



Mr Perienen (Govin) Appavoo is a Senior Academic at the Open University of Mauritius. He has previously been working for fifteen years as media producer, designing, planning and supervising instructional video programmes for both the academic audience and the general public. Presently he is the Head of Research, Consultancy and Innovation Centre and is actively working on various research projects in collaboration with both local and international institutions. His personal area of research is educational technology. He has published a number of research papers in this field and is a reviewer for three journals, including the prestigious British Journal of Educational Technology and EURASIA.

Abstract: Technology has permeated all walks of life, massively impacting sectors like finance, business, health, meteorological services and space exploration such that these sectors cannot exist and function without it. But the educational sector has been a slow adopter of technology, despite the grand claims that ICT fosters pedagogical gains. No doubt education technology is becoming a global phenomenon, and as distribution and platforms scale internationally, the market is projected to grow at 17.0% per annum, to reach \$252bn by 2020. Nevertheless Benjamin Vedrenne-Cloquette, Co-Founder, EdTechXGlobal estimates that the speed of digitisation in education will be up to five times slower than has been seen in other sectors, due primarily to the increased number of gate keepers involved in digital transition decisions, teachers, institutions, governing bodies, districts and policy makers amongst a few. On the other hand the number of students worldwide will continue to increase to reach 2,7 billion by 2035. These digital natives with their emerging learning styles will warrant an increasing use of technological affordances. This talk will focus on the diversity of findings regarding the impact of educational technology in learning achievement and review the challenges hindering its rapid and successful integration in teaching and learning. The opinions and readiness of teachers/academics to embrace technology will be reviewed and discussed within the tenets of traditional education, whereby teaching to the test still dictates the educational system. Furthermore, the relevance of existing examinations practices will be analyzed within a technology-based learning environment. Finally predictions from educational gurus will be discussed to help scan the horizon for future developments.