Digital technologies, EDI (equity, diversity and inclusion), and leadership in higher education

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UNESCO (2023, p.2) suggests that "higher education is adopting digital technology the fastest and being transformed by it the most." The rapid expansion of digital technology has brought tremendous opportunities and risks alongside. On the one hand, students have higher access to educational programs and contents than any time before regardless of their locations, and new ways to engage in political, social and economic activities. Risks, on the other hand, are also growing including disruption and distraction in learning, online safety and security, fake news, health related concerns, digital divide and incivility such as disrespectful behaviors, aggressiveness, hate speech, harassment. Universities worldwide are becoming more diverse due to the massification and internationalization of higher education resulting in the increasing participation of students from minoritized and international backgrounds. In order to respond to growing diversity on campus many Western universities as well as Asian universities have adopted equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) principles and initiatives. This paper explores what and how digital technologies are harnessed to promote and advance EDI in higher education and how higher education leaders support to create an enabling environment.

References

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