



DAY 1 | MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW: With the massive shift to online education due to the pandemic, many institutions are aggressively reworking curriculum programs to more appropriately complete in the virtual education space. This is no small challenge with virtual engagement removing the limitations of place and time. So, what does excellence in online education look like? How does this impact marketing, recruiting, course design, delivery, learning assessment and program management? Consider best practices for online education from distinguished experts across ABHE and beyond.

9:00 — 9:15

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS OF PARTICIPANTS & FACULTY

9:15 — 10:15

SESSION 1: TAKING AN ECOLOGICAL VIEW OF ONLINE EDUCATION

Presenter: Mary Lowe, Associate Dean, Rawlings School of Divinity — Liberty University (VA)

Overview: There is at work in theological online education, an ecological paradigm, that reflects the totality of a person's engagement with their contexts. This kind of paradigm requires the reciprocal and innate interaction between each of the parts to achieve a greater good. It's the integrative component that is at the heart of how and why ecology serves as a model for the infrastructure of online education. A healthy ecosystem serves as a reminder that there is an inherent influence of one component in the ecosystem impacting other components.

- Consider a framework for new paradigms in online education
- Discover how ecology serves as a model for redefining online education
- Discuss goodness of fit for online education
- Understand the changing dynamics of online education

10:15 — 10:45

Q & A DISCUSSION

10:45 — 11:00

REFRESHMENT BREAK

11:00 — 12:00

SESSION 2: EFFECTIVELY MANAGING ONLINE EDUCATION

Presenter: Mindi Thompson, Dir./Distance Ed., Graduate School of Theology — Abilene Christian University (TX)

Overview: So, you're thinking about starting or expanding your school's online program. Good for you! But how should you go about it?

There are a lot of questions, including:

- WHO are we trying to reach?
- WHAT should we offer?
- HOW much will this cost?
- WHY are we doing this?

12:00 — 12:30

Q & A DISCUSSION

12:30 — 12:45

A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR - ACADEUM

12:45 — 1:30

LUNCH — CATERED AT THE CONFERENCE CENTER

1:45 — 2:45

SESSION 3: DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE ONLINE PROGRAMS & COURSES

Presenter: Kevin Mahaffy, Director of Instructional Design — Moody Bible Institute (IL)

Overview: There are two critical components to ensure quality and sustainable online programs: faculty and courses. Sounds simple enough, but schools must pay utmost attention to both for success when setting up an online program. Getting it right from square one can ensure a long and prosperous program run!

- Setting the stage: Get it right from square one
- Backward thinking: Designing outcomes beginning to end
- Sweating the details: Course design done right
- Continuous improvement: Assessing the program

2:45 — 3:15

Q & A DISCUSSION

3:15 — 3:30

REFRESHMENT BREAK

3:30 — 4:30

SESSION 4: SUPPORTING SUCCESSFUL ONLINE TEACHING & LEARNING

Presenter: Andrew Beaty, Associate Dean of Online Programs & Faculty Support — Moody Bible Institute (IL)

Overview: Finding, preparing, and retaining highly qualified and highly engaged faculty for teaching online classes are issues that many schools are facing. We will look at ideas on how to effectively work with online faculty across the spectrum of their time teaching for our schools. We'll address:

- Recruiting the best faculty: Who are they and where are they?
- Providing initial training: What does a new online faculty member need to know?
- Ongoing development: How do we continue to connect with and equip faculty over time?
- Accountability: How do we encourage what we want to see and correct what we don't want to see?

4:30 — 5:00
6:00

**Q & A DISCUSSION
DINNER & FELLOWSHIP**

DAY 2 | TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

9:00 — 9:15

WELCOME AND REVIEW

9:15 — 10:15

SESSION 5: ASSURING QUALITY IN ONLINE EDUCATION

Presenter: Kaye Shelton, Professor of Educational Leadership — Lamar University (TX)

Overview: Are your online programs quality programs? This session will focus on improving online program offerings using the Online Learning Consortium's Quality Scorecard developed by Kaye Shelton.

- ⦿ Recognize benchmarks and standards to help evaluate online learning programs
- ⦿ Understand how to use the Scorecard to determine strengths and weaknesses of online programs
- ⦿ Discover how to initiate planning efforts towards areas of improvement

10:15 — 10:45
10:45 — 11:00

**Q & A DISCUSSION
REFRESHMENT BREAK**

11:00 — 12:00

SESSION 6: CULTIVATING A BIBLICAL IMAGINATION IN ONLINE EDUCATION

Presenter: Eric Brandt, Director of Digital Learning — Lancaster Bible College (PA)

Overview: The formation of devoted, lifelong students of Scripture is a priority of biblical higher education. This is equally important for our in-person and online modes of learning, and yet there are particular promises and pitfalls for achieving this aim in online education. In this session we will explore a framework for:

- ⦿ Envisioning online teaching and learning as the formation of a biblical imagination
- ⦿ Engaging faculty and students in collaborative biblical reflection
- ⦿ Shaping practices that cultivate biblical faithfulness in online learning communities

12:00 — 12:30

Q & A DISCUSSION

12:30 — 1:30

LUNCH – CATERED AT THE CONFERENCE CENTER

1:45 — 2:45

SESSION 7: GETTING TO THE H.E.A.R.T. OF TRANSFORMATIVE ONLINE EDUCATION

Presenter: Joanne Jung, Assoc. Dean/Online Education & Faculty Development — Biola University (CA)

Overview: Christian educators have a significant role in impacting the souls of their students. The online format of a course provides the context, engagement, and learning community necessary for deep and meaningful spiritual transformation. Join Joanne Jung as she gets to the H.E.A.R.T. of character formation in online learning by:

- ⦿ Knowing the biblical understanding of the heart
- ⦿ Fostering purposeful engagement
- ⦿ Designing prompts and questions that promote attentiveness and reflection
- ⦿ Innovating an intentionally transformative posture and practice

2:45 — 3:15
3:15 — 3:30

**Q & A DISCUSSION
REFRESHMENT BREAK**

3:30 — 4:30

**SESSION 8: GOING BEYOND BRICK BUT NOT BEYOND MISSION:
ONLINE EDUCATION IN THE NEW DIGITAL AGE**

Presenter: Alin Vrancila, Chief Academic Officer — Multnomah University (OR)

Overview: From revising curriculum, changing teaching modalities, and even rethinking our institutions' mission and vision, this is a season of change. But online education will only go as far as our own vision and mission will let it go. Are we moving from stopgaps to permanent changes? What changes should we make and where should change start in adjusting to the new Digital Age we are in? Consider envisioning new ways forward with an experienced practitioner, and think through:

- ⦿ What is the role of online education in expanding our institutions' mission?
- ⦿ What is the role of the professor in online education?
- ⦿ What is the role of the student and who is the student of the future?
- ⦿ What are the next opportunities in Christian online education?

4:30 — 5:00
6:00

**Q & A DISCUSSION
DINNER & FELLOWSHIP**

IN APPRECIATION FOR OUR CONFERENCE SPONSOR

