

Top 10 Reasons You Should Attend the 2012 NMC Summer Conference

I am excited to be presenting at this year's NMC Summer Conference, and here is why YOU should be excited too:

1. MIT is the place to be. This year's conference host is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. By day, you finally get to explore the famous [MIT Media Lab](#) everyone's been talking about. By night, some of the best restaurants and pubs will be calling your name. Check out recommendations and highlights from the [MIT website](#).

2. Joichi Ito will blow your mind. The Director of the MIT Media Lab is delivering the opening keynote on "[Innovation in Open Networks](#)." Do you really want to be the only one among your EdTech peers who misses the opportunity to hear how your institution can reduce production costs and stay on the cutting edge?

3. We're releasing two *Horizon Reports* there. The NMC Horizon Project recently celebrated its 10th birthday (they grow up so fast!). We're launching the [NMC Horizon Report > 2012 K-12 Edition](#) and the [Technology Outlook for Iberoamérica 2012-2017](#) exclusively across two Summer Conference sessions.

4. Is there a Lord in the house? We thought you'd never ask! *The Lord David Puttnam* is receiving this year's NMC Fellows Award and delivering the closing keynote. This award-winning film producer turned Open University Chancellor will tell you how information and communications technologies have the power to transform learning.

5. We choose the paths less traveled. New to this year's summer conference are [six paths](#) that are as action-oriented as the people in our community. Each session and plenary is inspired by an imperative NMC community value: imagine, explore, play, create, transform, and reflect. The [program](#) this year is tighter and brimming with can't-miss moments.

6. We accommodate the modern attention span. Between tweeting and iPad-ing and — Look! Are those free donuts? We're helping to keep the sensory overload of conferences under control by packaging presentations from key [educational thought leaders](#) (read: Malcolm Brown, Lev Gonick, Keith Krueger, Vijay Kumar, Sherry Lassiter Ruben Puentedura, and Scott Sayre!) into brilliant six-minute thought pieces — like [these](#).

7. Your Five Minutes of Fame is never over. Every summer, [we bust out the famous gong](#) and challenge a group of fearless EdTech innovators to do the unthinkable in academia — keep things short and sweet. Learn about some of the best projects in education that you need to know about. If a presenter goes over five minutes, heckling is welcome.

8. Preconference workshops make your projects stronger. Whether you're interested in integrating games into course curriculum, attempting personalized learning, or want to make your digital content pop, we've got you covered with [extended length workshops](#) led by industry experts.

9. We'll share our notes and videos with you. Sadly, telepresence has not yet evolved to the point where you can be in four breakout sessions at once. This year, the NMC will share with you daily highlights in an easy-to-read e-digest. We'll also be posting videos of the plenaries and featured sessions on [iTunes U](#) right after they happen. So if you have to miss the presentation, we've got your back.

10. It's the convening of the tribe. You've been to the conferences populated by tens of thousands of people where name badges are survival items. The annual Summer Conference fosters a close-knit community — the beach bonfire of conferences. Even if you're a first-timer, the NMC community welcomes you and your insights with open arms. As much as we are all EdTech enthusiasts, we recognize that it is truly you, the people, that makes the impact.

What are you waiting for? Register now: go.nmc.org/nmc12.

***To get the Summer Conference momentum going, feel free to share the link to this top 10 list with your social network via Twitter, using [#nmc12](#).**