

CHALLENGING  
CONVENTIONAL  
THINKING



**TUHH**

**ECIU University**  
**Eine Vision für Lernende, Werte und**  
**Prioritäten in Europa**

Dr. Andrea Brose, ECIU University, TUHH 2023-03-30

**1** ECIU & ECIU University

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**2** Education@ECIU University

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**3** ECIU's Challenge-Based Learning

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**4** Microcredentials

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**ECIU & ECIU University**



UNIVERSITY  
OF TWENTE.



UAB  
Universitat Autònoma  
de Barcelona

GROUPE  
INSAI

University  
of Stavanger

li.u LINKÖPING  
UNIVERSITY

universidade de aveiro  
theoria poiesis praxis

TUHH  
Hamburg University of Technology

DCU  
Ollscoil Chathair  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City University

Tampere University

AALBORG UNIVERSITET

Lodz University of Technology

Tecnológico  
de Monterrey

## ECIU Network Uniting Over

**298,000**

STUDENTS

**46,688**

STAFF incl. 27,182 Academic Staff/Researchers

**489**

RESEARCH GROUPS

**147**

FACILITIES

## ECIU Members

University of Twente (The Netherlands)

Aalborg University (Denmark)

Dublin City University (Ireland)

Hamburg University of Technology (Germany)

Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania)

Linköping University (Sweden)

Tampere University (Finland)

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain)

University of Aveiro (Portugal)

University of Stavanger (Norway)

University of Trento (Italy)

Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (France)

Łódź University of Technology (Poland)

TEC de Monterrey (Mexico)

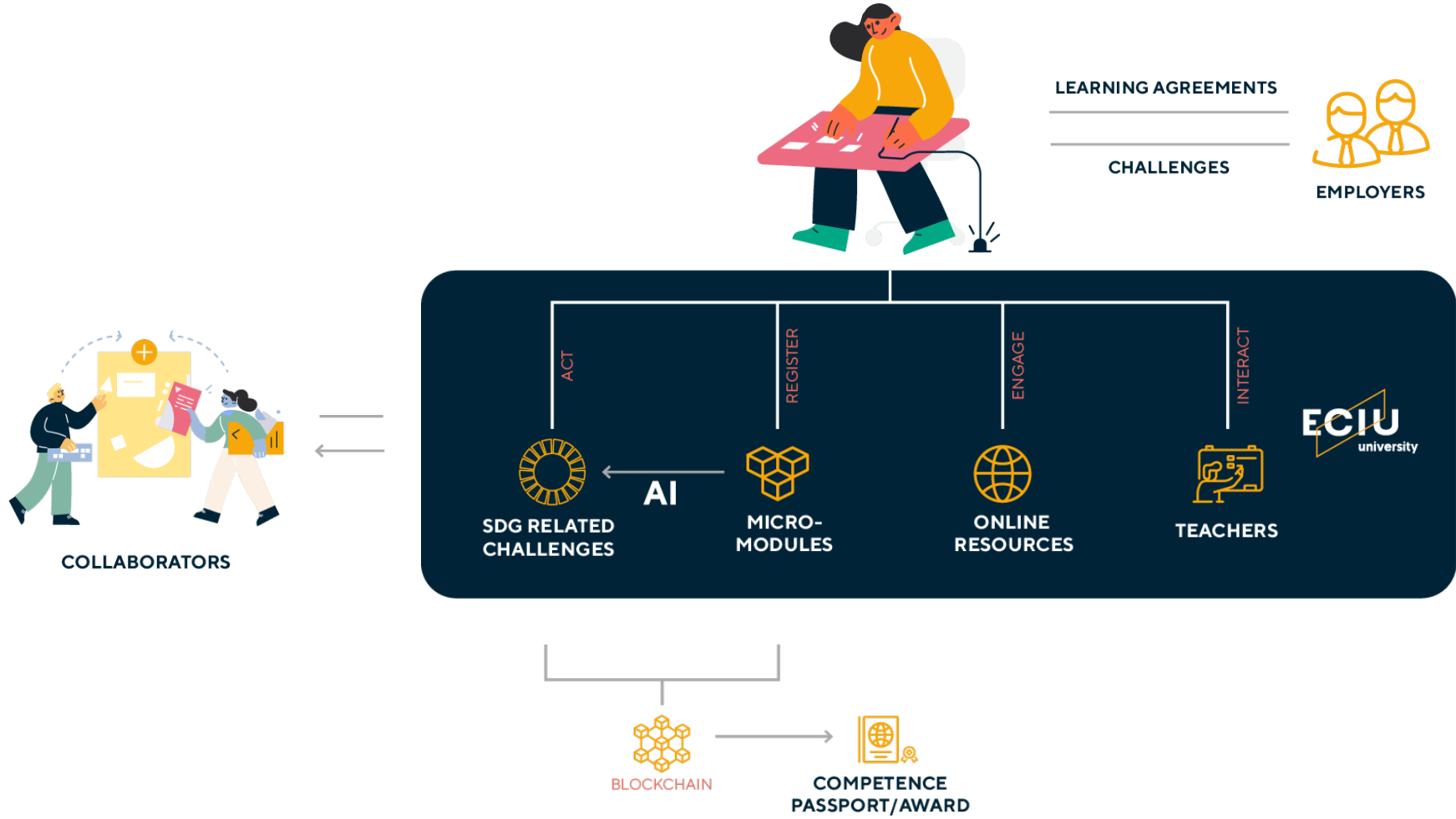
CHALLENGING  
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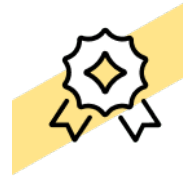
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**Education @ ECIU University**

