



# ASEFNextEd1 Fellowship Leaders Meeting

## “Re-thinking Intelligence: The Future of Teacher Education”

27-30 April 2006 | Cambridge, United Kingdom

### Programme

#### Monday, 27 April 2026

##### Arrival & Registration

Venue: [Ibis Cambridge Hotel](#), 2 Station Square, Cambridge, CB12GA, United Kingdom

Throughout the day

##### Arrival and Check-in

Participants arrive in Cambridge and check in to their accommodation, allowing time to settle in and preparing for the Fellowship journey.

17:00 – 18:00

##### Registration & Programme Brief

Participants complete registration and receive relevant information for the event.  
Hotel Lobby

19:00 onwards

##### Free evening

Meals are not arranged for free evenings; participants are kindly invited to make their own dining arrangements.

#### Tuesday, 28 April 2026

##### Setting the Scene: Reframing Intelligence, Building Community, and Stress-testing Whitepaper Ideas

Venue: Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI), Hughes Hall Cambridge, CB1 2EW, United Kingdom

09:00 – 09:30

##### Introduction & Welcome

Welcome Remarks by host:

- **Dr Kevin MARTIN**, Managing Director, Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI) at Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge

Project & Programme Introduction:

- **Ms Jyoti RAHAMAN**, Project Lead – Education Innovation, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

09:30 – 10:15

##### Opening Keynote: Dialogic Intelligence in the Age of AI: Beyond Human vs Artificial

As AI systems are increasingly perceived to “write,” “reason,” and even “think,” this keynote begins by questioning these assumptions. What are we actually seeing, and what might we be misunderstanding? Rather than accepting the narrative that AI replicates or replaces human intelligence, Professor Rupert Wegerif invites participants to critically examine these claims and reconsider intelligence as something dialogic, relational, and emerging through interaction. Professor Rupert Wegerif introduces the concept of dialogic intelligence, shifting the focus from intelligence as something possessed by humans or machines, to something that emerges through interaction, questioning, and meaning making. In doing so, the session invites participants to rethink the role of teachers, not as facilitators of AI-driven efficiency, but as professionals who cultivate critical dialogue, interpretation, and human agency in increasingly complex learning environments.

Speaker:

- **Professor Rupert WGERIF**, Professor, Faculty of Education, Founder of DEFI, University of Cambridge

10:15 – 10:45 **Coffee/Tea Break**

10:45 – 11:15 **Group Photo**

11:15 – 12:30 **Intercultural Team Mapping & Fireside Dialogue**

### **Navigating Differences: From Values to Effective Intercultural Collaboration**

This session aims to strengthen intercultural awareness, foster trust, and enable Fellowship Leaders to build effective, reflective, and collaborative cross-cultural teams. In a Fellowship that brings together diverse perspectives from across 50 Asian and European countries, effective collaboration requires more than shared goals. It demands a deeper understanding of the values, assumptions, and cultural contexts that shape how we think, communicate, and work together. This session engages Fellowship Leaders in a structured exploration of personal and cultural values through an interactive exercise and team culture mapping. Moving beyond surface-level introductions, participants reflect on how differences in perspectives influence decision-making, communication styles, and expectations within teams. By making these differences visible and discussable, the session supports participants in navigating complexity, building trust, and co-creating a shared foundation for whitepaper collaboration.

Speaker:

- **Ms Jyoti RAHAMAN**, Project Lead – Education Innovation, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

### **Purpose, Responsibility, and Work Ahead: Why are we here, and why does it matter?**

Speaker:

- **Dr Velislava HILLMAN**, Director, Education Data and Data Safety (EDDS) Institute, United Kingdom

As the Fellowship begins, this fireside dialogue creates space for reflection on why this work matters, and what it asks of us as educators, researchers, and leaders in a rapidly changing landscape. Participants are invited to move beyond institutional roles and engage in a more personal and critical conversation: What brings us here at this moment? What responsibilities do we carry in shaping the future of teacher education? And what tensions, questions, or uncertainties do we bring into this work? Through an open and reflective exchange, the session surfaces diverse motivations, perspectives, and commitments, helping to anchor the Fellowship in a shared sense of purpose while acknowledging the complexity of the challenges ahead.

12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch & Informal Peer Interaction**

14:00 – 16:30 • **Whitepaper Proposal Presentations for Peer Feedback**

In this structured peer-review session, each proposal is critically examined through multiple lenses, including relevance, conceptual clarity, and potential contribution to policy and practice in the context of teacher education in the era of AI.

