



ONLINE EDUCATION LEADERS CONFERENCE
Advancing Biblical Higher Education for Kingdom Impact

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
APRIL 24-26, 2024

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW: Much has changed in online education over the last five years—and much remains the same. This conference will explore the critical changes and continuities for students, faculty, and digital technologies between 2019 and 2024. We will conclude by considering what the recent past and present may have to tell us about the next future of online biblical higher education. Learn and share with leaders in biblical higher education and beyond who are navigating the challenges and embracing the opportunities.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 24	
6:00 — 7:30	OPENING DINNER AND INTRODUCTIONS — CATERED IN THE ABHE DINING ROOM
THURSDAY APRIL 25	
9:00 — 9:15	WELCOME — PHILIP DEARBORN, PRESIDENT ABHE
9:15 — 10:00	SESSION 1: REFLECTING ON TEACHING AND LEARNING DURING COVID AS WE CHART A PATH FORWARD Presenter: Mary Lowe, Online Chair & Professor Liberty University Overview: In early 2020, many of us began to confront an impending storm of challenges to previously held notions of how we deliver education. Some of the first signs began happening in residentially based classes and the sudden shift to emergency remote teaching. For others, the need to expand infrastructure to accommodate increased digital or online capacities became a far greater priority. We began to see both the consequences as well as opportunities for the next wave of higher education. ▶ Identify changes, consequences, and continuities of biblical higher education ▶ Implement approaches to leveraging digital technologies for successful student learning ▶ Interpret cultural shifts for the next future of biblical higher education
10:00 — 10:30	Q & A DISCUSSION
10:30 — 10:45	REFRESHMENT BREAK
10:45 — 11:30	SESSION 2: RECRUITING AND RETAINING ONLINE STUDENTS IN AN EVER-CHANGING MARKET Presenter: Scott Boyer, Director of Graduate & Online Recruitment Columbia International University Overview: Recruiting and retaining online students is an ever-present challenge for educational institutions. The online education landscape continually evolves, with new technologies, competitors, and student expectations. To succeed in this dynamic environment, it's essential to have a strategic approach. ▶ Understand your audience ▶ Effective marketing and branding ▶ Offering the right programs ▶ Supporting your students for success
11:30 — 12:00	Q & A DISCUSSION
12:00 — 12:15	A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR CAMPUS — ERIC CURRIE
12:15 — 1:00	LUNCH — CATERED IN THE ABHE DINING ROOM
1:00 — 1:45	SESSION 3: AI + AI + IAM (ACADEMIC INTEGRITY + ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE + I AM) Presenter: Joanne Jung, Associate Dean of Online Education & Student-Faculty Engagement Talbot School of Theology — Biola University Overview: Artificial intelligence presents challenges to our technology-saturated world, especially in the sphere of academics, whether online or residential. These challenges potentially compromise not only academic integrity but also the very core of God's design for human flourishing and a growing dependence on Him. ▶ An assessment of artificial intelligence in light of the beauty and Lessing God's design for human creativity and thriving ▶ Tools to articulate one's position on artificial intelligence ▶ Approaches to recognize its use, especially in theological education
1:45 — 2:15	Q & A DISCUSSION
2:15 — 2:30	REFRESHMENT BREAK

THURSDAY | APRIL 25 (CONT'D)

2:30 — 3:15

**SESSION 4: NAVIGATING THE TIDES OF CHANGE:
 LESSONS FROM A DECADE OF STRATEGIC ONLINE EDUCATION**

Presenter: David Eveland, Executive Director of Online Education | Johnson University

Overview: Higher education in general has suffered and sustained multiple changes and challenges in the past two decades. Biblical higher education is not immune to the global, social, demographic, and financial challenges. Providing online offerings has provided some institutions with a strategic way to address these challenges, however spinning up an online degree or certificate is not as easy as it might seem. Teaching online is different from teaching on the ground and at the chalkboard. Faculty need training and support to facilitate online courses, to work effectively within the LMS, to connect humanly with students at a distance, and believe in the potential for online education.

- ▶ Consider key technologies and workflows necessary for online course development
- ▶ Recognize landmarks for high quality online program and course design and instructor support
- ▶ Discuss methods for connecting with and humanizing the online faculty experience

3:15 — 3:45

Q & A DISCUSSION

3:45 — 4:00

WRAP-UP

4:00 — 5:00

REFRESH & RELAX — HILTON GARDEN INN

5:00 — 6:30

DINNER OFF SITE

FRIDAY | APRIL 26

9:00 — 9:15

REFLECTIONS FROM THE WORD

9:15 — 10:00

SESSION 5: AN EVANGELICAL THEOLOGY OF TECHNOLOGY

Presenter: John Dyer, VP for Enrollment Services & Educational Technologies | Dallas Theological Seminary

Overview: This session will examine the role of technology in the biblical story, look at how evangelicals have tended to approach technology, and suggest a framework for current and future technologies.

- ▶ See the theme of human making throughout the biblical story
- ▶ Be aware of how evangelicals both resist and appropriate technology
- ▶ Apply this knowledge to today's educational technology

10:00 — 10:30

Q & A DISCUSSION

10:30 — 10:45

REFRESHMENT BREAK

10:45 — 11:30

SESSION 6: PERSONAL ACTION PLAN AND SHARING

Discuss the most pressing challenges and opportunities on the horizon for online biblical higher education with the conference presenters. Create a draft of your **Personal Action Plan** based on the most significant and urgent issues you should address following the conference.

11:30 — 12:00

Q & A DISCUSSION AND WRAP-UP

12:00 — 1:00

CLOSING BOXED LUNCH — ABHE DINING ROOM

IN APPRECIATION FOR OUR CONFERENCE SPONSOR

