# Digital Education: The Art of the Possible NOW!

## Agenda

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<th>Time</th>
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<td>4:00 – 4:03pm</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Tracy Pilgrim-George, Programme Head, SALCC</td>
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<td>4:03 – 4:05pm</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Dr. Keith Nurse, Principal/ President, Sir Arthur Lewis Community College</td>
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Minister Rigobert has had a sterling career in academia and has long championed the goal of bridging the digital divide. The COVID 19 context proffers an opportunity to her ministry and the Government of Saint Lucia to play a leadership role.

| 4.05 – 4.15pm | Opening Remarks        | Hon. Dr. Gale Rigobert, Minister of Education, Ministry of Education, Innovation, Gender Relations and Sustainable Development |

Prof. Kanwar is a global leader in the field of online learning through her work at the Commonwealth of Learning and as an independent scholar. The COL has championed growth in this area for decades and is well-positioned to help regional institutions embrace the E-learning paradigm.

| 4.15 – 4.30pm | Feature               | Prof. Asha Singh Kanwar, CEO/ President Commonwealth of Learning             |

Dr. Jules has a unique purview as OECS Secretary General and a long and distinguished career as an innovative scholar, policymaker and change agent in the area of educational development. He will share his perspective on the regional context, the wider socio-economic implications and the scope for transformation.

| 4:32 – 4:49pm | Feature               | Dr. Didacus Jules, OECS Director General                                    |

### Panel 1 - Online Learning vs Emergency Response Teaching at the Tertiary Level

For most education systems E-learning has arrived by default and instruction has become an emergency response. This has been the case at the tertiary level which is theoretically best positioned to make the transition most smoothly. How valid is this assessment? What has been the experience? How can we make the changes stick? This panel draws on the expertise of two seasoned educationalist to give some perspective on the performance of two regional tertiary education institutions.

| 4:51 – 5:11pm | Panelists             | • Dr. Claudette Fongkong-Mungal, University of the West Indies<br>• Dr. Cathy-James Springer, Sir Arthur Lewis Community College |

### Panel 2 - Learning in the Digital Paradigm – Initiatives at Primary and Secondary Levels

The challenges of implementing a digital learning paradigm is particularly challenging at the primary and secondary levels. The digital divide is often even more pronounced and exacerbated by underlying structural inequalities. How do governments and ministries of education resolve these
challenges and embrace the benefits of online learning? What support is required and what kind of teacher education upgrades are needed?

| 5:21 – 5:41pm | Presentations from panelists | • German Anthony, ICT Curriculum Officer, Ministry of Education, St. Lucia  
• Rafer Gordon, Education Specialist, EDMU, OECS |

5:41-5:46 Q&A

As one of the largest telecom providers in the Caribbean region Digicel has played a critical role in responding to the emergency teaching scenario. What role can they play beyond crisis management?

| 5:49 – 6:00pm | Feature address | Frank O’Carroll, Business Development Director, Digicel Group |

Panel 3 - Generating and Distributing Creative Content for E-Learning Platforms

This panel grapples with the strategic opportunity of generating creative content for e-Learning platforms in the Caribbean region. The Caribbean is a net importer of educational materials and content. How can we address this imbalance in trade and build platforms for the production and dissemination of creative content? What are the intellectual property implications? The panelists are all accomplished educators, creative entrepreneurs and policy analysts and thus occupy a unique position on the matter.

| 6:03 – 6:23pm | Presentations from panelists and Q&A | • Natalie Rochester, Trade Policy specialist; Managing Director, Mango Tales Ltd.  
• Camille Selvon-Abrahams, Creative Director, Anima Caribe Animation Festival  
• Dr. Erica Smith, CEO, COSCAP; Executive Director, Intellect Management Services |

6:23-6:28pm Q&A

Panel 4 - Transforming Systems in the Digital Education Paradigm

A digital education system requires more than students, educators and learning institutions. Telecom providers, fintech solutions and creative entrepreneurship are critical elements in the digital education paradigm. The focus of this panel is on discussing the requirements for transformation of systems given the demands of the digital education paradigm in the Caribbean context. The distinguished panelists are asked to offer a critical eye on the realities and possibilities of upgrading the digital education capabilities to achieve regional relevance and global competence.

| 6:30–6:45 pm | Presentations from panelists and Q&A | • Gordon Williams, Goodwill Ambassador to St. Lucia/CEO Lalabela ent.  
• John Reid, Former CEO, Cable and Wireless Communications  
• Sylvia Donhert de Lascurain, Executive Director, Compete Caribbean |

6:45-6:50 Q&A

| 6:50 – 6:55pm | Closing remarks | Dr. Keith Nurse, Principal/ President Sir Arthur Lewis Community College |

6:55– 6:57pm Vote of thanks | Tracy Pilgrim-George, Programme Head, SALCC |