



International Conference on
The Future of Higher Education: Global
Perspectives, Local Impact

4-5 May, 2026

PROGRAM

Baku, Azerbaijan

Conference Chairs

Saadat Aliyeva | Rector, Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan

Ulkar Sattarova | Director, The State Agency for Science and Higher Education

Scientific Committee

Paul Gibbs (Middlesex University, UK)

Davrov Juraev (University of Economics and Pedagogy, Uzbekistan)

Jasur Farmonov (University of Economics and Pedagogy, Uzbekistan)

Reengin Ak (Kırklareli University, Türkiye)

Mehmet Nuri Gömleksiz (Fırat University, Türkiye)

Wing Hong Chui (The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong)

Luis Manuel Sánchez Ruiz (Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain)

Daniela Cojocaru (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Romania)

Sholpan Yessimova (Taraz University named after M.Kh. Dulaty, Kazakhstan)

Asaf Zamanov (Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University, Azerbaijan)

Organizing Committee

Chair: Yusif Gasimov (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Co-Chair: Nushaba Guliyeva (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Latifa Aghamaliyeva (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Ilifat Ibrahimov (The State Agency for Science and Higher Education, Azerbaijan)

Ulviyya Gozali (The State Agency for Science and Higher Education, Azerbaijan)

Asif Pashayev (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Elvin Talyshinski (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Safar Mammadov (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Nariman Boyukkhishi (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Nahid Almasov (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Tural Gojayev (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Aygun Gasimova (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Nigar Shahhuseynbeyova (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Gulnar Rzayeva (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Rashad Mastaliyev (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

Local Committee

Humay Baghirova (Azerbaijan University, Azerbaijan)

4 May 2026

REGISTRATION 09.00-10.00

OPENING CEREMONY 10.00-11.00
(Hall 1)

WELCOME SPEECHES

PLENARY TALK 11.00-11.30 (Hall 1)
Chair: Yusif Gasimov

Kürşat Çağiltay

TED University, Ankara, Türkiye

Title of the talk: Is Artificial Intelligence the New Savior of Higher Education?

Coffee break 11.30-12.00

PLENARY TALK 12.00-12.30 (Hall 1)
Chair: Yusif Gasimov

Paul Gibbs

Middlesex University, London, UK

Title of the talk: Scholarship or academic entrepreneurship - you decide

Lunch 13.00-14.00

SECTION TALKS 14.00-17.00

SECTION I (Hall 1)

Digital Transformation in Higher Education

Chair: Anna Beliantseva

Irina Andersen

Moscow State Pedagogical University, Moscow, Russia

Title: Ontology-based framework for the digital modernisation of an academic English course in speech-language pathology

Nazli Ajarova, Aytac Abdullazade, Melahet Bayramova

Kütahya Dumlupınar University, Kütahya, Türkiye

Nakhchivan State University, Nakhchivan, Azerbaijan

Title: Artificial intelligence-based approaches in digital education and their impact

Anna Beliantseva

MA Group AG, Fribourg, Switzerland

Title: AI and digitalization in higher education: Insights from international stem publishers

Cavanshir Kazimov, Asif Pashayev, Rashad Mastaliyev, Bahram Azizov, Rasim Shirinov

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Application features of the RSA cryptographic algorithm in military logistics

Farrukh Nawaz Kayani

Faculty of Business Studies, Arab Open University, Saudi Arabia

Title: Artificial intelligence and the future of higher education in Saudi Arabia

Cavanshir Kazimov, Asif Pashayev, Rashad Mastaliyev

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Evaluating the quality of a machine learning model using different performance metrics

Fariz Kazimov

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: AI and podcasts in L2 listening development

Meiramgul Mukhambetova, Salamat Idrissov

Kh. Dosmukhamedov Atyrau University, Atyrau, Kazakhstan

Title: Embedded of IoT objects in the digital educational portal and monitoring of data collected in the cloud

