policies, management processes)	3	
d. Lack of external funding opportunities	4	
e. National regulation		20%-
f. External QA		
g. Lack of support for professional development		
h. Lack of digital infrastructure (e.g. insufficient internet, insufficient equipment)		
i. Lack of support and maintenance services for digital technologies		

Top 3 enablers of digitally enhanced learning and teaching at your institution?		
a) Proactive participation of staff and students	1	40+
b) Professional development and training	2	
c) Our strategy	3	
d) Major investments in equipment and infrastructure	4	
e) Projects, cooperation, national initiatives		20% +
f) Projects with other partners (e.g. industry)		8%