



# NEW ENGLAND BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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## The University Unbound: Can Higher Education Compete and Survive the Age of Free and Open Learning?

Monday, Oct. 15, 2012  
Federal Reserve Bank of Boston

### Speaker and Panelist Biographies

#### Anant Agarwal



Anant Agarwal is the president of edX, an online learning initiative of Harvard and MIT. He has served as the director of CSAIL, MIT's Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, and is a professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at MIT.

He leads the Carbon group, which focuses on research involving operating systems and architectures for "manycores" and clouds. He is also a founder of Tiler Corp., which created the Tile multicore processor. He led the development of Raw (an early tiled multicore processor), Sparcle (an early multithreaded microprocessor), and Alewife (a scalable multiprocessor). He also led the VirtualWires project at MIT and was the founder of Virtual Machine Works, which took the VirtualWires technology to market.

Agarwal won the Maurice Wilkes prize for computer architecture, and MIT's Smullin and Jamieson prizes for teaching. He holds a Guinness World Record for the largest microphone array based on Raw, and is an author of the textbook *Foundations of Analog and Digital Electronic Circuits*.

Agarwal holds a bachelor's degree from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras and a doctorate from Stanford University,

#### Dan W. Butin



Dan W. Butin is an associate professor and founding dean of the school of education at Merrimack College and the executive director of Merrimack's Center for Engaged Democracy.

Butin is the author and editor of more than 70 academic publications, including the books *Service-Learning in Theory and Practice: The Future of Community Engagement in Higher Education* (2010), which won the 2010 Critics Choice Book Award of the American Educational Studies Association, *Service-Learning and Social Justice Education* (2008), *Teaching Social Foundations of Education* (2005), and, most recently with Scott Seider, *The Engaged Campus: Majors and Minors as the New Community Engagement* (2012).

Butin's research focuses on issues of educator preparation and policy and community engagement. Prior to working in higher education, he was a middle school math and science teacher and the chief financial officer of Teach For America.

Butin holds a bachelor's degree in management science from MIT, a master's in liberal education from St. John's College in New Mexico, and a doctorate in the social foundations of education from the University of Virginia.

## Daniel Carchidi



Daniel Carchidi is manager of the Instructional Development Center at the University of New Hampshire, where he leads a team charged with promoting and supporting the campuswide use of instructional technology for online and face-to-face courses. He is an affiliate assistant professor in the UNH Education Department.

Prior to arriving at UNH, he was publication director at MIT OpenCourseWare, where he was responsible for the overall budget, schedule, quality and team management of the OpenCourseWare publication, which included more than 2,000 courses from MIT's 33 academic departments as well as MIT's Highlights for High School website.

Carchidi has held management positions at GE Corporate and GE Capital, where he developed knowledge systems and other e-learning applications. A former infantry officer with the US Army's 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), he served as an officer for a multinational peacekeeping mission in the Sinai Peninsula.

He is a board member of the Portsmouth (NH) Music and Arts Center and an advisory board member of the Great Plains IDEA, Military Academic Advancement Program.

He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut, a master's from Teachers College, Columbia University, and a doctorate from the University of Michigan Center for the Study of Higher and Postsecondary Education.

## Philip DiSalvio



Philip DiSalvio is the founding dean of University College at the University of Massachusetts Boston.

He brings his 25 years of experience in professional education and graduate teaching to bear, as University College explores new and innovative ways to provide a quality education to nontraditional and adult learners.

DiSalvio's research and writing focuses on the seismic changes taking place in higher education today. Recent publications include a series of articles in *The New England Journal of Higher Education* on shifting higher educational landscapes, an article in *Continuing Higher Education*

*Review* on "UMass Boston: Reconstituting a Continuing Education Division to a Degree Granting Academic Unit" and a piece in *University Business* on "Harvard Online: Paradigm Shift, or Business as Usual?"

DiSalvio holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts Boston, a master's from Northeastern University, a doctorate from Harvard University Graduate School of Education, and a postdoctoral Robert Wood Johnson Faculty Fellowship in Health Policy and Management from Johns Hopkins University.

## Mary Lou Forward



Mary Lou Forward is the executive director of the OpenCourseWare Consortium, supporting the development of the open-education movement and the impact of open sharing on higher education globally. The OCW Consortium has hundreds of members around the world who work for increased access to education and increased collaboration and opportunities through sharing high-quality educational materials.