Jędrzej Siciński

Faculty of Management, University of Gdańsk, Gdańsk, Poland

Title: Generative AI in travel planning: shaping travel decisions, habits and behavioral patterns

Nushaba Guliyeva

Department of Political and Social Sciences, Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Application of artificial intelligence in higher education systems (The case of Azerbaijan and Russia)

Rashad Mastaliyev, Asif Pashayev, Aytan Alakbarly, Ulkar Abbasli

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: The role of teacher in the digital age and the integration of digital technologies in education

Bayim Nabiyeva

Azerbaijan State Oil and Industry University (ASOIU), Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Digital transformation in higher education and the strategic role of human capital in development

Gabil Aliyev

Baku State University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: On teaching national history in higher education institutions

Aysel Naghiyeva, Aynur Iskanderova

Research Institute of Psychology, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: A systematic review of problematic ChatGpt use and its impact on academic self-regulation and well-being

Gulnar Naghiyeva

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Baku State University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Balancing academic integrity and AI tools in higher education

Shabnam Ughurlu

Azerbaijan State Pedagogical University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Strategic assessment of the digital literacy level of university teachers

SECTION II (Hall 2)

Innovation, Research, Education and Knowledge Transfer

Chair: Hazir Ullah

Suhail Mahmoud Al-Zoubi

Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman

Title: Trends in project-based learning research in general and higher education: A bibliometric analysis

Kerrin Burnell, Keryn Pratt, David A.G. Berg, Jeffrey K. Smith

University of Otago, Otago, New Zealand

Title: The effect of different methods of feedback on L2 writing improvement

Nariman Boyukkishi

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: The impact of university-industry collaboration on developing an innovative economy

Pini Davidov, Adel Nazzal

Azrieli Academic College of Engineering, Jerusalem, Israel

Title: IKEA effect in the evaluation of academic assignments

C.J. Denman, Chandrika Balasubramanian, Priya Mathew, Rahma Al-Busafi

Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Postgraduate Studies & Research and Humanities Research Centre, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman
Department of English Language and Translation, Sultan Qaboos University, Oman

Centre for Academic Writing, Middle East College, Oman

University of Technology and Applied Sciences, Muscat, Oman

Title: Gulf English in Oman: A pilot study of university student perceptions and attitudes

Saadat Farhadova Koroghlu, Eldar Shahgaldiyev

Khazar University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Baku Business University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Language policy of Azerbaijan in the years of independence (analytical research)

Aygun Gasimova, Gulnar Rzayeva

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Enhancing vocabulary and grammar acquisition through adaptive learning systems

Irma Grdzeldze, Sopio Idadze, Tatia Mamrikishvili

Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia

Title: Doctoral education in Georgia: Stakeholder perspectives and implications for education policy reforms

Davron Juraev, Nazira Mammadzada

University of Economics and Pedagogy, Karshi, Uzbekistan

State Oil Company of the Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR), Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Ensuring integrity in open and collaborative scientific research

Elshan Orujov, Nahid Almasov

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Baku Business University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan Academy of Labor and Social Relations, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Organizational and managerial aspects of joint research project funding in Azerbaijan: Mechanisms and challenges

Yu-Fen Lee, Ming-Chung Yu, Kuo-Zheng Feng

Department of Applied Foreign Languages, Tatung University, Taipei, Taiwan

Department of English, National Chengchi University, Taipei, Taiwan

Title: Disagreeing in another language: Examining responses across proficiency levels

Nasrina Siddiqi

Educational Testing Services, Cyber, Gurugram, India

Title: Toxic supervision in higher education

Cavad Nasirov

National Aviation Academy, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: Human capital risks and competency-based education in aviation: Strategic challenges for higher education

Sobia Sikander

*Department of English and Literary Studies, School of Liberal Arts,
University of Management and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan*

Title: Post-pandemic challenges and opportunities in education: a humanities and English literature perspective within Pakistani cultural contexts