# ECIU University Architecture for Flexible Learning Pathways



# KEY ELEMENTS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PATHWAY



Stackable, credit-bearing and quality assured micro-credentials



Platform solutions for the storage, sharing and portability of micro-credentials

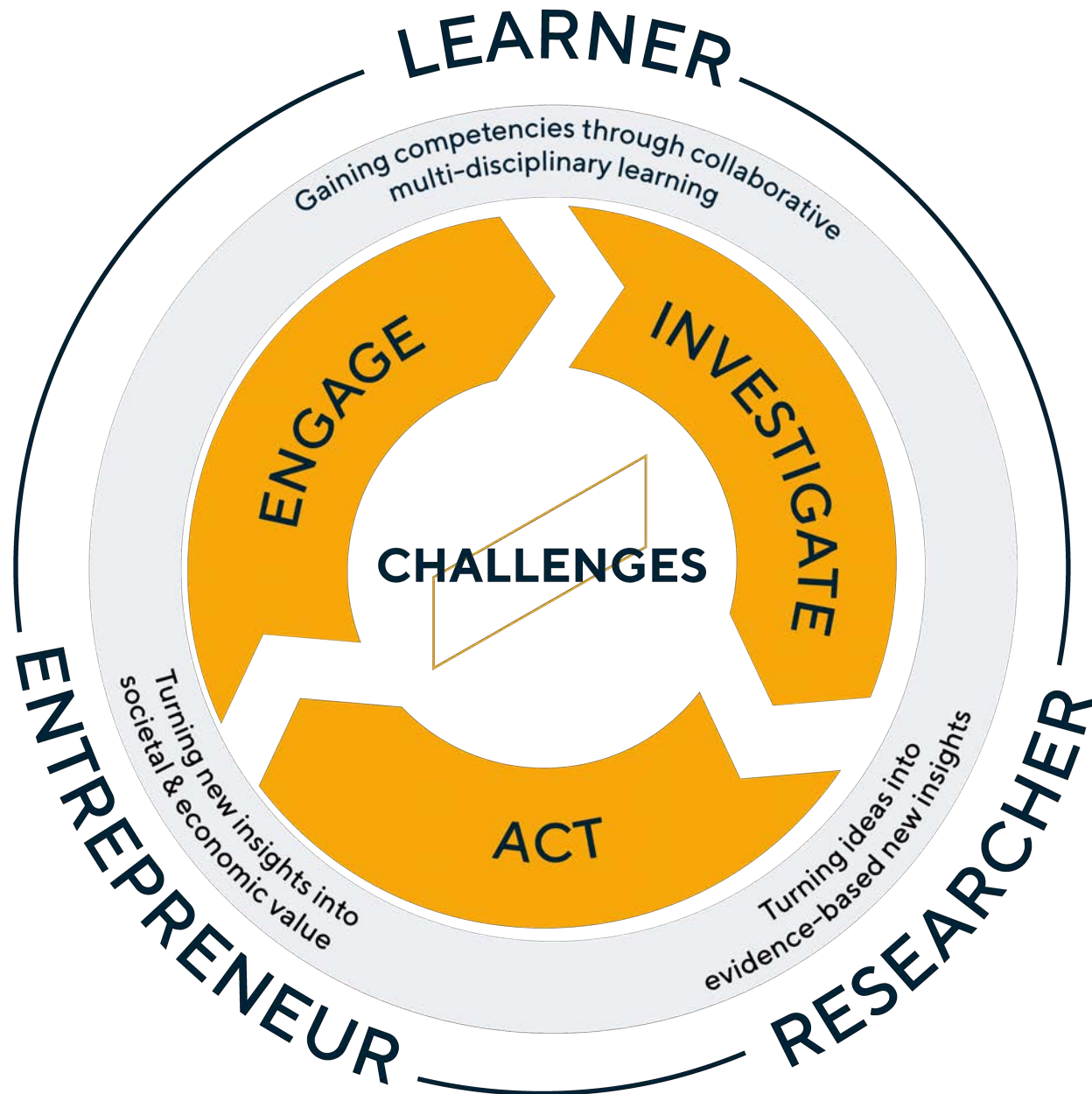


An open co-creation model and challenge-based learning approach



Skills and competence recognition





## ECIU's Challenge-Based Approach

Connecting

- Education
- Research and
- Innovation

through flexible learning pathways for students and continuous learners

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**ECIU's Challenge-Based  
Learning**

## CHALLENGE-BASED LEARNING (CBL)

A pedagogical approach that actively engages learners in a situation that is **real**, **relevant** and **related** to their environment.

It takes place through the identification, analysis and design of a solution.

The learning experience is typically:

- Multidisciplinary
- Involves different stakeholder perspectives
- Aims to find a collaboratively developed solutions



