



NextEd FELLOWSHIP

1st Asia-Europe Education
Next Fellowship Conference
Macau, SAR | 23-27 November 2026

Programme

Monday, 23 November 2026

Arrival & Registration

Hotel Venue: TBC

Throughout the day

Arrival and Check-in

Participants arrive in Macau and check in to their accommodation, allowing time to settle in and preparing for the on-site Fellowship journey.

16:00 – 17:00

Registration & Programme Brief

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

19:00 onwards

Welcome Reception

Venue: TBC

Welcome Remarks by:

- **Ambassador Beata STOCZYŃSKA**, Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation
- **ASEF's Governor for China**
- **Dr Jingbo HUANG**, Director, UNU Macau
- **Representative**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China
- **Representative**, Ministry of Education of China
- **Representative**, International Research Centre on Artificial Intelligence

Master of Ceremonies:

- **Representative**, UNU Macau

Tuesday, 24 November 2026

Setting the Scene: Questioning Intelligence, Building Community, and Whitepaper Final Draft Presentations

Venue: UNU Macau

09:00 – 09:30

Introduction & Welcome

Official Opening Remarks:

- **Ambassador Beata STOCZYŃSKA**, Executive Director, Asia-Europe Foundation
- **Dr Jingbo HUANG**, Director, UNU Macau
- **Representatives**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China/Ministry of Education of China
- **Representative**, International Research Centre on Artificial Intelligence

Master of Ceremonies:

- **Ms Reka TOZSA**, Director, Education Department, Asia-Europe Foundation

09:30 – 10:10

Opening Keynote from Asia

Intelligence Reimagined: What Should Teachers Know, Do, and Become in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

As AI increasingly performs tasks associated with human thinking, this keynote questions what this means for teachers. Rather than focusing on what teachers can *do* with AI, it asks how we should rethink what teachers need to *know*, *value*, and *become*. Challenging narratives of efficiency and automation, the session reframes teachers as professionals who design meaningful learning, exercise ethical judgment, and sustain human agency. It invites participants to reconsider teacher education as a transformative process shaped by evolving understandings of intelligence.

Speaker:

- **Professor Neil SLWYN**, Professor, Faculty of Education, Monash University, Australia [tbc]

10:10 – 10:50

Opening Keynote from Europe:

From Knowing to Navigating: Preparing Teachers for Uncertainty in Intelligent Systems

In a world where knowledge is abundant and machine-generated, what defines an intelligent teacher? This keynote shifts the focus from knowledge transmission to navigating uncertainty, complexity, and change. It explores how teachers can act as critical mediators of AI-generated knowledge, supporting interpretation, judgment, and responsible use. The session invites participants to rethink teacher education as preparation for adaptive, ethical, and context-aware practice in an AI-driven world.

Speaker:

- **Professor Jeremy KNOX**, Associate Professor in Digital Education, Faculty of Education, University of Oxford [tbc]

10:50 – 11:10

Coffee/Tea Break

11:10 – 11:30

Group Photo

11:30 – 12:30

Fireside Dialogue – Part 2

From Reflection to Responsibility: Sustaining Purpose and Impact

As the Fellowship reaches its on-site phase, this fireside dialogue creates space to reflect on what has been achieved and what lies ahead. Moving beyond initial motivations, the session invites participants to consider how their ideas, Whitepapers, and collaborations can translate into sustained impact. Through an open and critical exchange, participants explore key questions: What responsibilities emerge from our work? What tensions remain unresolved? And how do we carry this momentum forward beyond the conference? The dialogue encourages a collective reflection on commitment, accountability, and the role of the community in shaping the future of teacher education in the age of AI.

Speaker:

- TBC

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch & Informal Peer Interaction

14:00 – 16:30

Whitepaper Final Draft Presentations & Peer Feedback

Whitepaper Review Studio: Strengthening Final Drafts for Impact

In this structured peer-review session, Fellowship Leaders present their final Whitepaper drafts for critical feedback from peers and Advisers. Each paper is examined through multiple lenses, including relevance, conceptual clarity, and its potential contribution to policy and practice in teacher education in the age of AI. Designed as a collaborative review studio, the session goes beyond presentation to actively test, challenge, and refine each paper. The aim is to strengthen intellectual rigour, sharpen positioning, and ensure that all Whitepapers are grounded, timely, and impactful.

