MOOCs and Teaching and Learning in Higher Education India

Professor N.V. Varghese
Director, CPRHE/NUEPA, New Delhi
GLOBALIZATION OF LEARNING

Higher education has become a global enterprise involving billions of dollars, millions of employees and millions of students

Modes of trade in higher education

MOOCs as the latest trend in the globalization process

MOOCs standardizes contents, delivery and certification of online courses
Why MOOCs is attractive to youngsters?

- In the hyper competitive world, accelerating learning is the new dominant driver of success.
- The emerging trends benefit the digital era and the tech-savvy students.
- Entrepreneurial learners rely on cloud, social networks, mobile computing and big data to create digital learning eco-systems to learn new things faster.
- Entrepreneurial learners prefer individualized learning.
MOOCs AND ITS SPREAD

- The massive open online courses (MOOCs) popularized learning without boundaries
- Within a year of its launch, the MOOCs attracted 3.1 million users
- Enrolment in MOOCs in 2015 was 35 million
- The MOOCs offers more than 4,200 by more than 500 universities.
- Coursera leads in enrolment (35 %), followed by edX (18%),
CHARACTERISTICS OF LEARNING UNDER MOOCs

- Interactive learning environment
- Participative pedagogy
- Collaborative learning
- The courses have application oriented activities – case analysis, practicals, quiz
- Means and resources – videos, reading materials, slide shows
- Assessment – Automatic scoring, self – assessment, peer assessment and peer grading
LEARNING PROCESS

- User interface with computer
- Discussion forum is a learning tool
- Learning analytics – collection and analysis of data on learners and their contexts
- Peer grading as the most scalable solution for reliable grading
**Higher Education in India**

- Massive expansion
- Potential for continued expansion
- Expansion mostly through traditional institutional structure
- Disparities and variations in quality
- Technological solutions to affordable higher education
- India enrolls the second largest number of students in MOOCs
MOOCS – SWAYAM IN INDIA

- Indian government launched an Indian MOOC platform called ‘Swayam’- Study Webs of Active-learning for Young Aspiring Minds.
- Swayam is an open source platform based on Edex
- It offers courses in multiple languages including regional languages
- It runs blended courses
- Credit recognition and transfer of credits to traditional universities is permitted
- SWAYAM has an ambitious target of 10 million learners
SWAYAM COURSES

- National Mission on Education through ICT (NM EICT) and national programme on technology enabled learning (NPTEL) already developed e-content in 23 disciplines and 933 Courses
- Under SWAYAM, professors of centrally-funded institutions in India will offer online courses
- The institutions offering courses (Host institutions) will be considered as national coordinators
- There will be a subject expert called principal investigator in all host institutions
- MOOC courses are supported through spoken Tutorials, virtual labs
- Created an online digital library called ‘National E-Library’ accessible to all learners to support student learning
Teaching and learning follows a four Quadrant approach:

- **Quadrant-I** is e-Tutorial - Video and Audio Contents, Animation, Simulations, virtual Labs.
- **Quadrant-II** is e-Content - PDF/e-Books/illustration, video demonstrations, documents and Interactive simulations.
- **Quadrant-III** is Web Resources - related Links, Open Content on Internet, Case Studies.
- **Quadrant-IV** is Self-Assessment – Multiple choice questions, Problems, Quizzes, Assignments and solutions, Discussion forum topics and setting up the FAQ.

- Peer review and assessment
- Credit transfer - No university shall refuse any student for credit mobility for the courses earned through MOOCs.
ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

- Multiple choice questions
- Commentary, review write-up
- Peer assessment
- Presentations
- Examinations in 1000 centres
- Certificate is issued and credits can be transferred
CONCLUSIONS

- MOOCs through SWAYAM is has a growing influence in India
- Students enroll in MOOCs in addition to their study programmes in the universities
- The MOOCs help reinforcing courses offered by traditional universities
- Easy technological accessibility is a necessary condition to enhance learning and reduce learning deficits