



भारतीय प्रबंध संस्थान बेंगलूर  
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT  
BANGALORE



*Call for Papers*

## **The Future of Learning 2019 Conference**

# **Learning 4.0: Connecting the Dots and Reaching the Unreached**

*January 4-5, 2019*

*Venue: IIM Bangalore*

The educational sector is set for a major and likely disruptive makeover. A decade ago the possibility of unlimited unfettered access to education appeared farfetched. Driven by the forces of globalisation, advances in information and communication technologies, and the next generation of tech-savvy learners, education is fast evolving toward an open, always available and personalised model, possibly breaking the stranglehold of traditional universities.

The enticing promise of digitisation in transforming education and learning is now uncontested by both educationists and policy makers. Expectations that digital innovations would make education both affordable and accessible has been a dominant theme driving these discussions. While there has been some progress on these fronts, the overall impact on the ground has been rather muted. Prior research and anecdotal evidence indicates that the impact of digital technologies in transforming education may be muted due to a variety of reasons. These include, lack of supporting infrastructure, financial constraints faced by the targeted beneficiaries, technology barriers lack of appropriate technologies, and a diffusion of effort due to the emergence of multiple competing platforms and business models or simply lack of interest.

India is a good case in point. Despite the emphasis on a digital transformation of the economy, the rural-urban divide in internet penetration is huge, with the internet penetration in urban and rural areas pegged at 65 percent and 20 percent respectively leaving a significant percent of India's population unserved or underserved with regards to educational services. The situation in much of South Asia is similar. What accounts for these gaps in technology, policy and practice? How can these gaps be bridged? How can technological advancements be leveraged to make high quality education affordable, accessible and empowering for the vast majority of the unserved population.

The Future of Learning Conference (FoL) aims to promote showcase innovation and help foster dialogues between the major actors shaping the 21<sup>st</sup> century learning models, namely academics, entrepreneurs, regulators and technologists. FoL is jointly organised by IIT Bombay and IIM Bangalore. Details of the first conference on Future of Learning can be accessed at <http://www.futureoflearningconference.com/>

The 2019 conference will address the following issues:

- What should be the learning model 4.0 in line with the principles of industry 4.0?
- How do we bring in the vast majorities of underserved or non-served learners in the into the emerging learning networks?
- Which ecosystem elements needs to evolve?
- Which business or financial models are likely to be successful?
- Which technology paradigms need to change?
- What policy interventions maybe needed?

Papers on these and other related themes are invited from researchers, practitioners and policy makers for presentations at the conference. Selected papers would also be part of an edited book and be considered for publication in an academic journal. Please submit your abstracts, not exceeding 300 words, online at

<https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=fol2019>

*Important dates:*

Last date for submission of abstracts:

October 15, 2018

Communication of acceptance of papers:

October 30, 2018

Final paper submissions:

November 30, 2018

Conference email: [fol2019@iimb.ac.in](mailto:fol2019@iimb.ac.in)