Fostering Collaborations via MOOCs

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Outline

• Introduction
• Opportunities
• Challenges
• Collaborations
INTRODUCTION
Higher Education in Hong Kong

• Eight institutions funded by the government
  – Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK)
  – City University of Hong Kong
  – Hong Kong Baptist University
  – Hong Kong Institution of Education
  – Hong Kong Polytechnic University
  – Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)
  – Lingnan University
  – The University of Hong Kong (HKU)
HKU Status?

• Joined edX in May 2013
• 7 courses:
  – “Epidemics”: launched in September 2014
  – “The Search for Vernacular Architecture in Asia”: launched in April 2015
  – “Our Place in the Universe”: January 2016
  – “Law, Economy and Society”: April 2016
  – “Hong Kong Cinema Through a Global Lens”: September 2016

• More courses are in the pipeline
HKUST

• Coursera, joined in 2012, 5 courses
  – Science of Gastronomy
  – New History of New China
  – Science, Tech, and Society in China I, II, III
• edX, joined in 2013, 3 courses:
  – Java Programming (June 2014)
  – Digital Communications (August 2014)
  – English for Doing Business in Asia (September 2014)
• Java and Gastronomy courses will give full credits to on-campus students, upon finishing summer face-to-face sessions
• 5-year plan: 20 courses (one from each department)
• Recruitment; learning analytics
CUHK

- Coursera, joined in 2012, 5 courses:
  - Information Theory
  - Classics of Chinese Humanities
  - The Beauty of Kunqu Opera
  - Role of Renminbi
  - Structural Equation Model
OPPORTUNITIES
MOOC Experience

• So far, four courses
• Highly successful, because:
  – Learned a lot!
  – Know ourselves better!
  – Coalitions formed (elaborate soon...)
  – Motivate a clearer vision about...e-learning
Our Learning Curve on E-learning

- **SLOW BEGINNING**
  - New idea
  - Planning
  - Experimentation
  - UDF grant for 4 MOOCs
  - E-learning strategy launched
  - EPSU set up

- **ACCELERATION**
  - > 10,000 participated in HKU's 1st MOOC Epidemics
  - Block grant to Faculties
  - 4 MOOCs to be available on edX in 2015
  - Re-deployed staff from different teams to support MOOCs

- **CONSOLIDATION**
  - Partnership with Coursera
  - 9 MOOCs
  - 10 SPOCs
  - 10 BOOCs...
  - E-learning embedded in on-campus T&L
  - UGC special funding rec'd to develop SPOCs for Common Core
  - 4 MOOCs to be available on edX in 2015

**STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT**
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- 2016
- 2017...

**IMPACT**
- 2011
- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015
- > 10,000 participated in HKU's 1st MOOC Epidemics
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- 9 MOOCs
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MOOC Derivatives

- SPOCs
- BOOCs
- Flipped classroom teaching
- Consumption of MOOCs
- MOOCs for social impact

- Grand goals...but...
Creation of MOOCs: Ecosystem

MOOCs

SPOCs-on-edX

SPOCs-on-Moodle

Moodle

Curriculum (e.g., CCC): Content, Pedagogy, Assessment

Learning analytics: Contexts, Methods, Tools
Creation of MOOCs: Ecosystem

- MOOCs
- SPOC-on-edX
- SPOCs-on-Moodle
- Moodle

Curriculum (e.g., CCC): Content, Pedagogy, Assessment

Learning analytics: Contexts, Methods, Tools

geographies
massiveness
Science of Learning: Ambitious Outlook...

- Unprecedented opportunity enabled by availability of big learning data
- Evolution:
  - Apprenticeship, then
  - Classroom, then
  - Bigger Classroom, then
  - Internet
    - Massive data
    - Social networks, crowd-sourcing
    - Intelligence (e.g., AI grading) + Knowledge Web
    - Apprenticeship again?
- E-Learning with AI: The ultimate “killer app” of the Internet?
  - Can think of Google search as one of the most primitive forms of education, can’t we?
E-Learning

• Priorities
  1. Discipline courses
  2. Common Core
  3. International Outreach

• Impact
  1. Capacity building
  2. New culture
  3. Leadership

• Tasks
  1. MOOCs/SPOCs
  2. On-campus teaching
  3. CoPs, research

• Resources
  1. IT and Production
  2. Pedagogy
  3. Administration
E-Learning as a Solution?

- As testbed for pedagogical innovations
  - Multimedia delivery, assessment, collaborative work, Science of Learning
- As catalyst for institutional change
  - Facilities, T&L culture, staff appraisals
- As glue to bind different units together
  - Faculties/departments, technical, publicity
- As tool to enable grand initiatives
  - Overseas immersion, exchange, recruitment, internationalization, collaboration
- As means to achieve *totality* of learning
  - Formal/informal, in and out of classroom, co-curricula
  - Learning = E-Learning? More or less...
Governance and Coordination

• Institutional support makes it all possible

   MOOC WG ➔ VP-PVC(TL) ➔ Resources

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• Institutional “memory” is key!
• Teaching practices can be transferrable
  – New way to learn to teach...
CHALLENGES
Course Selection

• Common Core courses?
• Entry level courses?
• Master level courses?
• New or existing courses?

• Priority areas?
Specific Challenge?

• Take MOOC consumption as an example
  – Time-line? Alignment with semesters? On-demand?
  – Curriculum: Driven by internally selected topics or great stuffs available (e.g., CS50x)
  – QA?
  – How to TA it?
  – Assessment?
  – “Unbundling content...”? Treat it as a textbook?
  – Where to draw the line?
Institutional Sustainability?

• Money is an issue but not the most serious
• Enthusiasm is the main driving force (now)
• Create incentives
  – For investing in this (Provost)
  – For involving in this (teachers/students)
• Let’s look for win-win: Blended learning for on-campus Common Core courses?
  – Cohort based MOOCs?
• Make teaching skills transferrable!
• Impact? Enrolment?
Institutional Sustainability?

- Resources, Support, Buy-in
- Reward system to encourage teaching?
- Relief of “regular” teaching to do a MOOC?
- Measuring “impact” of teaching?

- New way to prioritize?
COLLABORATIONS
MOOC on “Everyday Computing”
PKU, NTU, HKU

SPOC and Research
HKU, HKUST, CUHK

Collaboration on SoL and SoTL
NUS, HKU

Asian e-table in May 2015
• Need a champion!
• Running around, making friends
• Establish genuine relationships
• Coalition formed, internally and externally
• Redefined the concept of a team
• Ideas and philosophy fed forward at all levels
• Serving as a vehicle to drive a clear vision
Sustainability

Keep it real, keep it up

• Need to establish a new culture
• Incentives (coercive and persuasive)