## Learners

### Take Ownership

- define their own challenges
- take over responsibility for team composition
- acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to solve this challenge

## Teacher as a Guide and Facilitator

- promoting team culture
- being challenging
- help students to manage the tasks
- enable students to move towards innovative thinking

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**Microcredentials**

## Micro**credentials** in the EU

A record of the learning outcomes that a learner has acquired following a small volume of learning which have been assessed against transparent and clearly defined criteria.

-- EU commission

## Micromodules @ ECIU

### **EU + ECIU Characteristics:**

- Provided by an accredited institution or program (via ECIU network)
- 1-3 ECTS (or unbundled from a larger module)
- Currently mostly master's level, but bachelor's level being added
- Priority for online provision, offline possible

# Broad Range of ECIU Learning Opportunities Leading to Digital Credentials

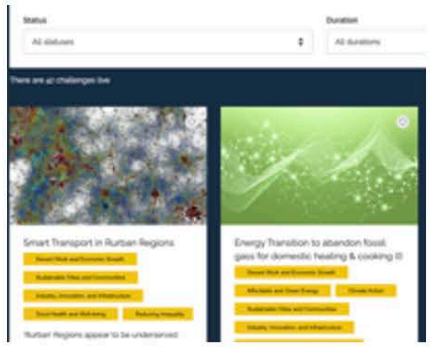
- Current offers include
- Challenges
  - Micro-modules

