

Author Biographies

Farook Al-Shamali, B.Sc.(Hons), M.Sc., Ph.D. (farooka@athabascau.ca), is Academic Coordinator of physics and astronomy courses at Athabasca University. He has teaching experience in both the face-to-face lecturing and in the distance education mode. Over the years he has published in the areas of particle physics and geomagnetism. His current research interest is in physics distance education and e-learning. More specifically, he is currently looking into the applications of Learning Objects in online physics courses and also into the design of low-cost physics home lab experiments.

Terry Anderson, Ph.D., is Professor and Canada Research Chair in Distance Education at Athabasca University — Canada's Open University. He has published widely in the area of distance education and educational technology and has co-authored or edited five books and numerous papers. Terry is active in provincial, national, and international distance education associations and is a regular presenter at professional conferences. He teaches educational technology courses in Athabasca's Masters of Distance Education program. Terry is also the director of CIDER — the Canadian Institute for Distance Education Research (cider.athabascau.ca) and the editor of the International Review of Research on Distance and Open Learning (IRRODL www.irrodl.org). The complete text of his most recent edited book *The Theory and Practice of Online Learning* is available as an Open Access resource (cde.athabascau.ca).

ca/online_book). More information is available on his website (cider.athabascau.ca/Members/terrya).

Erwin Boschmann, Ph.D. (erv@iu.edu), is Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis. He has served as Provost at the Indiana University East Campus and was Indiana University's Associate Vice President for Distributed Education with responsibility for all eight campuses. From 1988 to 1999 he served as Associate Dean of the Faculties with responsibility for 1500 full-time, and 800 part-time faculty. He has spoken, taught, and consulted widely in this country and overseas, and has published books and articles in both teaching and research. In 1983 he received Indiana University's statewide H.F. Lieber Award for Distinguished Teaching, and in 1986 he was awarded a Lilly Faculty Open Fellowship. During 1997 he served as chair of the Indiana Section of the American Chemical Society, and in 1998 he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Bethel College.

Robert D. Carmichael, B.Sc., M.Sc. in Microbiology (robertc@athabascau.ca), is the Science Lab Coordinator at Athabasca University. With now over ten years of laboratory TA experience in biology, chemistry, and physics labs and in a wide variety of lab session formats, he has presented in the areas of distance science education administration. His research in distance education is primarily concerned with the development of online science resources for students and staff.

Avner Caspi, Ph.D. (avnerca@openu.ac.il), is a lecturer in the Department of Education and Psychology at the Open University of Israel. He is a research associate in the Chais Research Center for the Integration of Technology in Education. He specializes in educational technologies, the social and cognitive aspects of learning and studying, and cyber-psychology.

Edward Cloutis, B.Eng, M.Sc., Ph.D., is Professor of Geography at the University of Winnipeg. He has designed a number of earth science courses for distributed learning. Over the years he has published extensively on the use of remote sensing for terrestrial and extraterrestrial research. He was the recipient of the University of Winnipeg's Erica and Arnold Rogers Award for Excellence in Research and Scholarship. His research was also recognized by the naming of asteroid (6081) Cloutis by the International Astronomical Union. His teaching includes development of student-led projects in geographic information systems for non-academic organizations and clients.

Martin Connors, B.Sc.(Hons), M.Sc., Ph.D., PPhys (martinc@athabascau.ca), is Professor of Astronomy and Physics and a Canada Research Chair at Athabasca University. Most of his teaching experience has been with distance education. He developed innovative lab materials for DE physics and astronomy courses, and a computer-oriented statistics course. His research in distance education focuses on use of web control of lab apparatus.

Alan Farley, B.Ec.(Hons), M.Ec., Ph.D. (alan.farley@deakin.edu.au), is a Professor and Director of the Institute of Teaching and Learning at Deakin University. He has used technology in innovative ways in his own teaching since the early 1980s and currently leads an agenda to have Deakin recognized as a leader in Flexible Education. He is currently President of the Australian Council of Online, Distance and eLearning. His research includes articles on both general higher education issues and education in his own fields of teaching, as well as publications in his original field of Management Science.

Paul Gorsky, D.Sc. (paulgo@openu.ac.il), is a faculty member in the Department of Education and Psychology at the Open University of Israel and a research associate in the Chais Research Center

for the Integration of Technology in Education. His research interests include instructional theory and design, and the impact of instructional technologies on cognition. In addition, Paul founded and chairs a nationwide not-for-profit organization, “Science and Reasoning 2000,” which offers extra-curricular, hands-on, inquiry-based activities to gifted and science-oriented youth throughout Israel.

Dale Holt, B.Com., Di.P.Ed, Grad.Cert.Dist.Ed, Ph.D. (dholt@deakin.edu.au), is Head: Education Design, Professional Development and Research, Institute of Teaching and Learning, Deakin University. Most of his academic development experience has been in online, distance, and flexible education. Dale has won a national teaching award in this area. Over the years he has published in areas relating to professional learning by distance education, workplace and experiential learning, leadership and management of ICT in higher education, and teaching and learning online. With colleague Stuart Palmer, he is currently undertaking a nationally funded project on the strategic leadership of teaching and learning centres in Australian higher education.