This session aims to strengthen the intellectual rigor and positioning of each whitepaper, ensuring that all contributions are grounded, relevant, and impactful. It is designed as a **peer review studio**, where Fellowship Leaders present their initial whitepaper ideas and receive structured, constructive feedback from peers and advisers. The aim is not only to share ideas, but to **test, challenge, and strengthen them**.

Each presentation should go beyond describing a topic and instead clearly articulate:

- the **core question or problem** being addressed
- why it is **important and timely** in the context of AI and teacher education
- the **key tension, gap, or assumption** being examined
- the intended **contribution to policy, practice, or research**

Fellowship Leaders and Whitepaper Proposals:

- **Prof Yik Chan CHIN**, Project Lead, United Nations University Macau (UNU Macau), China
  - Rethinking Teacher Intelligence as Ethical, Critical, and Explainable Intelligence in the Era of Generative AI
  - Designing Teacher Education for Human–AI Co-Intelligence: Preparing Teachers for Pedagogical Innovation and Student-Centered AI Integration
- **Mrs Lidija KRALJ**, Education Analyst and Consultant, EduconLK, Croatia
  - Human Expertise in AI impacted Classrooms
- **Professor Yasuhisa TAMURA**, Professor, Sophia University, Japan
  - Redefining Teacher and Teacher Educator Roles in AI-Impacted Learning Analytics Environments
- **Professor Stephen POWELL**, Director, Te Puna Ako, University of Waikato, New Zealand
  - System Level Innovation in Teacher Education
- **Professor Seng Chee TAN**, Co-chair of AI@NIE, National Institute of Education Singapore
  - Teacher Professional Agency in an Age of Distributed Intelligence
- **Dr Mateja BERJC**, Education Policy Officer, Digital Unit, Ministry of Education, Slovenia
  - Effective Teacher Professional Development for AI-Influenced and Sustainability-Driven Education Systems
- **Dr Imogen CASEBOURNE**, Research Innovation Lead, DEFI, Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge
  - Inclusive by design: Supporting teachers to Use AI for equitable collective learning
- **Dr Velislava HILLMAN**, Director, EDDS Institute, United Kingdom
  - Teaching for a Sustainable Future: Resisting Digital Commodification in Education for Social Good

Fellowship Leaders are encouraged to engage critically and constructively, helping each other refine ideas into **clear, focused, and impactful whitepaper directions**.

16:30 – 17:00 **Coffee/Tea Break**

### **ASEFNextEd1's Intellectual Direction: An Asia-Europe Strategic Roundtable**

**“What if we are wrong about Intelligence?” and “Why do we need to rethink Intelligence?”**

17:00 – 17:45

This strategic roundtable anchors the Fellowship’s intellectual direction and serves as a critical turning point in the programme. Bringing together diverse perspectives from Asia and Europe, it invites participants to step back from dominant narratives around AI and education and ask more fundamental questions: **Are we framing intelligence in ways that are too narrow, too technological, or too simplistic? And what are the consequences of getting this wrong for teacher education?** Through an exchange of perspectives, the session exposes gaps in discourse, and brings forward tensions, contradictions, and alternative viewpoints. In doing so, it creates space for deeper, more rigorous thinking, moving beyond surface-level narratives towards more grounded, critical, and contextually aware perspectives. All in all, this roundtable surface critical

tensions and blind spots, and establish a clear, rigorous intellectual foundation to guide the Fellowship's inquiry and whitepaper development.

Moderators:

- Asia: **Dr Li YUAN**, Professor, Beijing Normal University (BNU) Zhuhai Campus, China
- Europe: **Prof. Wayne HOLMES**, UNESCO Chair in the ethics of AI in Education. Professor, UCL, United Kingdom

Speakers:

- All Fellowship Leaders

17:45 – 18:00 **Recap and Feedback**  
A brief synthesis of key insights from the day, highlighting emerging themes and directions for further exploration.

18:00 onwards **Free Evening**  
Meals are not arranged for free evenings; participants are kindly invited to make their own dining arrangements.

## Wednesday, 29 April 2026

### From Reflection to Co-Creation: Aligning Themes, Strengthening Inquiry, and Connecting to Systems Innovation

Venue: Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI), Hughes Hall Cambridge, CB1 2EW, United Kingdom

09:00 – 10:00 **Deep-Dive Keynote**  
**Beyond the Hype: Challenging Assumptions About AI, Intelligence, and Teacher Education**  
This deep-dive keynote combines keynote input with short, guided moments of interaction, inviting all Fellowship Leaders to reflect, respond, and critically engage with key ideas and assumptions in real time. As AI is increasingly perceived as “intelligent” and transformative, the keynote challenges these narratives by examining what AI can, cannot, and should not be expected to do in education. Focusing on the implications for teacher education, the session emphasises the importance of critical engagement, professional judgement, and ethical responsibility in navigating AI in practice. All in all, it challenges dominant assumptions and reinforces a more critical, human-centred approach to AI in education.