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 Final Whitepaper Draft Presentations:

- **Prof Yik Chan CHIN**, Project Lead, United Nations University Macau (UNU Macau), China
 - AI Re-thinking Teacher Intelligence as Ethical, Critical and Explainable Intelligence (ECETI) in the Era of Generative AI
- **Prof Stephen POWELL**, Director, Te Puna Ako, University of Waikato, New Zealand
 - System Level Innovation in Teacher Education
- **Prof Seng Chee TAN**, Co-chair of AI@NIE, National Institute of Education Singapore
 - Developing Teacher Agency in an AI-Infused World: A Distributed Intelligence Perspective
- **Dr Äli LEIJEN**, Professor of Teacher Education, University of Tartu, Estonia
 - Supporting Human Agency in the Era of AI: Implications for Educational Leadership
- **Prof Roberta PIAZZA**, Professor, University of Catania, Italy
 - Challenges of Educational Assessment in the AI Era
- **Dr Mateja BERJC**, Education Policy Officer, Digital Unit, Ministry of Education, Slovenia
 - Teacher Professional Judgement in AI-Influenced Education Systems
- **Dr Imogen CASEBOURNE**, Research Innovation Lead, DEFI, Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge
 - Ready or Not: Policy and Guidance to Support Teachers to Design AI-enabled Wearables in Inclusive Classrooms
- **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 the **final whitepaper drafts** into **clear, focused, and impactful whitepaper directions**.

16:30 – 17:00

Coffee/Tea Break

17:00 – 17:45

ASEFNextEd1's Intellectual Direction for Year 2: An Asia-Europe Strategic Roundtable From Insight to Influence: Positioning the Asia-Europe Whitepapers for Impact

This strategic roundtable is co-moderated by two ASEFNextEd1 Advisers, one from Asia and one from Europe, ensuring a geographically balanced perspective in guiding the discussion. The session also features four additional Advisers as panellists, bringing diverse regional and thematic expertise. Together with Fellows and stakeholders, the roundtable explores how the Asia-Europe Whitepapers can evolve from knowledge outputs into instruments of influence. It reflects on insights emerging across regions and examines how they can inform policy, practice, and future collaboration. The discussion aims to shape ASEFNextEd1's intellectual direction for Year 2 by identifying priorities for impact, strengthening alignment, and fostering sustained Asia-Europe dialogue.

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:

- **Dr Jingbo HUANG**, Director, UNU Macau
- **Dr Kevin MARTIN**, Managing Director, Digital Education Futures Initiative (DEFI) at Hughes Hall, University of Cambridge
- **Prof Miki SUGIMURA**, President, Sophia University, Japan
- **Prof Margus PEDASTE**, Head of Institute of Education, University of Tartu, Estonia

17:45 – 18:00

UNU Macau's Congratulatory Remarks

Speaker:

- Professor Tshilidzi MARWALA, Rector, UNU Macau, SAR

18:00 – 18:15

Recap and Feedback

A brief synthesis of key insights from the day, highlighting emerging themes and directions for further exploration.

18:15 onwards

Free Evening

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

Wednesday, 25 November 2026

UNU AI Conference

Venue: TBC

09:00 – 18:00

UNU AI Conference

Programme: TBC

18:00 – 21:00 **Official Celebration Dinner**
Details: TBC

Thursday, 26 November 2026

Parallel UNU Macau and ASEF Sessions: From Reflection to Co-Creation for Impact: Strengthening Inquiry, and Connecting to Systems Innovation

Venue: UNU Macau

09:00 – 10:00 **Deep-Dive Keynote**

From Critique to Action: Reframing Teacher Education for the Age of AI

This deep-dive keynote combines keynote input with short, guided moments of interaction, inviting all Fellowship Leaders and Fellows to first reflect, respond, and critically engage with key ideas and assumptions in real time. It then shifts from challenging assumptions about AI to exploring implications for teacher education. If AI reshapes how knowledge and intelligence are understood, how should teacher preparation respond? The session highlights the importance of professional judgment, ethical decision-making, and critical engagement in using AI. It invites participants to consider how teacher education can move beyond critique towards responsible, human-centred practice.

