



Title	Blurring Boundaries: Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education (A Summary of the talk)
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Blurring Boundaries: Impact of COVID-19 on Higher Education (A Summary of the talk)

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One can't deny the fact that Covid-19 crisis lead to socio-economic catastrophe with long-term and wide-ranging impacts. However, it is interesting to note that higher education sector despite facing major impediments went on to grapple with it by making an almost overnight transition to the practice of remote teaching and learning. Before the pandemic, online teaching tools were considered to be an appendage to the traditional instruction of face-to-face teaching but during the pandemic itself it was evident that virtual learning has not only become an essential component of higher education technologies supporting online education now but it is also going to be the future trend. With an exponentially accelerated pace of digitalization, this virtual space of education opened up like never before with primarily two mantras, inclusion and flexibility as its guide. Keeping in mind these two major tenets upon which the contemporary world of higher education is dismantling the age old teaching pedagogy and shifting to decoding the virtual space, this talk discussed some of the digital equity strategies in fast pacing virtual world of teaching and learning. Contemplating upon the merging boundaries between institutions of different countries, virtual and online learning, student centric approach and teacher centric approach, this presentation discusses some of the avenues like Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), Asynchronous Online Courses, Synchronous Online Courses, Hybrid Courses, adaptable curriculum design etc., which now seems to be a path of sustainability and growth in higher education.

