Leading Change in Higher Education Management in the Post - Covid-19 Era

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Introduction

- The covid-19 pandemic has disrupted many aspects of our lives.
- The global lockdown of educational institutions has led to major interruptions in students' learning; disruptions in internal assessments; and the cancellation of public examinations or replacement by alternative assessments.

Introduction

- However, Covid-19 has become the catalyst for educational change.
- Many governments in the world have implemented various strategies to ensure that teaching and learning continues regardless of this pandemic.



The New Norms

- Covid-19 has provided the opportunity for innovative ways of teaching and learning both at the school level and higher institution level.
- Educators around the globe are being compelled to suddenly harness and utilize the available and appropriate technological tools to create content for remote learning.

Leading Transformational Change

- Educators are leading transformational change by attempting things differently and employing greater flexibility resulting in potential benefits in accessibility to education.
- Malaysia provides an interesting example of how educational leaders address this transformational change through strategic planning and implementation measures.

Leading Change

 Leading change sees change as an opportunity, not a problem, challenges the system when change is needed, thrives in ambiguous situations, encourages creativity and innovation in others, effectively translates creative ideas into business results.

1. Urgency is essential. Why does this change matter, why now?

What needs to change and what does the future look like? Reassure people that it's not going to be easy but that change is possible.

2. Resistance is common, anticipate it.

Determine who supports (or against) the change and why?

Sometimes people need more information, sometimes people need a chance to internalize the change.

3. It takes time. Change can happen quickly, transition varies from one person to the next.

As William Bridges explains,

"Change is situational.... Transition is the psychological process people go through to come to terms with the new situation. Change is external, transition is internal.

4. Do NOT exceed the capacity for change

When you put more change into the system than your people have capacity, you cannot successfully complete all the changes or achieve the intended benefits.

5. Create certainty during uncertainty

Leading change well means providing milestones along the change journey. You don't need to know all the answers but you do need create as much certainty as possible for your people regarding what's next.

6. Connect the dots.

- Start with the who. Who are you speaking with? What matters most to them?
- Meet them where they are and then follow that with the <u>why</u>.
- Why is the change important? Why this? Why now? Then explain how all the pieces fit together.

7. Focus on building trust

When you are leading change, focus on building trust since it's the most essential element of leading successful change.

Creating a More Inclusive and Engaged Approach to Change

- There are benefits of ongoing engagement in change process by as many and as diverse stakeholders, as practicable
 (Devecchi et al. 2018)
- Exploring the external context through collaborative dialogue is a very strong approach of involving people at the early stage of change.

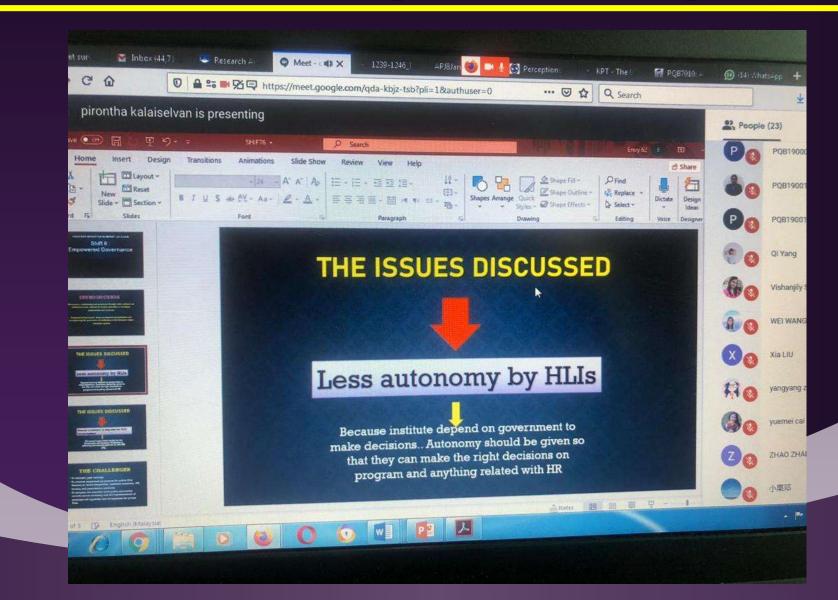
Leading Transformation in Teaching and Learning

- Need to be deeply based, linked to values, student-centered and sustainable.
- Learning together, challenging assumptions, being curious and creative, and going beyond self interest.
- Leaders will move followers to go beyond their own self-interest for the good of their organization or society.

Teach Online



Higher Institutions Teaching & Learning



The Post Covid-19 Social Distancing Pedagogical Elements

 The Post Covid-19 Social Distancing pedagogical elements comprise of synchronous and asynchronous learning strategies, teaching and learning activities and assessments.

Synchronous Learning

- Synchronous learning is the kind of learning that happens in real time. This means the interaction with students and instructor occurs in a specific virtual place, through a specific online medium, at a specific time.
- Video call (zoom, google meet, whatsapp video call, etc)

Strategies

May include:

- Conduct live online lectures;
- Invite guest speaker(s) to the online session; and
- Conduct live teaching sessions using other communication channels including WhatsApp and Telegram.

Synchronous sessions

Teaching & Learning may be flexible and can be divided into several sections.

- For instance, in a 3-hour class session:
- 1st hour is allocated for online lecture;
- 2nd hour is dedicated for online group discussions; and
- 3rd hour is for online group presentations.

