

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Baiyun Chen is an instructional designer at the Course Development & Web Services at the University of Central Florida. Her research interests focus on distance education, using instructional strategies in online instruction, professional development for teaching online, and application of emerging technologies in education.

Dianne Conrad directs the prior learning process at Athabasca University, Canada's open and distance university located in Athabasca, Alberta. She also serves as adjunct professor to the MDE program at University of Maryland University College and researches in distance and adult education.

Michael Hall received his bachelor's and master's degrees in engineering from Purdue University. He received his PhD in higher education administration from Indiana State University. He is currently professor of computer information systems at Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Nabi Bux Jumani has been working as an assistant professor in the Department of Teacher Education, Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU), Islamabad. From 1993 to 1996 he worked in the Curriculum Wing, Ministry of Education, Islamabad, as coordination officer. From 1996 to 2000 he served as principal, Federal Government High School Hydera-

bad Cantt and 2 years as a high school teacher in government of Sindh. He joined AIOU in August 2000. Jumani earned a master's degree in education from the University of Sindh. He holds a MPhil and a PhD in distance education and completed 1 year of postdoctoral research at Deakin University Australia. The title of his postdoctoral research is "Evaluation of the Competencies of Teachers Trained Through Distance Education." He has supervised 10 theses MPhil/PhD in the field of education. He has written more than 22 research papers and 10 chapters/units for teacher training courses at AIOU. He is media coordinator of the Faculty of Education, Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad for media programs to be developed by Institute of Educational Technology, Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad. He is also a coordinator of the Pre-Service Teacher Education Program (USAID Project) Pakistan.

Belal A. Kaifi is a doctoral candidate at the University of San Francisco, where he is studying and researching organization and leadership in the School of Education. Kaifi teaches undergraduate and graduate level courses in business administration and global issues at Franklin University.

Serçin Karataş is an assistant professor at Gazi University, Department of Computer Education and Instructional Technologies. She

was the vice chairman of Atatürk Vocational Higher School in charge of distance education and was the distance education coordinator in the Informatics Institute at Gazi University. Presently, she's the project coordinator of Distance Education Vocational High School at the same university. Her research interests are theoretical foundations and applications of e-learning; online learner engagement; interactivity and interaction in e-learning; storyboard and course content development for e-learning; creative instruction via ICT; and e-learning leadership.

Kılıç-Çakmak is an assistant professor at Gazi University, Department of Computer Education and Instructional Technologies. She is the vice director of Distance Education Vocational Higher School at Gazi University. Her research interests are interface and multimedia design; social networking; teaching, cognitive and social presence in online education; synchronous online learning; online learner engagement; interactivity and interaction in e-learning; e-learning leadership and Integrating ICT in education system

Sow-Lai Kong is a senior science teacher and has recently been promoted to be a master teacher in chemistry. She specializes on instructional technologies and multimedia learning. She has a PhD in multimedia instruction and is actively participating in paper presentations in the use of ICT in education. She is keen on conducting action research to improve the teaching and learning of chemistry. Before her promotion, she was the head of the Educational Resources Unit of the Sungai Ara Secondary National School in Penang, Malaysia. She regularly conducts courses for teachers on the management of school resource centres and provides in-house training on professional development in support of instruction.

Wendy Lambert-Heggs is a lecturer in education and placement coordinator for full-time postgraduate trainee teachers at the University

of Plymouth. Originally trained as a psychologist, her research interests include prison placements, online mentoring, and lifelong learning, with particular emphasis on educational opportunities for the older learner.

Bahaudin G. Mujtaba is an associate professor of management, human resources, and international management at Nova Southeastern University's H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Bahaudin has worked as an internal consultant, diversity trainer, and management development specialist as well as retail management in the corporate arena for over 16 years. Bahaudin is the author and co-authors of several books in the areas of diversity management, business ethics, leadership, and cross-cultural management.

Mehmet A. Ocak is an assistant professor in the Department of Computer and Instructional Technologies Teaching at Gazi University, Gazi Faculty of Education. He earned his BS in mathematics at Ankara University, and his M.S. and PhD in Curriculum, Development, and Instructional Technology at the State University of New York at Albany. His research area concerns integration of computing technology in education, the design of educational materials in education, and the use of the representations in the classrooms. He was involved in developing online courses, using Blackboard and WebCT, for graduate level classes. He also taught mathematics in Grades 10-12.

Wai-Kong Ng was a professor of instructional technology at the University Sains Malaysia, and subsequently he was the director of educational technology at Wawasan Open University, Malaysia. He now heads a team of instructional designers that work with course coordinators and course writers to develop print and digital learning course materials and also support instruction through Wawasan-Learn, the university's learning management system.

Dawn M. Smith is a PhD student at Old Dominion University. She is also an online adjunct instructor at a state school on the east coast and conducts training classes for clients in computer networking. Her primary research interests are distance education, faculty development, and adult learning.

Steve Wheeler is senior lecturer in education and information technology at the University of Plymouth. He is coeditor of the journal *Interactive Learning Environments* and serves on the boards of several other academic peer reviewed journals, including *ALT-J*, *IRRODL*, and *QRDE*. His research interests include e-learning, Web 2.0 learning technologies, and distance education.

Albert A. Williams is an assistant professor and has been teaching at Nova Southeastern University in both graduate and undergraduate programs in finance, economics, and business statistics. Before returning to academia, he was a commodity analyst at Restaurant Services Incorporated in Miami, Florida. In Belize, he

was the chief executive officer of the Belize Marketing Board. In addition, he was an agricultural economist for the Government of Belize. He also was a project officer at the Development Finance Corporation in Belize. Prior, he was a mathematics professor in Belize.

Zafar Iqbal Yousuf Zai completed his MSc in computer science from University of Sindh, and MEd from The Aga Khan University—Institute for Educational Development, Karachi, Pakistan. He has 10 years of teaching and administrative experience at primary, secondary, and graduate level. Zafar was also engaged with the district executives in planning the District Plan of Action for Education for All and other administrative matter related to school improvement programme at the district level. Zafar is deputy headmaster in one of the model schools of Islamabad, Pakistan and is enrolled in the PhD (teacher education) programme at Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad.