Speaker:

- **Professor Wayne HOLMES**, University College London, UNESCO Chair for AI and Ethics, IRCAI, United Kingdom

10:00 – 10:30 **Coffee/Tea Break**

10:30 – 11:00 **UNU's Policy Insights for Supporting Whitepaper Development and Direction**

Speaker:

- **Prof Yik Chan CHIN**, Project Lead, United Nations University Macau (UNU Macau), China

In this session the speaker shares key policy perspectives to guide the development and strategic direction of Whitepapers. The session will highlight how to strengthen policy relevance, align with global priorities, and translate research into actionable insights for decision-makers.

11:00 – 12:30 **Whitepaper Alignment: From Ideas to Position**

Building on previous discussions and feedback on Fellowship Leader's presentations of whitepapers, each Fellowship leader work in groups to finalise and sharpen their whitepaper direction. Each Leader is required to move beyond broad themes and define:

- a clear central question
- a key tension or problem they are addressing
- their intended contribution to policy or practice

Each leader prepares a position statement and presents it in 2-3 minutes to get final feedback from the Advisers and peers. After the event they will submit their refined whitepaper title and description to the ASEFNextEd team.

**Moderator:**

- **Professor Wayne HOLMES**, University College London, UNESCO Chair for AI and Ethics, IRCAL, United Kingdom

12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch & Informal Peer Interaction**

13:30 – 14:30 **DEFI Innovation Showcase – Ideas Shaping the Future of Teacher Education**  
*Fast-Paced PechaKucha Format*

DEFI researchers present cutting-edge work through dynamic PechaKucha-style presentations, offering concise, high-impact insights into emerging approaches to AI, learning design, and future education systems. The session highlights forward-looking ideas and practical innovations shaping the next generation of teacher education.

**Speakers:**

- **Mr Luwei BAI**, PhD Student, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
  - Collaborative AI in Deductive Coding
- **Mr Bo YU**, PhD Student, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
  - Enhancing Educational Dialogue and Collective Thinking through Generative AI Moderator: A Design-Based Research
- **Dr Imogen CASEBOURNE**, Research Director and Innovation Lab Lead, DEFI, Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge
  - A Knowledge Transfer Partnership to Develop Dialogic AI
- **Dr Kevin MARTIN**, Managing Director, Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI) at Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge
  - Dialogue, AI and the Digital Divide
- **Mr Isaac LEI**, PhD Student, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge
  - Bridging the support gap with generative AI enabled learner profiles for adolescents with autism
- **Ms Megan ENNION**, DEFI, Hughes Hall University of Cambridge
  - tbc

14:30 – 15:00 **Coffee/Tea break**

15:00 – 16:00 **Future Scenario Lab: Teacher Education in 2050**

All Fellowship Leaders, Advisers and presenters engage in a forward-looking exploration of contrasting future scenarios: **AI-dominant** and **human-centred** education systems. Moving beyond present assumptions, participants examine how different trajectories of technological and societal change may reshape the role of teachers and the purpose of teacher education. Working in 2 groups, participants reflect on key questions: What changes for teachers? What should teacher education prioritise? What risks and unintended consequences may emerge?

The session encourages participants to think systemically and critically, connecting present challenges with future possibilities.

**Output:** Each Fellowship Leader shares 2–3 key insights to inform and strengthen the direction, relevance, and forward-looking perspective of their whitepapers.

Moderator:

- **Dr Kevin MARTIN**, Managing Director, Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI) at Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge

16:00 – 16:30 **Closing Keynote**

### **Re-imagining Quality Education in the Era of AI**

This discussion explores how advances in AI are challenging traditional definitions of “quality” in education, particularly by exposing the limitations of our current education models. It argues for a shift from viewing AI as solely a threat to recognising it as a potential partner in 'intelligence augmentation' and 'collective intelligence,' prompting a reimagining of education around creativity, dialogue, and human development rather than measurable outputs.

Speaker:

- **Dr Kevin MARTIN**, Managing Director, Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI) at Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge

16:30 – 17:00 **Recap and feedback**

17:00 onwards **Free Evening**

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## **Thursday, 30 April 2026**

### **Walking Tour and Participant Departure**

Meeting point: IBIS Hotel Lobby

10:00 **Hotel Check-out**

10:00 – 12:00 **NextEd1 Team Building Walking Tour in Cambridge**

Tour Facilitator:

- **Dr Kevin MARTIN**, Managing Director, Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI) at Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge

12:00 – 14:00 **Farewell Lunch**

15:00 onwards **Participant Departure**

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