



AGENDA

Experts Panel

Moderator: **Matthew Wemyss**, Cambridge School of Bucharest

15:00 – 15:10 GMT - Time Zone	Defining the problem Konstantinos Doukas SoFIA Founder & President
15:10 – 15:30 GMT - Time Zone	AI related policies in education John Gougoulis Partners in Aid
15:30 – 15:50 GMT - Time Zone	Path to Personalization – Technology’s Journey to Impact Individualized Instruction Anthony Salcito Nerdy
15:50 – 16:10 GMT - Time Zone	Leveraging GenAI Solutions for Holistic Learner and School System Support Maria Langworthy CampusEvolve
16:10 – 16:30 GMT - Time Zone	Redefining Excellence: Opportunity, Assessment and Progress in the AI Era Laura Knight Sapio
16:30 – 16:50 GMT - Time Zone	TBA Rani Sarojeni Burchmore Amazon Web Services
16:50 – 17:10 GMT - Time Zone	Creativity and Curiosity in the AI era Prof Miles Berry University of Roehampton

Teachers and students’ voice roundtable – Global Schools’ Forum

Moderator: **Julie Foss**, True Nexus Consulting LLC

17:10 – 17:50 GMT - Time Zone	Veronika Svyrydenko Student - USA Mauro Bordignon School Leader - Italy Felix Malombe Teacher - Kenya Zeina Akkari Teacher - Libanon Miranda Simmons Teacher - UK Spyros Grigoriadis Student - Greece
17:50 – 18:00 GMT - Time Zone	Closing Remarks Konstantinos Doukas SoFIA Founder & President

All presentations will be 15 minutes long and will be followed up by a 5-minute Q&A session.

THE EXPERTS PANEL

MODERATOR



Matthew Wemyss
CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL OF BUCHAREST

Matthew Wemyss, winner of the Edufuturists A.I. Pioneer award, is an educator and EdTech advocate with over 14 years of experience transforming classrooms in the UK and abroad. As co-host of the Ctrl+Alt+Teach podcast, he shares insights on educational technology to enhance teaching globally. A school leader and keynote speaker, Matthew also co-chairs COBIS ConnectED: AI: Digital Innovation and organises AIDUCATION, an event exploring AI's role in education. His passion for interactive and meaningful learning helps equip students with the skills they need to succeed in a changing world.

SPEAKERS



Konstantinos Doukas
DOUKAS SCHOOL/ SOFIA

Konstantinos Doukas is the President and CEO of Doukas School (www.doukas.gr), a private education institution with a tradition of more than 100 years. As a third-generation owner, previously or parallel with his work at the school, Konstantinos held several teaching, research and administrative positions mainly in the private sector, specifically as Systems Manager Assistant at the TC Computer Lab of Columbia University (NYC), Scientific Consultant to Project Athena at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Boston, MA), President & CEO, at the Information Society SA (www.ktpae.gr) and several boards of directors' positions. As an entrepreneur, he has founded several start-up companies in Greece and also Internationally, most of them still in operation, mainly in the area of technological innovations, use of ICT in education, supporting services in education and digital marketing services. He is the founder and Chairman of SoFIA (School of the Future International Academy, www.sofianet.org), an International NGO focusing on supporting educational institutions and schools that wish to excel academically and operationally, by using global best practices and innovative methodologies.

He is also the co-author of more than 11 publications in Greek and International Conferences and Journals and co-editor of 5 Greek Conference Proceedings. Recently he was the co-editor of the IGI Global Edition 2018: "Handbook of Research on Educational Design and Cloud Computing in Modern Classroom Settings".

He holds an Electrical Engineering and Computer Science BSc from the National Technical University of Athens and an MA in Communications, Computers and Technology in Education from Columbia University (NYC). In the past 20 years, Konstantinos has been a regular speaker at conferences on education, technology and the future of education in the USA, Europe and the Middle East. He was born in 1964 has a family with 3 kids and his hobby is sports.



John Gougoulis
Partners in Aid

I consult with governments and school systems to provide technical advice and developmental support as part of their education reform agendas. Much of my work in Vanuatu, UAE and Australia has entailed a high level of consultation, collaboration and productive engagement with culturally diverse teams, clients, and stakeholders (government personnel, advisors, other service providers, school leaders and teachers, universities, professional associations, parents, and community), remotely and in-country, to co-develop relevant and appropriate processes and products; and to assist in building capacity of local personnel and systems. This includes specific experience in:

- Reviewing, analysing, and mapping existing policies, frameworks, syllabuses, and resources to improve policy and governance frameworks.
- Researching effective curriculum, pedagogy, and high impact strategies in high performing systems to improve teacher knowledge, skills, and classroom practice.
- Advising on the most appropriate contextual approaches to audit, review and implementation of policies, frameworks, systems, and practices.
- Developing international and national benchmarks of effective practice in pedagogy and student performance standards across subjects.
- Designing and developing digital and print ready curriculum, syllabuses, and teaching programs of international standard and suitable for local contexts and requirements.
- Preparing and delivering effective professional learning for teachers and school leaders including action research, training, mentoring, coaching and communities of practice.
- Analysing systemic student performance and school performance data (quantitative and qualitative) and enhancing data systems to support self-evaluation and improvement.
- Compiling and presenting report findings from consultations and evaluation of identified priorities with recommendations for improvement.