Asynchronous Learning

- Asynchronous learning happens on your schedule. While your instructor provides materials for reading, lectures for viewing, assignments for completing, and exams for evaluation, you have the ability to access and satisfy these requirements within a flexible time frame.
- Recorded lecturers can be uploaded so that students can view at their own time

Alternative Assessment

- Online Quiz.
- Online forums.
- Take home exams
- Recorded video presentations posted in youtube

Students Assessments



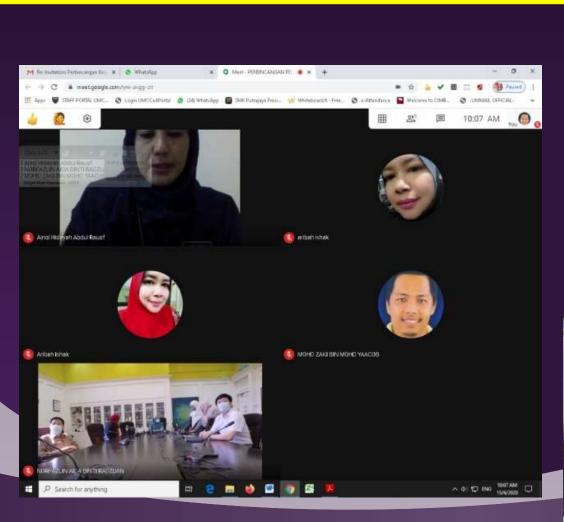
Differences Compared to Normal Education

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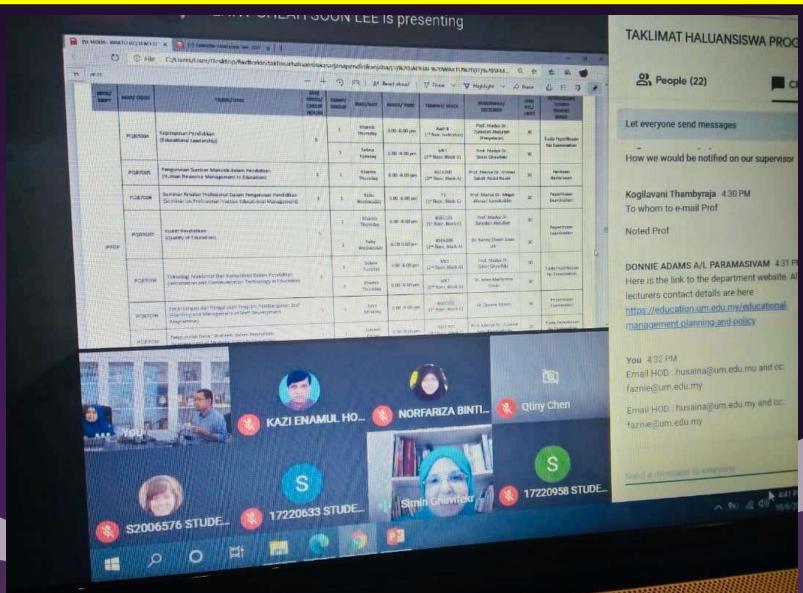
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8epjYmIHAdo&feature=youtu.be

PhD Students' Supervision During Movement Control Order (MCO) and Post Covid-19 Period





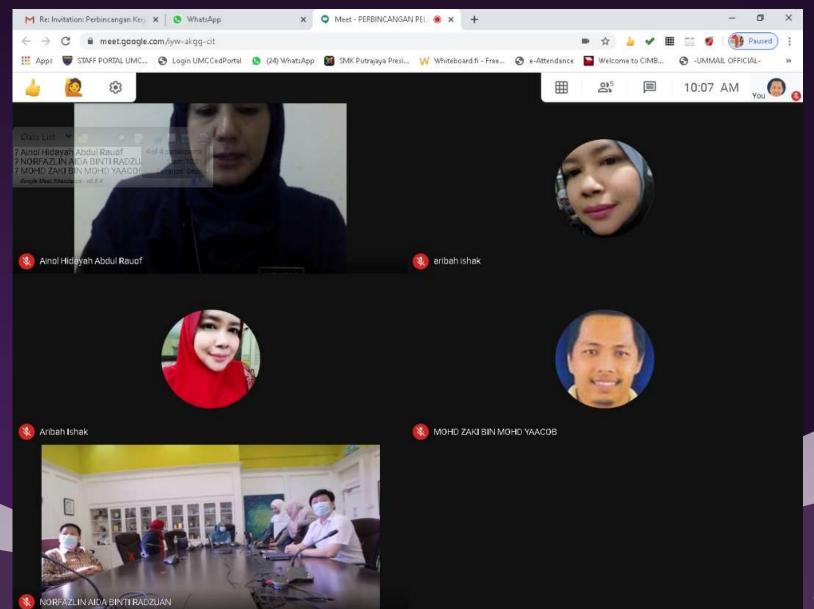
Online Students' Orientation



Research on Social Distancing Pedagogy for Post Covid-19 Pandemic Teaching and Learning



Faculty - Student Discussion



Guidelines for Research

- No travelling is allowed to red zones
- Online interview and forum are encouraged
- Online questionnaires are encouraged
- Research presentation through online platform
- Ethical procedures need to be complied

Institutional Initiatives

- Students from lower socio-economic background are provided internet and data plan so that they have access to internet.
- Those without conducive learning environment are given priority to return to hostels and they are placed in the hostels following all the standard operating procedures.

Institutional Initiatives

- It is important for management to realize not all staff have all the necessary devices and facilities to work from home
- Each department was asked to identify staff who do not have internet facilities or laptop at home
- They can borrow laptops from institutions when they work from home
- Management allows only 30 percent of the staff to come if urgent necessity arise

Way Forward

- Provide insights to policymakers on the readiness of our students, teachers and parents to change.
- Our limited resources to enable teaching and learning.
- Professional development for academicians is essential.
- Innovative ways of teaching and learning.
- Smart partnerships with diverse

THANK YOU

