



Center for
**LifeLong
Learning
& Design**

University of Colorado at Boulder

**Wisdom is not the product of schooling
but the lifelong attempt to acquire it.
- Albert Einstein**

**Rethinking and Reinventing Learning, Education, and Collaboration in the Digital Age
—
From Creating Technologies to Transforming Cultures”**

Introductory Remarks

Johan Lundin and Gerhard Fischer

Symposium, Gävle, Sweden, September 2019

Design Criteria for the Symposium

- **Objective:**

- explore design opportunities and design trade-offs and discuss design and research strategies that are expected to systematically and proactively increase digital technology's contributions to learning and collaborating

- **Participants:**

- bring together representatives from different disciplines, from different countries and from different constituencies (researchers, teachers, and practitioners) → we did not manage to invite/attract people outside of academia (i.e. practitioners), but many of the participants are both researchers/PhD-students and teachers

- **Most important organizational emphasis:**

- facilitate **a discussion involving all participants** rather than presentations by a few and most attendees being restricted to listeners

The Symposium will be different from a Standard Conference

- **the Standard Conference:**
 - 90 minutes sessions with 3 talks consisting of a presentation and a very short Q/A part
 - focus on information transfer with mostly passive listeners

- **the sessions at our Conference: duration: 80 minutes**
 - brief keynote (20 minutes)
 - discussant (10 minutes)
 - discussion among all participants (40 minutes)
 - ongoing online documentation and/or discussion throughout the symposium

**Breaks and Dinners are important aspect of the meeting
<<and plenty of time is allocated for them>>**

Some Basic Assumptions

- Digitalization of society is one of the **fundamental challenges** for the future

- the existence of and access to new information technologies is **necessary but not sufficient** for Rethinking and Reinventing Learning, Education, and Collaboration in the Digital Age

- identify and discuss some major **design trade-offs**:
 - will digitalization increase or decrease the “digital divide” → who will be empowered to design, create, invent, and choose to use the technologies to enhance their personal and professional lives, as well as social worlds

 - being in control (autonomy) versus being controlled (prescriptive guidance)

 - sustaining knowledge in humans *versus* sustaining human knowledge in machines

 - finding a balance between flexibility versus stability in working life

Digitalization – A Wicked and Systemic Problems

- “Rethinking and Reinventing Learning, Education, and Collaboration in the Digital Age”
 - is not a choice of right and wrong, but rather a matter of **tradeoffs**
 - claim: “there are no decontextualized sweet spots”

- **near term challenges:**
 - creating synergistic approaches and identifying contextualized sweet spots
 - formulating desired futures with technology

- a **long term challenge** to reflect/speculate about the future:
 - children who entered school this fall at age 6 will retire in 2078 (assuming a retirement age of 65)
 - How do we help them (with educational settings, learning opportunities, powerful tools, ...) to get prepared in the best possible way to have an interesting, enjoyable, and successful life??

Program Wednesday, September 18

9.00-9.30 Opening of the symposium (Johan and Gerhard)

9.30-10.40 first keynote and discussion - Gerhard Fischer

10.40-11.10 break

11.10-12.20 second keynote and discussion - Netta livari

12.20-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.40 third keynote - Maarten de Laat

14.40-15.10 break

15.10-16.10 introduction to work on special issue and discussion (Ola and Johan)

16.20-19.00 Grade board meeting, others unbooked time for social activities

19.00 Dinner

Program Thursday, September 19

9.00-10.10 fourth keynote - Uta Wilkens

10.10-10.40 break

10.40-11.50 fifth keynote - Teemu Leinonen

11.50-13.20 lunch

13.20-14.30 sixth keynote - Anders Mörch

14.30-15.00 break

15.00-16.20 Summary discussion - Johan Lundin & Gerhard Fischer

19.00 dinner