5. EUROPEAN CONGRESS HIGHER EDUCATION LAW

FACING THE FUTURE:

BLENDED LEARNING, AR/VR, AI AND ROBOTICS IN TEACHING, EXAMS AND RESEARCH

19 SEPTEMBER 2026
BERLIN/GERMANY
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PROGRAM

Venue: Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences, Jägerstrasse 22-23, 10117 Berlin

8:30 a.m. Coffee/Tea

9:00 a.m. Welcome by the Directors of the Institute of European and International Higher Education Law and the Management of Sciences

9:15 a.m. AI in Higher Education: An Introduction
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Zankl, Director of the Institute for Digital Transformation and AI, Sigmund Freud Private University, Vienna/Berlin

9:45 a.m. Discussion

10:00 a.m. Advancing AI in Higher Education:
From Innovation to Institutional Strategy
Prof. Dr. Helen Crompton, Executive Director of the Research Institute for Digital Innovation in Learning, Professor of Instructional Technology at Old Dominion University in Norfolk/Virginia

10:30 a.m. Discussion

10:45 a.m. Coffee Break

11:15 a.m. AI in University Settings – How to encourage, handle and limit the use by institutional regulations
Prof. Dirk Naumann zu Grünberg, German University Foundation

11:45 a.m. Immersive Virtual Reality Learning Environments for Higher Education
Univ.-Prof. Dr. Stefan Aufenanger, University of Mainz

12:15 a.m. Discussion

12:30 a.m. Lunch

1:30 p.m. Avatar-based Teaching and Learning in Virtual Reality:
The Experience of RWTH Aachen University
Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Heribert Nacken, Rector's Representative for Digital Transformation in Academic Teaching, RWTH Aachen University

2:00 p.m. Discussion

2:15 p.m. Legal Aspects of Generative AI in University Exams
Prof. Dr. Sarah Rachut, Junior Professor for Public Law, Law of Digitalization and Higher Education Law, Director of the Law Institute, Technical University Braunschweig

2:45 p.m. Discussion

3:00 p.m. What would an AI university look like and how might it change education? An Outlook
Dr. Jackson Ryan, President of the Science Journalists Association of Australia

3:30 p.m. Discussion