<https://engage.eciu.eu/browse>

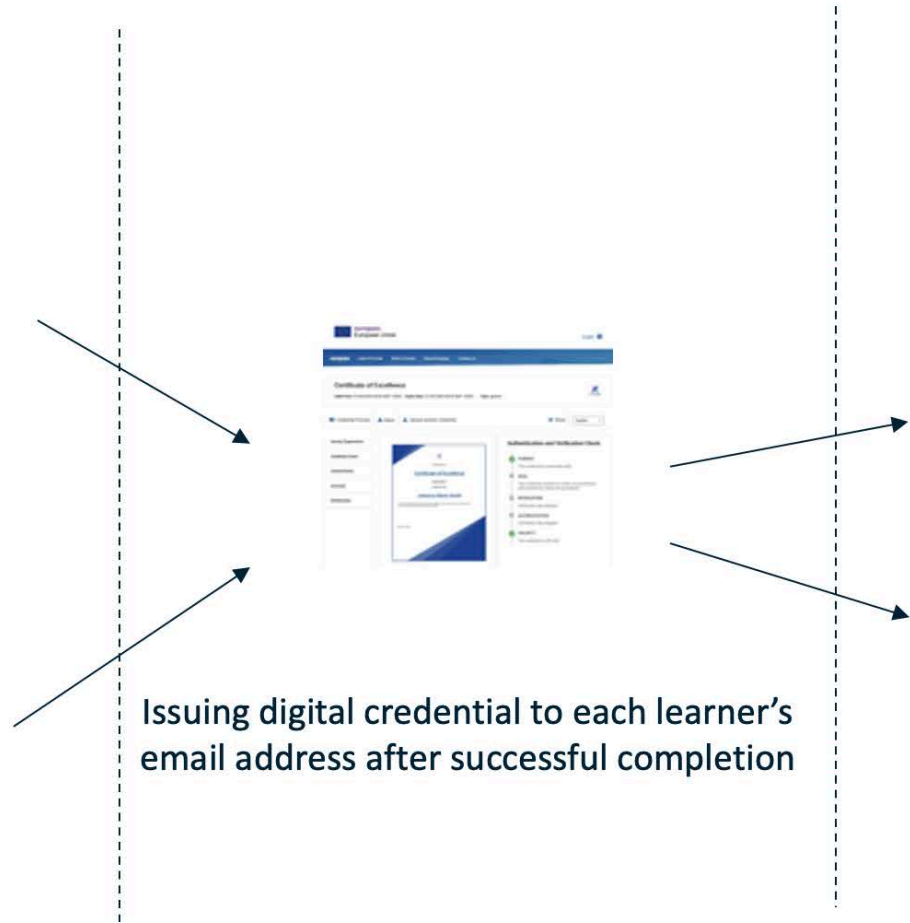
# Digital Credentials for all Learning Opportunities



ECIU micro-modules



ECIU challenges



Issuing digital credential to each learner's email address after successful completion



Learners store digital credentials in their own EDC wallet

And

Get an overview of the received micro-credentials and visualizations of their competences in DXP user profile / Competence passport



# Several Microcredential platforms available

- Forgery-proof, verifiable, awarded to the learner and stored in learner-owned digital profile
- ECIU University using Certificates of successful participation as an intermediate solution
- Low understanding about available platforms and their features, EDC (Europass) becoming the European standard

Kiiskilä, P., Hanafy, A., & Pirkkalainen, H. (2022). Features of Micro-credential Platforms in Higher Education. In CSEDU (1) (pp. 81-91).

The collage consists of four distinct images:

- Europass Certificate of Excellence:** A screenshot of the Europass website showing a 'Certificate of Excellence' for Johannes Maria Smith, awarded by the University of Jyväskylä. It includes a digital representation of the certificate and an 'Authentication and Verification Check' section.
- MY CREDENTIALS Dashboard:** A screenshot of a user interface titled 'MY CREDENTIALS' with a table of credential records. The table has columns for ID, Issued, Issued by, Issued on, Valid, ECU, and Open. It also features a sidebar with navigation options like 'CREDENTIALS', 'ISSUED', and 'NOTIFIED', and a 'POWERED BY OERCT FRAMEWORK' logo.
- GATACA Certify Interface:** A screenshot of the GATACA Certify website with the headline 'Issue verifiable credentials in seconds' and a 'Request a demo' button. The text below says 'Save time. Go digital.'
- BCdiploma Advertisement:** A graphic for 'BCdiploma blockchain digital credentials' with the headline 'DIGITAL CREDENTIALS ON THE BLOCKCHAIN'. It features a checkmark icon and the text 'Verifiable and 100% digital diplomas, certificates, badges and micro-credentials'.

# PAVING THE ROAD FOR THE MICRO-CREDENTIALS MOVEMENT

## ECIU UNIVERSITY WHITE PAPER ON MICRO-CREDENTIALS

- ECIU's European Position Paper on MC:
- 1<sup>st</sup>  
Towards a European Microcredentials Initiative  
(April 2020)
  - 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Paving the road for the Microcredentials  
Movement (Januar 2021)
  - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Microcredentials: A Vision for Learners, Values  
and Priorities

<https://www.eciu.eu/eu-affairs#engagement>

