

Otto Federico von Feigenblatt  
Oscar Yecid Aparicio Gómez (eds.)

# Transcending the eternal debate between traditional and progressive education

A constructive  
scholarly dialogue



Transcending the Eternal Debate  
Between Traditional and  
Progressive Education

A Constructive Scholarly Dialogue



Otto Federico von Feigenblatt  
Oscar Yecid Aparicio Gomez(eds.)

Transcending the Eternal  
Debate Between  
Traditional and  
Progressive Education  
A Constructive Scholarly Dialogue

Octaedro 

*Title: Transcending the Eternal Debate Between Traditional and Progressive  
Education: A Constructive Scholarly Dialogue*

First published: November 2023

© Otto Federico von Feigenblatt, Oscar Yecid Aparicio Gomez (eds.)

© Ediciones OCTAEDRO, S.L.  
C/ Bailén, 5 – 08010 Barcelona  
Tel.: 93 246 40 02  
[octaedro@octaedro.com](mailto:octaedro@octaedro.com)  
[www.octaedro.com](http://www.octaedro.com)

All rights reserved. This publication is copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of the copyright folderra.

ISBN (paper): 978-84-19690-76-0

ISBN (PDF): 978-84-19690-77-7

Legal deposit: B 20056-2023

Design and production: Octaedro Editorial

Printing: Ulzama

Printed in Spain

# Summary

Prologue .....	9
OTTO FEDERICO VON FEIGENBLATT	
Chapter 1. Traditional Education is Making a Comeback in the United States: Discursive Contestation in the Public Sphere .....	13
OTTO FEDERICO VON FEIGENBLATT	
Chapter 2. The innovative nature of traditional education .....	39
ABEL MIRÓ I COMAS	
Chapter 3. Strategic management for research in institutions of higher education .....	61
OLGA LUCÍA OSTOS ORTIZ	
Chapter 4. The use of technology: between traditional education and the pedagogies of the future .....	81
OSCAR-YECID APARICIO-GÓMEZ	
Chapter 5. Digital culture and artificial intelligence: practices and experience in education ...	103
DIEGO FERNANDO BARRAGÁN-GIRALDO	





# Prologue

The present volume explores the nexus between traditional and classical education with a focus on the concepts' continued resilience in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Covering a range of issues such as technology, artificial intelligence, research, and the paradox of the innovative nature of certain applications of traditional education, the authors have aimed to provide fuel for further dialogue about this important topic. An introductory chapter sets the tone by exploring the contested history of the term "traditional education" as well as positing that this type of education is making a comeback partly because of the perceived weaknesses of certain progressive educational approaches. Comparisons are made between countries following traditional models of education and others aiming to integrate experimental progressive methods. Moreover, the first chapter provides a theoretical framework to explore the differences between progressive and traditional education. Due space is devoted to exploring the historical transformation of the terms and their continuing relevance in contemporary policy debates.

Abel Miró i Comas explores the innovative nature of traditional education in the second chapter of the volume. The title of this chapter challenges the common misconception that traditional education lacks innovation and that it limits the growth of the individual. Four exponents of traditional education are presented as counterexamples to challenge the previously mentioned misconception. Chapter 4 by Diego Fernando Barragán-Giraldo explores digital culture and artificial intelligence in relation to practices and experience in education. Thus, traditional education is presented as a framework that can be used to integrate cutting edge technologies such as artificial intelligence. Olga Lucia Ostos Ortiz provides an overview of the strategic management of research in institutions of higher education and therefore integrates issues dealing with educational leadership.

The present volume is meant to provide a starting point to re-center the debate between traditional and progressive education. Essence rather than form is the emphasis to facilitate constructive dialogue between the highly polarized camps that have developed over the years in favor and against the two approaches to education. Furthermore, no single approach to education can provide one-size-fits-all solutions to the complex challenges humanity is facing in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century (von Feigenblatt, 2023). A constantly changing environment requires uniquely crafted solutions which preserve the best from traditional approaches and integrates innovative techniques in a gradual and carefully planned manner.

We hope that this volume will inspire similar scholarly projects which aim to transcend narrow disciplinary confines and most importantly shatter stolid ideological divides. Education is society's best tool to prepare for the future. Not only do we have the power to change our behav-

ior to adapt to our environment, but we should prepare future generations to shape the future with a healthy respect for the past and with a youthful yearning for a better world.

Professor OTTO FEDERICO VON FEIGENBLATT, MA, PhD, EdD,  
ALM, FRAI  
Everwise Hall, Florida, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

von Feigenblatt, O. F. (2023). *Trends and Debates in American Education: A Hispanic Perspective*. Barcelona: Octaedro.