Chetna Trivedi

Amity Law School, Amity University, Noida, India

Title: University autonomy in transition: Colonial legacies and neoliberal transformations in India

Hazir Ullah

University of Chitral, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan

Title: Pakistan's higher education landscape and leadership challenges

Zarifa Salimova

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: The role of innovation centers and technoparks in higher education

SECTION III (Hall 3)

Sustainability, Equity and Social Responsibility

Chair: Nigar Shahhuseynbayova

Mohannad M. Alarqan

Healthcare Economics, Independent Researcher, Amman, Jordan

Title: Rethinking governance through project-based learning: A framework for sustainable innovation in healthcare and higher education systems

Adama Condé

Ministry of Pre-University Education and Literacy, Guinea, West Africa

Title: Strengthening quality, equity and community engagement in higher education: drivers of sustainable local development

Lala Dilanova

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: soft power of higher education: New role of universities in public diplomacy

Louise Dalingwater

Sorbonne University, Paris, France

Title: Subjective wellbeing and the impact of loneliness in academia

Konstantinos D. Georgiou, Christine K. Syriopoulou-Delli

University of Western Macedonia, Ptolemaida, Greece

University of Macedonia, Macedonia, Greece

Title: The doing and (un)doing of college identity: A multimodal analysis of the use of social media by college students with ASD in Greek universities

Saba Namazova

Ganja State University, Ganja, Azerbaijan

Title: Women and gender equality in education in the contemporary socio-cultural context

Merve Deniz Pak Güre

*Department of Social Work, Faculty of Health Sciences,
Başkent University, Ankara, Türkiye*

Title: Monitoring community engagement and social responsibility in Turkish higher education: Trends and shifts in national indicators (2019-2025)

Atif Hassan

Institute of Hospitality Leadership (IHL), University of Management and Technology (UMT), Lahore, Pakistan

Title: Entrepreneurial hospitality education: Building innovation ecosystems through university-industry collaboration and micro-credentials

Kakhaber Lazarashvili, Vasil Kikutadze, David Sikharulidze

*UCL, EEU, Uni Bremen, EUA, UNFPA, London, UK
Tbilisi State University, Tbilisi, Georgia*

Title: The future of higher education: Developing relationships and sex education in universities, evidence from Georgia and the UK

Yulia P. Mironova

Moscow City University, Moscow, Russia

Title: Educational results' assessment in psychological and pedagogical disciplines of the pedagogical bachelor's degree (MCU experience)

Kamila Nikolaeva

Tashkent State University of Oriental Studies, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Title: Eco-oriented education: Green and sustainable universities

Yousef Abu Shindi

Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman

Title: Gender BIAS in multi-source feedback tools for graduate evaluation: Evidence from Oman

Giaouri Stergiani, Spyridoula Spanou

Department of Early Childhood Education, University of Western Macedonia, Greece

School of Social Sciences & Humanities, University of Western Macedonia, Florina, Greece

Title: From attitudes to action: Faculty readiness and inclusive practices for students with autism spectrum disorder in Greek higher education

Cosmas Herikanos Tarwa

Reformed Church University, Masvingo Zimbabwe

Title: A triple helix innovation ecosystem model for strengthening collaboration: A case of one Zimbabwean University

Shubhashish Trivedi

Department of Educational Administration, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), New Delhi, India

Title: On ornamental women: Examining gender performativity within universities in India

Nigar Shakhuseynbayova, Gular Gadirova

Azerbaijan University, Baku, Azerbaijan

Title: The transformation of universities' social responsibility and university-society relations in the context of digital capital

CLOSING CEREMONY 17.00

WELCOME RECEPTION 19.00

5 May 2026

SOCIAL PROGRAM

Heydar Aliyev Center museum 10.00 - 13.00

Lunch 13.00 - 14.00

A tour to Baku 14.00 - 17.00

- Panorama View
- Baku Boulevard; Old City
- Shirvanshahs Museum