

George Siemens

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George Siemens is an expert in the field of digital learning, known for creating one of the first massive open online courses (MOOCs), a “landmark” in open teaching. He is a writer, theorist, and researcher on learning networks, technology, analytics and visualization, openness, and organizational effectiveness in digital environments. Siemens is the originator of Connectivism theory. Formerly a professor at the Center for Distance Education, Athabasca University, Alberta, Canada, he recently joined the

University of Texas faculty as executive director of the newly established LINK Lab. Research areas for the Lab include understanding how traditional universities’ role is affected by online learning and the need for and feasibility of systemic change, exploring the effectiveness of alternate teaching and learning models, and the growing influence of data and analytics on higher education practices. Dr. Siemens has authored two books, *Connectivism: A Learning Theory for the Digital Age* and *Knowing Knowledge*, and is co-founder of the Learning Analytics and Knowledge conference and the Society for Learning Analytics Research.