Prior to joining the OCW Consortium, she was dean of African Studies for SIT Study Abroad. There, she provided academic and strategic leadership for 29 programs across Africa, leading SIT's incorporation of technology and distance learning in international programming and developing innovative opportunities to collaborate across countries and diverse student groups.

Before that, she was academic director for undergraduate programs in Madagascar, focused on environmental studies and cultural geography. She has also worked on community-based development in Africa, with an emphasis on the incorporation of appropriate technologies and sustainable resources in small-scale enterprise development.

### **Sally M. Johnstone**



Sally M. Johnstone is the vice president for academic advancement at the Western Governors University, a competency-based, online institution headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Prior to joining WGU, she was the provost and vice president for academic affairs at a traditional comprehensive university, Winona State University in Minnesota.

She also spent 15 years at the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). Her experiences include work on policy issues for higher education institutions and system organizations, inter-institutional collaborations, quality assurance, project development and evaluation and institutional management.

Johnstone has worked with UNESCO on education and open-educational resource issues for over a decade, and currently serves on the U.S. UNESCO Commission. She also serves on the editorial boards for *Change* magazine and the *Journal of Open Learning*. She has authored dozens of articles, books and reports on issues of integrating information and communication technology into academics.

Johnstone holds a doctorate in experimental psychology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

### **Saul Kaplan**



Saul Kaplan is the founder and chief catalyst of the Business Innovation Factory (BIF).

Kaplan started BIF in 2005 with a mission to enable collaborative innovation. The nonprofit is creating a real-world laboratory for innovators to explore and test new business models and system-level solutions in areas of high social importance, including healthcare, education, entrepreneurship and energy independence.

Before founding BIF, Kaplan served as the executive director of the Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation and as the executive counselor to the governor on economic and community development. Kaplan created Rhode Island's unique "innovation @ scale" economic-development strategy aimed at increasing the state's capacity to grow and support an innovation economy, including an effort to turn the state's compact geography and close-knit public and private sector networks into a competitive advantage.

Prior to his state leadership role, Kaplan served as a senior strategy partner in Accenture's Health & Life-Science practice and worked broadly throughout the pharmaceutical, medical products and biotechnology industry. Kaplan also spent eight years working for the Pharmaceutical Division of Eli Lilly and Co. As marketing plans manager, Kaplan assisted in developing the launch strategy and successful introduction of Prozac into the U.S. market.

Kaplan shares his innovation musings on Twitter (@skap5), his blog (It's Saul Connected) and as regular contributor to the *Harvard Business Review*, *Fortune* and *Bloomberg Business Week*.

He holds a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from the University of Rhode Island and an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute focusing on the strategic management of technology.

### **John Katzman**



John Katzman is the founder and chair of 2tor, which works with research universities to create high-quality online degree programs. 2tor's partners include the University of Southern California, Georgetown University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and Washington University.

Prior to founding 2tor, Katzman founded *The Princeton Review* and served as its CEO until 2007. During his tenure, the *Review* helped over 50% of students applying to U.S. colleges and universities each year to identify, get admitted to, and pay for school. Further, it worked with hundreds of colleges and K-12 school districts to help them improve educational outcomes and university admissions.

Katzman is also the founder of Noodle, a search engine for educational resources and schools, and currently serves as the interim head of its higher education area. He is the co-author of five books, and a frequent lecturer and panelist. He serves on the boards of directors for several nonprofits, including the National Association of Independent Schools and the Woodrow Wilson Foundation.

He holds a bachelor's degree from Princeton University.

### **Ed Klonoski**



Ed Klonoski was named president of Charter Oak State College in 2008. The college, created by the Connecticut Legislature in 1973, assists adult learners in achieving their educational goals. Charter Oak's academic program is offered online to 4,000 students across Connecticut and the nation, with approximately 500 new bachelor's degree conferred each year.

Previously, Klonoski was president of the Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium (CTDLC), a collaborative effort by 50 Connecticut institutions of learning to deliver high-quality, web-based education. Klonoski has facilitated the consortium's online innovations from course management system applications, to pedagogy, student services, and institutional research. In 2004, the CTDLC received an Excellence Award from the New England Board of Higher Education.

Prior to directing the CTDLC, Klonoski was director of information technology at Charter Oak. He also spent 15 years teaching Composition & Rhetoric in a networked classroom and five years teaching faculty to create interactive multimedia. He has produced various sorts of educational media, published and presented on using the new media in teaching and learning, and consulted with a variety of institutions in education and industry.

