Panels
“The Opportunities from OER and Open and Distance Educational”

**Presentation Abstract**

The panelists, coming from different parts of the globe, will provide a future oriented view on the opportunities coming from OER, in particular in the context of Open and Distance Education.

**PRESENTERS**

**Prof. Tian Belawati**

ICDE / Rector of Universitas Terbuka

INDONESIA

Professor Tian Belawati has made lifetime professional contributions to open and distance learning (ODL). She has had extensive experiences in research, teaching, and administration of a mega university, which serves over 500,000 students residing in Indonesia and overseas. Her work experience includes various positions within an ODL institution that serves diverse groups of students with differing needs and circumstances. She started her career in academic life as researcher with the Canadian Communication Consortium in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Upon her return to Universitas Terbuka (UT) in Indonesia in 1996, she was appointed as Head of the Center for Indonesian Studies. Her leadership experience at the Centre has further taken her to greater responsibilities as Vice Rector for Academic Affairs at UT. As Vice Rector she introduced innovations and good practices in the use of new technology for the delivery of ODL. Her two-terms as Vice Rector, from 2001 to 2009, have taken UT into a new ODL platform in a developing country context through utilization of new and appropriate technology. Among others, she has introduced innovations through UT Online, such as online tutorials, open educational resources (OERs), online examination, digital library, integrated information system for learning materials development, and other ICT-based initiatives in teaching, learning and academic administration.

Professor Belawati is currently Rector of UT. As Rector, she has taken decisive actions to mobilize effort in partnerships with stakeholders to improve the quality of ODL, develop greater public confidence in ODL, and establish collaborative effort with international as well as regional ODL institutions and associations. She is extensively involved in various joint initiatives with other ODL players and organizations in her capacity as both ODL researcher and top administrator. Professor Belawati had been active as Deputy Coordinator of the IDRC-funded collaborative research network PANdora (2004 – 2009) and Board member of PANdora (2010 – now). Her professional achievements have led her appointments as Secretary General (2007-2009) and then President (2009-2010) of the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU), as well as a member of the Election Committee (2007-2009) and Executive Committee (2009-present), and now the President of the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE).

**Tony MAYS**

SAIDE/OER Africa Initiative

SOUTH AFRICA

Tony Mays is a Programme Specialist with the South African Institute for Distance Education (www.saide.org.za). He has been President (2000-2002, 2008-2010) of the National Association for Distance Education and Open learning in South Africa (see www.nadeosa.org.za) and in that capacity chaired the organising committee for the 2nd Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning held at the ICC Durban (see www.col.org/pcf2). He works/has worked with a number of higher education institutions in the areas of strategic planning, systems review, operational coordination, ODL policy and practice, quality assurance and evaluation, curriculum design, open education resources and the management of teaching practice within South Africa (e.g. Department of Education, Promat Colleges, University of South Africa, University of Pretoria, former Technikon Southern Africa, Universities of KwaZulu-Natal and Witwatersrand) as well as more widely in the sub-Saharan Africa region (having completed assignments in Angola, Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Swaziland and Zambia). He has published/co-published textbooks for K12 Language and Literature and Teacher Education and presented papers and published journal articles on ODL policy, practice and costing as well as ODL for teacher education. He was the lead researcher for several publications for the Distance Education and Open Learning Desk of the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (see www.adea.net). Tony holds a BA(Hons) (Wales), PGCE (Westminster College, Oxford), BEd(Hons) (Natal), MEd (Unisa).
Mona El –Ayoubi is the Director of Learning, Innovation & Strategy at Hamdan Bin Mohammed e- University in Dubai. She is responsible for the institutional e-learning strategies and policies and for the provisions of e-learning capabilities. Her focus on e-pedagogy, online delivery strategies, provisions of tools and resources to support teaching and learning in the Virtual learning environment. She is also responsible for the continuous development of quality frameworks for continuous improvement of e-learning practices. Her specializations are in pedagogy in higher education and in online delivery and development.

Anthony F. Camilleri is a tertiary education policy consultant, and works as quality services manager at EFQUEL. He holds qualifications in law from the University of Malta, and was also active in the Malta national students’ union and the European Students’ Union. He has been responsible for EFQUEL participation in a number of projects on OER, most notably the Open Education Quality Initiative, and the OERTest courseware certification initiative. He has also co-authored EFQUEL’s European policy recommendations on mainstreaming open educational practices.

Professor Jim Barber is the University of New England's Vice-Chancellor. Before taking up this position in February 2010, Professor Barber was Deputy-Vice Chancellor at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University. Professor Barber is a distinguished academic. After completing his PhD in experimental psychology, his research shifted into the applied fields of drug addiction and child welfare. His research record includes minimal interventions in the secondary prevention of drug addiction, and evidence-based social policy and child welfare. He is a winner of North America's Pro Humanitate Medal for his research in child welfare and a winner of the Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching from Flinders University. Prior to moving to university senior executive positions in the higher education sector, Professor Barber's roles included that of Reader and then Professor of Social Work (La Trobe University and the University of Tasmania), Professor of Social Administration (Flinders University) and Dean at the University of Toronto. Professor Barber’s experience includes roles of Company Director on a number of national bodies, including Open Universities Australia (Australia’s leading provider of fee-paying online degree programs), Jesuit Social Services Australia and Graduate Careers Australia. Professor Barber has significant international education experience, most significantly taking on the additional role of interim President of RMIT International University of Vietnam. He has worked in regional universities and has a commitment to their important contribution in providing access to education, and also in driving economic prosperity and enhancing the morale, culture and identity of their regions.