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#### IFIP - The International Federation for Information Processing

IFIP was founded in 1960 under the auspices of UNESCO, following the first World Computer Congress held in Paris the previous year. A federation for societies working in information processing, IFIP's aim is two-fold: to support information processing in the countries of its members and to encourage technology transfer to developing nations. As its mission statement clearly states:

IFIP is the global non-profit federation of societies of ICT professionals that aims at achieving a worldwide professional and socially responsible development and application of information and communication technologies.

IFIP is a non-profit-making organization, run almost solely by 2500 volunteers. It operates through a number of technical committees and working groups, which organize events and publications. IFIP's events range from large international open conferences to working conferences and local seminars.

The flagship event is the IFIP World Computer Congress, at which both invited and contributed papers are presented. Contributed papers are rigorously refereed and the rejection rate is high.

As with the Congress, participation in the open conferences is open to all and papers may be invited or submitted. Again, submitted papers are stringently refereed.

The working conferences are structured differently. They are usually run by a working group and attendance is generally smaller and occasionally by invitation only. Their purpose is to create an atmosphere conducive to innovation and development. Refereeing is also rigorous and papers are subjected to extensive group discussion.

Publications arising from IFIP events vary. The papers presented at the IFIP World Computer Congress and at open conferences are published as conference proceedings, while the results of the working conferences are often published as collections of selected and edited papers.

IFIP distinguishes three types of institutional membership: Country Representative Members, Members at Large, and Associate Members. The type of organization that can apply for membership is a wide variety and includes national or international societies of individual computer scientists/ICT professionals, associations or federations of such societies, government institutions/government related organizations, national or international research institutes or consortia, universities, academies of sciences, companies, national or international associations or federations of companies.

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Daryl John Powell · Erlend Alfnes · Marte D. Q. Holmemo · Eivind Reke (Eds.)

# Learning in the Digital Era

7th European Lean Educator Conference, ELEC 2021 Trondheim, Norway, October 25–27, 2021 Proceedings



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#### Preface

In this book of proceedings, we share the papers that were presented at the 7th European Lean Educator Conference (ELEC 2021), which was hosted online from Trondheim, Norway, during October 25–27, 2021. This year's conference was special in that it was sponsored by the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) for the first time in its history, having been organized in close collaboration with the IFIP Working Group 5.7 Special Interest Group (SIG) on the Future of Lean Thinking and Practice.

The ELEC community is dedicated to fostering knowledge exchange within academia as well as between academic institutions and industry, which we believe is especially important. As such, ELEC 2021 provided a platform for professors, teachers, trainers, and coaches from academia, industry, and public sector organizations to share their knowledge and experiences and learn from one another.

ELEC conferences distinguish lean thinking as a broad management and operations improvement philosophy, fully grounded in science and supported by a continually growing set of methods, techniques, and tools. Given that this year's conference theme was 'learning in the digital era', ELEC 2021 made a special effort to highlight the role of digital technologies in the emerging digital lean manufacturing paradigm.

As such, this volume includes the 42 full papers that were presented at ELEC 2021. The papers were double-blind peer-reviewed to ensure quality. The topics which emerged at ELEC 2021 were:

- Learning Lean
- Teaching Lean in the Digital Era
- Lean and Digital
- Lean 4.0
- · Lean Management
- Lean Coaching and Mentoring
- Skills and Knowledge Management
- Productivity and Performance Improvement
- New Perspectives on Lean

In addition to the technical program, ELEC 2021 featured four keynote talks:

- Torbjørn Netland, ETH Zurich, Switzerland, "Teaching Lean in the Digital Era".
- Eva Helen Rognskog, SATPOS, Horten, Norway, "Fail Fast, Learn Faster".
- Rose Heathcote, University of Buckingham, UK, "Forget business as usual. We've work to do".
- Torbjørn Gjerdevik, Laerdal Medical, Stavanger, Norway, "People First".

On behalf of the Conference Committee, We would like to thank all contributors for the high standard of work presented at ELEC 2021. This of course would not have been possible without the support of our International Scientific Committee and peer reviewers, so we would also like to thank these members for their efforts in reviewing and selecting the papers to be presented at ELEC 2021.

To conclude, We hope that ELEC 2021 has stimulated the exchange of both research results and practical experiences to enhance the state of the art of lean thinking and practice.

October 2021

Daryl John Powell Eivind Reke

# Organization

ELEC 2021 was organized by SINTEF Manufacturing AS with support from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology.

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