Klonoski currently chairs the President's Forum, a national collaboration of accredited, adult-serving institutions and programs that have embraced the power and potential of online education, and the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education, a collaboration of the public and private higher education institutions the Greater Hartford area. He chairs the Executive Committee of the Transparency by Design project for the Gates Common Metrics Project.

Klonoski holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut and a master's from the University of Hartford.

### **Erin Knight**



Erin Knight spearheads the learning work at Mozilla, which includes developing learning content and experiences for webmaking and supporting broader learning across the web through her Open Badges work. She was one of the progenitors of the Open Badges movement and wrote the initial paper on badges that laid the foundation for badges as an alternative system of accreditation and credentialing.

Previously, Knight served as the research director at the Center for Next Generation Teaching and Learning, a nonprofit at the University of California, Berkeley, committed to researching and promoting technology and practices for student-centered learning. Her career to date has been balanced between the education-technology industry, giving her an inside view of the inner workings of education technology development, adoption and limitations, and academia, where she studied information systems, lectured and ran research studies on participatory learning environments.

She holds a bachelor's degree from Colby College and a master's from the University of California, Berkeley.

## Paul J. LeBlanc



Paul J. LeBlanc became president of Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) in 2003. He served as president of Vermont's Marlboro College from 1996 to 2003.

SNHU—under the eight years of LeBlanc's direction—has more than doubled in size and is the largest provider of online higher education in New England. In 2012, SNHU was the only university included on *Fast Company* magazine's "World's Fifty Most Innovative Companies" list, ranked at #12. SNHU has been recognized by the Gates Foundation as a "Beating the Odds" school for its innovative programming to increase graduation rates and productivity and has been named to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*'s list of "Best Colleges to Work For" every year since the listing was created in 2011.

LeBlanc won a New England Higher Education Excellence Award in 2012 and was named one of "New Hampshire's Most Influential People" by *New Hampshire Business Review*. He sits on a number of boards and steering committees including the Council of Adult and Experiential Learning, the New Hampshire College and University Council, the New Hampshire Campus Compact, the University of Kentucky College of Pharmacy Advisory Board, the Gates Foundation Data Metrics Project, and the OpenStudy Advisory Board. He is a past commissioner for the NEASC Commission on Higher Education.

LeBlanc holds a bachelor's degree from Framingham State College (now University), a master's from Boston College and a doctorate from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

## Rosemarie T. Nassif



Rosemarie T. Nassif is the special advisor to the assistant secretary for postsecondary education at the U.S. Department of Education, where she serves as a senior advisor to advance a range of issues involving reform, improvement and innovation in higher education.

Previously, Nassif served as the president of Holy Names University in Oakland, Calif., for 11 years, and president of Notre Dame of Maryland University in Baltimore.

She engaged with the corporate community as a member of the board of directors of Provident Bank of Maryland until 2001 and Fremont Bank until 2011. She now serves on the board of trustees at Payden & Rygel Mutual Fund.

Nassif earned a doctorate in physical chemistry from Catholic University, supported by a National Defense Education Fellowship.

## Andrew Ng



Andrew Ng is a co-founder of Coursera and a computer science faculty member at Stanford University. He is also director of the Stanford Artificial Intelligence Lab, the main AI research organization at Stanford.

In 2011, he led the development of Stanford University's main MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses) platform, and also taught an online Machine Learning class that was offered to more than 100,000 students.

Building on this success, he (along with Daphne Koller) founded Coursera, which now partners with top universities such as Princeton, Stanford, Caltech, Columbia, Penn and others, to offer courses online for anyone to take, for free.

Ng's goal is to give everyone in the world access to a high-quality education, for free. With 33 university partners, about 200 courses, and over 1.6 million students, Coursera is currently the largest MOOC (Massively Open Online Courses) platform.

### **Diana G. Oblinger**



Diana G. Oblinger is the president and CEO of EDUCAUSE, a nonprofit association whose mission is to advance higher education through the use of information technology. The current membership comprises more than 2,400 colleges, universities and education organizations.

Oblinger is known for her leadership in teaching, learning and information technology. She created the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative (ELI), focused on learning and learning technologies, as well as launching the Next Generation Learning Challenges, a \$30 million program supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to improve college readiness and completion through information technologies.

She is the author or co-author of many books, articles and monographs, including *Game Changers: Education and Information Technologies* and *Educating the Net Generation*.

Previously, Oblinger held positions at the University of North Carolina system, the University of Missouri, Michigan State University, IBM and Microsoft. She serves on a variety of boards and works with other higher education associations as chair of the Washington Higher Education Secretariat.

She holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Iowa State University.

### **Ray Rice**



Ray Rice has served as the chair of arts and sciences at the University of Maine at Presque Isle for the past four years, where he is a professor of English.

His teaching areas include Renaissance drama, literary theory, the English novel and philosophy.

He has been involved with asynchronous and blended teaching modalities since 1999 and has been an advocate for open higher education access his entire career.

### **Julie Schell**



Julie Schell is the senior education research associate in the Mazur Group at Harvard University and an instructional designer at the University of Texas, Austin.

Schell studies diffusion and uptake of pedagogical innovation across diverse contexts, such as disciplines, institutions and geographic regions. She is an expert in the interactive teaching method called Peer Instruction, and is co-founder of Peer Instruction Network, a global social network connecting innovative educators everywhere.

She authors the blog, called Turn to Your Neighbor, where she writes about flipping classrooms using interactive and research-based teaching methods.

Schell holds a master's degree in counseling and educational psychology from the University of Nevada, Reno, and a doctorate in higher education from Teachers College, Columbia University. Her dissertation, "Venturing Toward Better Teaching: STEM Professors' Efforts to Improve their Introductory Undergraduate Pedagogy," was selected as Dissertation of the Year by the Postsecondary Division of the American Educational Research Association.

## Jeff Shelstad



Jeff Shelstad is the co-founder and CEO of Flat World Knowledge Inc., the largest publisher of free and open college textbooks for students worldwide. Committed to making higher education more affordable and accessible, the company provides students with free online access to expert-written, peer-reviewed textbooks, with options to purchase affordable digital and print formats.

Before founding Flat World Knowledge in 2007, Shelstad served in various editorial and senior management positions in higher education publishing at Pearson Education and McGraw-Hill. He has worked with some of today's most successful business textbook authors.

A frequent speaker at industry conferences and educational forums, Shelstad is on the board of directors of the Education Division of the Software & Information Industry Association.

He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management and an executive MBA from Duke University.

## Cameron Staples



Cameron Staples, an attorney and former Connecticut state representative, was appointed president and CEO of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) in 2011.

As a state representative for the 96th Assembly District of Connecticut, which includes New Haven and Hamden, Staples served as House chair of both the Education Committee and the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee.

He was appointed by the U.S. Senate and elected chair of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity, a committee that advises the Secretary of Education on higher education accreditation and other policy matters.

His previous appointed offices include commissioner of the Education Commission of the States, co-chair of the Connecticut International Education Advisory Committee, vice chair of the New England Board of Higher Education, and member of the Budget and Review Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

Staples was a member of NEASC's Commission on American and International Schools Abroad from 2000 to 2010. He has participated on international accreditation team visits to China, Bulgaria, Switzerland, Thailand and Germany.

Staples holds a bachelor's degree from Wesleyan University, a master's from the University of Pennsylvania and a law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law.

## Michael K. Thomas



Michael K. Thomas is president and chief executive officer of the New England Board of Higher Education. Thomas joined NEBHE in 2002 and served as both senior director and senior vice president, directing NEBHE's policy, research and programmatic activities. Thomas has worked in corporate training and human resources and held varied administrative positions in higher education institutions, both public and independent, including as executive assistant to the president at Lesley University.

He has been a faculty member, adjunct professor and lecturer at several universities and served as trustee and vice chair of the board of Worcester State University.

Thomas holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Brigham Young University and master's degrees in higher education from Teachers College, Columbia University and Harvard University. He holds an MBA from Boston University and a doctorate in education and social policy from Harvard University.

## Chris Vogel

Chris Vogel is an award-winning investigative journalist and feature writer. In September, he profiled Harvard and MIT's free online enterprise, edX, for *Boston* magazine, where he is a contributing editor.

Throughout his career, Vogel has received more than 50 awards for his writing and reporting, including the Casey Medal for Meritorious Journalism, the James Aronson Award for Social Justice and was a finalist for the Livingston Award, which honors the nation's best young journalists.

He is a graduate of Occidental College.

## W. David Watts



W. David Watts has been president of the University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) since 2001.

During his tenure, UTPB's enrollment has grown from 2,200 to more than 4,100. The university has added eight new undergraduate degrees and four new master's programs, including mechanical and petroleum engineering.

UTPB has been identified by *U.S. News and World Report* as a top-tier university offering master's degrees in the West. In 2010, *Washington Monthly* recognized UTPB with a Top 20 award for social mobility. UTPB began the first \$10,000 full four-year degree in May 2012.