Anthony Salcito

NERDY

Anthony Salcito works to help empower educators and inspire students to achieve more. He aims to transform the way we learn with the support of the best technology to help build critical skills for the modern, global workplace. In his role as Chief Institution Business Officer at Varsity Tutors, Anthony works to support institutions and educators with solutions for high-dosage tutoring, homework help, test prep, and enrichment all with the goal of driving student outcomes and helping transform education. Anthony is a recognized leader in driving education transformation and has worked globally with education leaders and organizations to support new approaches to delivering student impact and supporting learners. Prior to joining to Varsity Tutors, Anthony served at Vice President of Worldwide Education for Microsoft, leading the worldwide execution of the company's vision for education, and pioneering many core programs and education offerings including Live@EDU (Office 365), Partners in Learning, Microsoft Innovative Educator program, and Showcase Schools. Anthony has served as an active board member at Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship, and Teach.org. He has also helped author a book on Education Transformation which serves as a reference guide for schools looking to drive innovation to enhance student outcomes. You can engage with Anthony Salcito at @AnthonySalcito.



Maria Langworthy

CAMPUSEVOLVE

Maria is a global education thought leader working at the intersection of AI, customer success, and product development to accelerate the evolution of education. Prior to founding CampusEvolve, Maria was the Director of Worldwide Education Research and Programs at Microsoft, where she led the Open Education Analytics community. She also served as the Strategic Data Officer for education at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Maria has presented at over 300 national and international education events and published on topics such as learning analytics and the potential of AI to transform education systems.



Laura Knight

SAPIO LTD

Laura Knight MEd PGCE BA(Hons) FCCT FRSA CMgr, Laura Knight is Founder of Sapio Ltd, a consultancy specialising in digital strategy and innovation. She was previously Director of Digital Learning at Berkhamsted School (2013 – 2024) and worked as a teacher for twenty years across both the maintained and independent sectors. Laura is an expert in leading the strategic development of technology for teaching and learning, 1-1 devices, artificial intelligence, staff training in digital skills, and online safeguarding. Laura is a disruptive thinker, international keynote speaker, coach, and consultant, and is passionate about creative problem-solving. She supports leaders in schools, universities, and commercial organisations with exploring the art of the possible, and leverages technology to transform outcomes, systems, and teams. Her new book *The Little Guide for Teachers on Generative AI* will be published by Sage in the autumn. Laura works with a number of advisory boards including for the Good Future Foundation, Bridge the Gap, the Practitioners' Panel for AI in Education and the Independent Schools Council Digital Advisory Group. She also works as an expert advisor to international governments, edtech companies, and schools' groups on digital strategy and educational policy, and provides training and input for associations such as the Independent Schools Association, the Independent Schools Teaching Induction Panel, the Society of Heads, and the Independent Schools' Bursars' Association.



Rani Sarojeni Burchmore

ASIA PACIFIC LEADER @ AMAZON WEB SERVICES

Leading and enabling Education Transformation and workplace skills development through building sustainable ecosystems. Over 20 years building effective Channel Partner Ecosystems, has thought me a holistic approach to business success means results not just in social impact and revenue, but also in costs, efficiency, productivity, morale, standards, innovation, and most importantly people leadership. I believe that success in a global business comes from strong relationships and empowering good people at all levels of a nation or organization, to do their best. Most businesses know what to do and how, but only the best also know who with and why. People are what matter most to me. Whilst many things create potential for a nation or business, the actual results will depend greatly on where it's people invest their energy. Harnessing, magnifying, and directing this energy is a key strategy for me.



Prof Miles Berry

UNIVERSITY OF ROEHAMPTON

Miles Berry is Professor of Computing Education at the University of Roehampton, where he leads the secondary PGCE in computing. Before starting at Roehampton he taught for 18 years, including three years as a head teacher. He is chair of England's National Centre for Computing Education and serves on the board of Computing At School. Over the years he has contributed to a number of computing related projects including England's national curriculum computing programmes of study and the Royal Society's Mathematical Futures project.



