



RETHINKING LEARNING  
IN A DIGITAL AGE  
18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017, BULGARIA

## **TWG2: Informal Learning with Technology**

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Kwok-Wing Lai  
University of Otago College of Education  
Dunedin, New Zealand



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Contributors: Kwok-Wing Lai (New Zealand), Cathy Lewin (UK), Hans van Bergen (The Netherlands), Amina Charania (India), Ferial Khaddage (Lebanon), Jean Gabin Ntebutse (Canada), Hiroaki Ogata (Japan), Roger Sherman (USA), David Smith (USA), Barry Quinn (UK)

**INFORMAL LEARNING = ANY LEARNING THAT IS  
NOT ORGANISED/TEACHER-DIRECTED,  
CURRICULUM-DRIVEN, ASSESSED, LEADS TO  
QUALIFICATIONS**

# The learning environment

TEACHER



STUDENT



PARENT



RECOGNITION/INTEGRATION

EMPOWERMENT

AWARENESS/SUPPORT

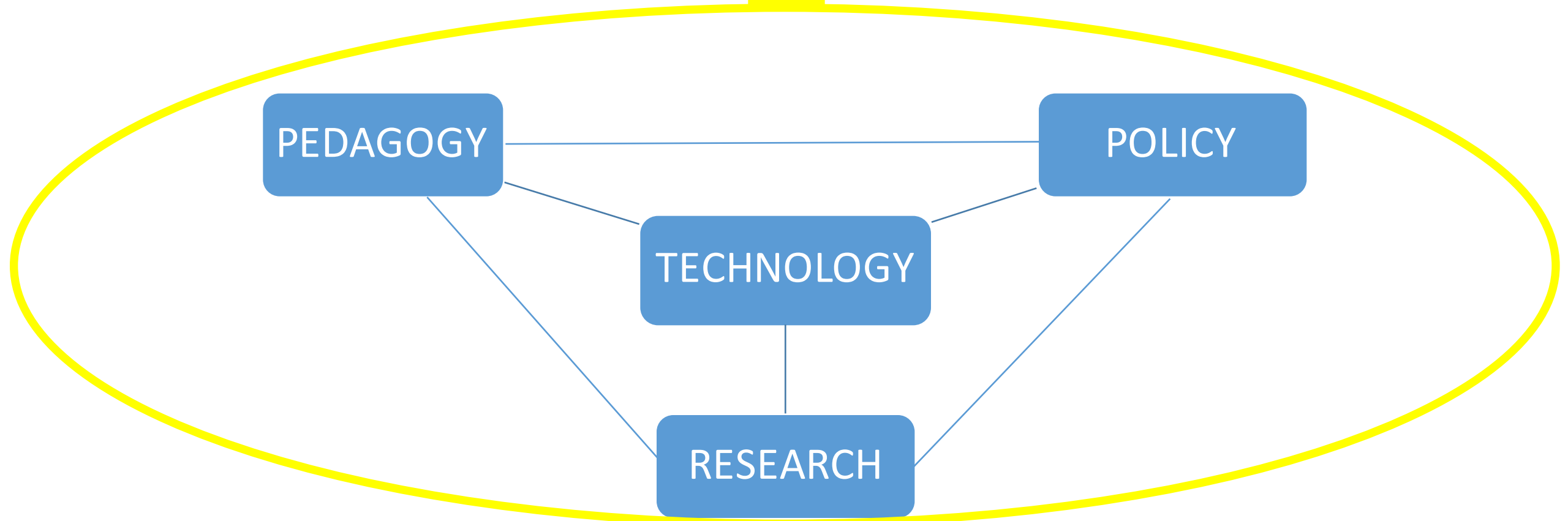


PEDAGOGY

POLICY

TECHNOLOGY

RESEARCH





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## Recommendations: policy makers

- Provide teachers with professional learning and development opportunities to develop pedagogical strategies and practices that could benefit learners to engage in informal learning.
- Target parents and students to develop a better understanding of the issues (e.g., ethical issues) relating to the connection between formal and informal learning
- Develop policy to collect and use information about students' informal learning styles and activities (e.g, utilising big data).
- Identify and share exemplars of different policy approaches.
- Promote accreditation of prior learning at all levels (e.g., schools, universities).



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## Recommendations: practice

- Identify how practitioners can share informal learning practices that have an impact on formal learning with their students.
- Identify pedagogical approaches that take account of students' self-directed learning relevant to the curriculum and also support students to develop self-regulation skills through informal learning.
- Identify how to develop practitioners' skills and knowledge in order to support the development of students' digital competence including technical skills, cognitive/metacognitive skills.



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## Recommendations: research

- Develop technologies to enable learners to capture and reuse their learning experiences (e.g., SCROLL system in the context of language learning).
- Develop technologies to support critical thinking.
- Conduct more evidence-based studies to understand the relationship between formal and informal learning.
- Design studies that capture rich data on student use of technology outside formal institutions (e.g., ethnographic, walkthroughs).



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Thank you!