Md. Tofazzal Islam, B.Sc.Ag.(Hons), M.Sc.Ag., MS, Ph.D. (tofazzalislam@yahoo.com), is Associate Professor of Ecological Chemistry at the School of Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) of Bangladesh Open University. He played key roles in establishment of SARD and launched an undergraduate program in agriculture through distance mode. His research findings in phytochemistry and molecular plant-peronosporomycete interactions have been published in international journals and books. Over the years he has also published in the areas of agricultural education at a distance. He holds both national and international research awards. His current interests include innovative distance delivery methods for undergraduate and postgraduate courses in agriculture in the developing countries.

Anjeela Jokhan, Ph.D., is Senior Lecturer and Associate Dean Teaching & Learning in the Faculty of Science and Technology at University of the South Pacific (USP). Her doctoral thesis in plant physiology at the University of Bristol looked at the effects of partial root drying on the physiology of *Ricinus communis* (castor oil) plants. She has been involved in teaching through both face-to-face and distance flexible learning (DFL) modes for over 20 years and her extensive experience has focused in the area of DFL course design, delivery, and administration, with emphasis on identifying and dealing with issues related to delivery in the regional campuses. Her keen interest in DFL delivery in the area of teaching and learning, from a quality point of view, has also put her work at the focal point in preparing for a quality audit at USP in February 2008.

Robert Lyall, FRMIT (App.Chem.), M.App.Sci., Ph.D., MRACI (robert.lyall@sci.monash.edu.au), was previously a Senior Lecturer in Chemistry in the School of Applied Sciences, Monash University, where his teaching experience included both on-campus and distributed learning. He has published in the fields of air and water pollution as well as in educational research. Robert's research in education has concentrated on the learning strategies of distance education chemistry students and the use of interactive media. He is presently continuing this research as a Senior Research Fellow in the School of Applied Sciences.

Jenny Mosse, B.Sc.(Hons), M. Biotech, Dip. Ed., B.Ed., Grad. Cert. Higher Ed. (jenny.mosse@sci.monash.edu), is Senior Lecturer in Biochemistry at Monash University, and has been teaching distance students for over 20 years. Jenny is particularly interested in the development of innovative methods for flexible delivery of science programs to remote students and in designing science programs of both local and international relevance. Jenny is a molecular virologist, studying antisense gene expression in HIV virus and investigating mechanisms of drug resistance in influenza viruses.

Stuart Palmer, B.Eng., MBA, Grad.Cert.HigherEd, D.Tech. (spalm@deakin.edu.au), is a Senior Lecturer in the Institute of Teaching and Learning, Deakin University. He is a chartered professional engineer, having practiced in consulting engineering for a decade before joining the School of Engineering at Deakin University. He lectured in the management of technology for twelve years, working with engineering students studying in on-campus, off-campus, off-shore and online modes. In 1999 he was awarded the Australasian Association for Engineering Education McGraw-Hill New Engineering Educator Award. His research interests include frequency domain image analysis and the application of digital technologies in engineering education. More recently, he has joined the Deakin University Institute of Teaching and Learning.

Gale Parchoma, B.Ed., B.A.(Hons), M.A., Ph.D. (g.parchoma@lancaster.ac.uk), is a lecturer in Technology Enhanced Learning and e-Research at Lancaster University. Most of her instructional design, teaching, and research experiences have been focused on technology mediated teaching and learning. Gale has published in the areas of learner-centred instruction, lifelong learning, educational leadership, and interdisciplinary applications of technology enhanced learning. Her current research includes leadership in e-learning and interdisciplinary approaches to providing Web-based support for promoting creativity and critical thinking in higher education.

Antonio (Tony) F. Patti, B.Sc.(Hons), Ph.D., Grad.Dip.Ed.FRACI (tony.patti@sci.monash.edu.au), is an Associate Professor in Chemistry in the School of Applied Sciences and Engineering and Associate Dean, Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Science, Monash University. He has extensive teaching experience in both on-campus and distributed learning in chemistry, soil chemistry, and environmental science. Tony was heavily involved in the development and implementation of a home experiment chemistry kit for off-campus

students at Monash University and for Open Learning Australia in the early 1990s. His current research interests are focused in Green Chemistry with an emphasis on natural organic matter transformations, soil chemistry, and the conversion of biomass into useful chemical feed-stocks and fuels.

Bibhya N. Sharma, B.Sc., M.Sc., received his Master's degree in mathematics from the University of the South Pacific, Fiji, in 1998. He is completing his Ph.D. degree in applied mathematics from the same university. He is currently a lecturer in Mathematics with the School of Computing, Information and Mathematical Sciences of the Faculty of Science and Technology, University of the South Pacific. He is also the Coordinator of the Mathematics Division. His main fields of interest are dynamics of nonlinear systems, robotics, artificial neural networks, and mathematics education.

Wendy Wright, B.Sc.(Hons), Ph.D., Grad.Cert.HigherEd. (wendy.wright@sci.monash.edu.au), is a Senior Lecturer in Biological and Environmental Sciences. She has developed and taught various programs for mixed mode delivery (on and off campus) at Monash University's regional campus in Gippsland, Victoria, Australia for nearly 15 years and has published in the areas of distance education, environmental education, ecology, and conservation biology.