TEACHERS AND STUDENTS' VOICE ROUNDTABLE

GLOBAL SCHOOLS' FORUM

MODERATOR



Julie Foss

Human+ AI Consultant @ True Nexus Consulting LLC

Julie Foss currently leads True Nexus Consulting LLC, specializing in guiding K-12 school districts and learning organizations through the practical application of Artificial Intelligence with a focus on change management and implementation strategies. Julie has spent over 20 years in education as a teacher, administrator, change coach, and consultant. Projects within her portfolio include management of the professional learning team for Girls Who Game, a Dell Technologies program that empowers girls with STEM and leadership skills through gaming, and spearheading operational readiness as the genAI lead for Advanced Learning Partnerships. Julie holds degrees in Sociology (B.A.), International Relations (M.A), Educational Leadership (6th Year), and various AI-related certificates. Publishing credits include "Becoming the Force for Innovation: How Educators Can Harness the Impact of COVID-19 to Transform Education," IGI-Global, 2022.) When Julie isn't learning or working with learning communities, you can find her hiking in the woods or fangirling with her husband at sporting or musical events for their three teenage daughters. Contact Info: julie@truenexusconsulting.com | [Let's Connect on LinkedIn](#)

SPEAKERS



Veronika Svyrydenko

Student - USA

DECA Emerging Leaders Champion, University of Amsterdam SS Student, Microsoft MakeCode Insider Currently a junior at high school, I am passionate about partaking in the rapidly evolving wave of AI usage in order to adapt to education for benefit and unique opportunities of personal development. For more than three years I have been an active DECA leader aiming to spark the interest toward entrepreneurship and technological innovation among high school students in areas of marketing, finance, and management. With experience of living in two culturally distinct continents, I aspire to cultivate connections and strengthen relations between individuals on a global scale to utilize and evolve the technology around the world.



Mauro Bordignon

School Leader - Italy

Mauro Bordignon has consistently integrated technology and innovation into education, particularly emphasizing the transformative role of AI in enhancing learning. As Head of Academics and Pedagogical Innovation at H-FARM, Mauro has pioneered educational models that merge human-centric growth with cutting-edge technology, crafting a holistic learning environment. His work has focused on creating curricula that foster emotional literacy and human skills, while also exploring AI-driven approaches to customize learning paths. By blending AI with traditional education, Mauro has contributed to reshaping schools as spaces where technological advancements support students' academic and personal growth.



Felix Malombe

Teacher - Kenya

Felix Malombe is a trailblazer in African education, specializing in STEAM/STEM, EdTech, and Climate Education. As the AISA Innovative Schools Programme Coordinator and founder of STEAMLabs Africa, he drives educational empowerment across the continent. Currently the Digital Innovation Lead at Peponi Schools in Nairobi, Felix has held key roles in prestigious institutions, shaping the future of 21st-century learning. His work has earned him significant accolades, including being named one of the Top 30 EdTech Leaders in Africa by Empower Africa and a Top 10 Finalist for the Africa Education Medal in 2022.



Zeina Akkari

Teacher - Libanon

Zeina Akkari is an experienced educator with over 30 years of expertise in biology education. Passionate about fostering curiosity and scientific exploration, she has transformed classrooms into interactive learning spaces where technology and hands-on experiments take center stage. Currently teaching in a Secondary School, for the past 20 years, she integrates AI and e-learning tools to enhance student engagement. Additionally, Zeina has led educational training sessions, developed leadership frameworks, and created innovative resources like a custom GPT for the classroom. Her commitment to advancing educational methods positions her as a leader in merging traditional education with cutting-edge technology.



Miranda Simmons

Teacher - UK

Miranda is a computer science teacher at City of London School for Girls. She holds a degree in computer science from the University of Manchester where she focused on AI, machine learning and natural language processing. Miranda has a PGCE in computer science from the University of Roehampton. Miranda is passionate about increasing girls' access to computer science and completed her dissertation on methods to encourage greater number of girls to study computer science at secondary level.



Spiros Grigoriadis

Student - Greece

My name is Spiros Grigoriadis and I'm an eleventh-grade student with an avid curiosity for the world around me, particularly in the realm of sciences. I have participated in various student conferences and competitions that reflect my dedication to learning and my passion for challenges. This is the reason why I have also participated in student exchange programs in Europe that opened my eyes to new cultures and ideas. As the chief editor of our school newspaper, I love fostering a sense of community and dialogue among my peers. Finally I have a keen interest in innovation and technology and I love exploring the dynamic landscape of digital content.



Online Event

**AI For
Education Empowerment**

20 Nov 2024 | 15:00 GMT

www.sofianet.org