Speaker:

- **Prof 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 Dissemination and Impact From Knowledge to Impact: Policy Pathways for Advancing the Asia-Europe Whitepapers**

Speaker:

- **Dr Jingbo HUANG**, Director, United Nations University Macau (UNU Macau), China

This session explores how the Asia-Europe Whitepapers can move beyond publication to achieve meaningful policy and practice impact. Drawing on UNU's expertise, it examines strategies for effective dissemination, stakeholder engagement, and alignment with policy priorities across regions. The session offers practical insights on how to position the Whitepapers as actionable resources that inform decision-making and foster sustained collaboration.

11:00 – 12:30 **Whitepaper Activation: From Position to Dissemination**

Building on the finalised Whitepapers, this session shifts focus from defining positions to planning for dissemination and impact. Fellowship Leaders work in groups to translate their ideas into clear communication and engagement strategies across Asia and Europe. Each Leader is guided to define:

- Key target audience and stakeholders
- Core messages and policy relevance
- Appropriate dissemination channels and format

Leaders prepare a short (2–3 minute) dissemination pitch to present their strategy and receive feedback from Advisers and peers. Following the session, they will refine and submit their dissemination plans to the ASEFNextEd team to support coordinated outreach and impact.

Moderator:

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

12:30 – 13:30

Lunch & Informal Peer Interaction

13:30 – 14:30

UNU's and BNU's Innovation Showcase – Ideas Shaping the Future of Teacher Education

A Dynamic Fast-Paced PechaKucha Format

This fast-paced showcase features a series of short, visually engaging presentations highlighting innovative ideas and initiatives shaping the future of teacher education. Using the PechaKucha format, speakers present concise insights that spark inspiration, dialogue, and new perspectives across Asia and Europe.

Speakers:

- TBC

14:30 – 15:00

Coffee/Tea break

15:00 – 16:00

Future Scenario Lab: Teacher Education in 2050

Anticipating Change and Future-Proofing Teacher Education: Stress-Testing Pathways for Impact

This session explores how teacher education can anticipate emerging changes and remain resilient in the face of uncertainty. Through structured discussion and reflection, participants critically examine their proposed pathways, testing how well they respond to evolving technological, societal, and policy contexts. The session aims to strengthen the relevance, adaptability, and potential impact of these approaches by identifying key tensions, risks, and opportunities.

Moderator:

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

16:00 – 16:30

Closing Keynote

From Vision to Transformation: Shaping the Future of Teacher Education in the Age of AI

As the conference concludes, this keynote reflects on key insights emerging from the Fellowship and explores what it will take to move from ideas to sustained impact. Building on discussions around AI, intelligence, and teacher education, it highlights the need to align innovation with purpose, ethics, and systemic change. The session invites participants to consider how collective efforts, across research, policy, and practice, can shape more adaptive, human-centred, and future-ready teacher education systems. It offers a forward-looking perspective on how to carry momentum beyond the conference and translate shared visions into meaningful transformation.

Speaker:

- TBC

16:30 – 17:00

Recap and feedback

17:00 onwards

Free Evening

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

Friday, 27 November 2026

Walking Tour and Participant Departure

Meeting point: Hotel Lobby

10:00	Hotel Check-out
10:00 – 12:00	Walking Tour in Macau Walking, Connecting, Reflecting: ASEFNextEd1 Community Building Tour in Macau [tbc] Tour Facilitator: • UNU Representative
12:00 onwards	Farewell Lunch
15:00 onwards	Participant Departure

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