

# eLearning@AU:February,2018

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**Monthly eNewsletter**  
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**FROM THE EDITOR**

Welcome to the February edition of eLearning@AU for 2018. In this issue you will find a series of interesting articles about new eLearning pedagogies, technologies and trends. Elizabeth Stinson in her article traces the history of Google emojis from 2013 and how the new ones introduced in 2017 is making a dent. In another piece Robert Triggs presents an interesting video to clarify the differences between Artificial Intelligence vs. Machine Learning. Julie Derksen describes the new Elearning Trends for 2018. GSeL also publishes a biannual journal title [AU-eJournal Interdisciplinary Research](#). Details of this journal can be accessed from the link given below. Call for Papers and other regular items are also available. Please send your comments to-

[DrKuldeep@Live.Com](mailto:DrKuldeep@Live.Com)

**Call for Papers**  
[AU-eJournal Interdisciplinary Research](#)



## HIGHER EDUCATION IS DROWNING IN BS

**Christian Smith**

I have had nearly enough bullshit. The manure has piled up so deep in the hallways, classrooms, and administration buildings of American higher education that I am not sure how much longer I can wade through it and retain my sanity and integrity. Even worse, the accumulated effects of all the academic BS are contributing to this country's disastrous political condition and, ultimately, putting at risk the very viability and character of decent civilization. [What do I mean by BS?](#)

BS is the university's loss of capacity to grapple with life's Big Questions, because of our crisis of faith in truth, reality, reason, evidence, argument, civility, and our common humanity. BS is the farce of what are actually "fragmented universities" claiming to be universities, of hyper specialization and academic disciplines unable to talk with each other about obvious shared concerns.

[Read more](#)

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

All our words are but crumbs that fall down from the feast of the mind.



**Kahlil Gibran**  
Poet and Artist  
(1883-1931)

## SAY GOODBYE TO THE BLOB. GOOGLE'S NEW EMOJI HAVE ARRIVED

**Elizabeth Stinson**

The blobs first appeared in the spring of 2013. They were roundly amorphous, like cookie dough plopped onto a baking sheet. Their faces, a rainbow of emotions, had mouths that turned up and down in imprecise dashes. For years, the blobs sat on the keyboards of Android phones and Google Hangouts as the goofy counterparts to Apple's more lifelike emoji. And in that time, they amassed both [haters](#) and [loyal acolytes](#). Now, though, that debate is over. As part of its [Android Oreo](#) update, Google replaced the blob with symmetrical circles and more human-like figures.

The update marks the biggest change Google's made to its emoji in years. But it didn't happen overnight. Emoji-like so many of the objects they're designed to represent- evolve. Transforming the blob's shape, color, and meaning, was a lengthy process that started, arguably, the moment Google's blob emoji was born.



**Emoji Evolution**

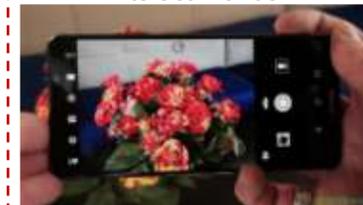
When Google designed the blobs nearly half a decade ago, the emoji landscape had already begun to ....

[Read more](#)

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE VS. MACHINE LEARNING: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

**Robert Triggs**

[Artificial intelligence](#) and [machine learning](#) are terms which have been thrown around a lot in the tech industry over the last few years, but what exactly do they mean? Anyone vaguely familiar with sci-fi tropes will probably have an idea about AI, though they may view it more a little more sinister than what is around today. The two terms are often conflated and, incorrectly, used interchangeably, particularly by marketing departments that want to make their technology sound sophisticated. In fact, artificial intelligence and machine learning are very different things, with very different implications for what computers can do and how they interact with us.



**It starts with Neural Networks**

Machine learning is the computing paradigm that's led to the growth of "Big Data" and AI. It's based on the development of neural networks and deep learning. Typically this is described as imitating the way humans learn, but that's a bit of a misnomer. Machine learning actually relates to statistical analysis and iterative learning.

Instead of building a traditional program comprised of logical statements and decision trees (if, and, or, etc), a neural network is built specifically for training and learning using a parallel network of neurons, each set up for a specific purpose.

[Read more](#)

## 3 THINGS THE BEST LEADERS IN LEARNING WILL DO IN 2018

**Steve Penfold**

*It's a new year, which means it's time to take stock, consider what worked well last year and what didn't, and plan for 2018. To help you pave the way for a successful year ahead, here's a list of the 3 things the best industry leaders will be focused on for more effective eLearning in 2018.*

There's already been a lot of speculation about how workplace learning industry will evolve in 2018, but it's not all hearsay.

The top [eLearning trends for 2018](#) identifies some clear predictions that research says we can expect to see this year. A recurring theme is that less is going to be more in 2018. The industry will develop an appetite for sorting through the heap of "content for the sake of content" to discover what is really relevant and what can be practically applied to make a real difference for learners. Of course, this can be easier said than done.

[Read more](#)

## ELEARNING TRENDS FOR 2018

**Julie Derksen**

At the end of last year, Bryan Jones from [eLearningArt](#) reached out to me for my predictions on the top 3 eLearning trends for 2018. He then took the responses from me and 56 other experts and put together a summary video of the top trends here and an article of the top eLearning trends here.



**Watch 3 minute VDO**

[Read more](#)

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## GSeL: New Academic Calendar for 2017-2018



First Semester (1/2017): August, 2017 – December, 2017\*

Second Semester (2/2017): January, 2018 – May, 2018

Summer Session (3/2018): June, 2018 – August, 2018

\*This calendar is subject to change without notice. For further details contact your Program Director

**Call for Papers**

**2018**

## International Conference on Social Science and Management (ICSSM)

**Chiang Mai, Thailand**

**5-7 June, 2018**

## AAGBS International Conference on Business Management

**Bandaraya, Malaysia**

**25 & 26 July 2018**

## 2018 International Congress on Banking, Economics, Finance, and Business (BEFB 2018)

**Nagoya, Japan**

**April 6-8, 2018**

[Click here for more Conferences](#)



**Asst. Prof. Chanintorn J. Nukoon**  
Dean  
**Graduate School of eLearning (GSeL)**

Welcome to the Graduate School of eLearning (GSeL). The new Semester (2/2017) began last month. Next month, all M.S. programs will conduct their Midterm Exams.

Please contact the Program Directors and your instructors for information about exam sites and other details. Those who live outside Thailand should file petition in a timely manner for their exam to be conducted at exam centers located in their country. For you need any other help, please use the contact information given below.



[pct2526@yahoo.com](mailto:pct2526@yahoo.com)



**Graduate School of eLearning (GSeL)**  
**Assumption University**

## Our eLearning Programs

**M.S. Management**

**M.S. ICT**

**M.Ed. in Teaching and Technology (T&T)**

**PhD in eLearning Methodology**

**PhD in Teaching and Technology (T&T)**



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