

**The 29th Annual Conference of the Asian Association of Open Universities**  
Theme: New Frontiers in Open and Distance Learning



**Dates:** 30 November – 2 December 2015  
**Venue:** Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia  
**Host:** Open University Malaysia

**Kindly submit your abstract to the AAOU 2015 *NOW!***

Our 29th Annual Conference this year (AAOU 2015) will bring together academics, administrators and professionals to share ideas on ways and means to reach new frontiers in open and distance learning (ODL). This conference will strive to be the catalyst for knowledge-sharing among participants, particularly in areas related to the sub-themes below:

- New Paradigm for Open Universities
- Technology as Drivers in ODL
- New Research and Practices in ODL
- Quality Assurance in ODL
- The Open Knowledge Movement

Scholars, researchers and administrators are welcome to share studies and good practices in these sub-themes, and explore the relevant topics in depth and breadth. Your paper submitted to the conference has the chance of being selected for the prizes for:

- Best Paper Award
- Best Practice Award
- Young Innovator Award

In addition, participants will benefit from the keynote speeches in the conference. Renowned experts in relevant fields will share insights and useful experience on the above sub-themes.

Please note below the **important deadlines:**

Abstract submission	<b>31 July 2015</b>
Notification of abstract acceptance	<b>9 August 2015</b>
Early bird registration	<b>31 August 2015</b>
Full paper submission	<b>15 September 2015</b>
Notification of full paper acceptance	<b>28 September 2015</b>
Online conference registration	<b>1 November 2015</b>

[Submit abstract](#) now to AAOU 2015! And remember to [register](#) before **31 August** to enjoy the early bird rate. For details, please visit the official website: <http://aaou2015.oum.edu.my>.

**Sponsorship support** from the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) will be available to delegates from Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan or Sri Lanka. Further details about the sponsorship will be posted on the conference website soon.

AAOU Journal

## **AAOU Journal—Call for Papers**

The *AAOU Journal* welcomes high-quality papers on topics in open and distance education (ODE). This Journal aims to provide a forum for academics and scholars to share their research and expertise in the field of ODE, and build a vibrant research community of educational leaders from related domains. Your paper submitted to the Journal may be an empirical study, case study or critical literature review that brings readers new information, knowledge, evaluations of theories or best practices of ODE.

Please click [here](#) for the criteria and guidelines for manuscript submission. Manuscripts which fulfil the criteria will be reviewed by members of the Editorial Board for publication in the Journal. Correspondence and notification will be done through e-mail.



Conference

## **The 26th World Conference of the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE 2015) in October**

**Theme:** Growing Capacities for Sustainable Distance e-Learning Provision



**Dates:** 14–16 October 2015  
**Venue:** Sun City, South Africa  
**Host:** University of South Africa (Unisa)

The theme of the 26th ICDE World Conference is 'Growing Capacities for Sustainable Distance e-Learning Provision'. The conference will address ODL in 21st century global higher education within the context of increasing demands for access, decreasing state resources and growing concern about the quality of provision. The conference theme highlights the sustainable character and nature of the ODL philosophy of access, flexibility and student-centredness. The conference also promotes ODL as an approach for masses of students to receive quality higher education.

The conference will draw experts, academics and practitioners from around the world. It will provide a platform for expert speakers to share their diverse views and innovative approaches to teaching and learning in an ODL environment. Those who are engaged with or interested in ODL are welcome to participate.

Submission for the specific stream '[Doctoral Consortium](#)' still remains open. [Register](#) for the conference now to enjoy the early bird rate. For details, please visit the official website:

<http://www.unisa.ac.za/icde2015>.

## The Second International Conference on Open and Flexible Education (ICOFE 2015) in July

**Theme:** Making Learning Mobile and Ubiquitous



**Dates:** 16 –17July 2015  
**Venue:** Jubilee College, The Open University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China  
**Organizer:** The Open University of Hong Kong

With the theme ‘Making Learning Mobile and Ubiquitous’, ICOFE 2015 will highlight the methods and means for adopting the latest technologies and innovations to cater for the diverse needs of learning communities. It will focus particularly on mobile technologies, which facilitate learning anytime and anywhere in a flexible and personalized mode of education.

ICOFE 2015 aims to provide a platform for sharing research, practices and views relevant to open and flexible education. It strives to facilitate networking and inter-institutional collaboration among practitioners and researchers from both open and conventional universities. It also promotes open and flexible education to enhance educational access and quality.

[Register](http://icofe2015.ouhk.edu.hk) for ICOFE 2015 **NOW!** Do not miss this exceptional opportunity for professional development and networking. For more information, please visit the official website: <http://icofe2015.ouhk.edu.hk>.

## International Conference on Scientific Research (ICSR 2015) in September

**Theme:** Role of Distance Education in Human Resource Development



**Dates:** 8 –10 September 2015  
**Venue:** Nha Trang City, Khanh Hoa, Vietnam  
**Organizers:** Hanoi Open University (HOU),  
 Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO SEAMOLEC)  
 Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University (STOU)

With the theme ‘Role of Distance Education in Human Resource Development’, ICSR 2015 aims to provide a venue for the worldwide educational community on matters related to human resource development and distance education to share their ideas, research, knowledge, experiences and innovations with professionals from around the world. It welcomes participants from universities, colleges, departments, and institutes of education, as well as members of government ministries and business leaders interested in human resource development. It will offer an excellent opportunity for networking with university administrators, academics and researchers worldwide.

For registration, please click [here](#). This is a great chance to get inspired and connected with people in the field of human resource development and distance education. For more information, please visit the official website: <http://icsr2015.hou.edu.vn>.

Fellowship

## Korea National Open University (KNOU) Staff Exchange Fellowship Programme

Korea National Open University (KNOU) is now offering two fellowships to staff of all AAOU member institutions, in support of the Staff Exchange Fellowship Programme initiated by AAOU. KNOU provides the exchange fellows with accommodation, a living expense allowance, office support and medical insurance. This is a remarkable occasion for scholars of AAOU member institutions to have academic exchanges and collaboration. Interested academics may submit their applications directly to KNOU for its consideration.



<b>Period of programme:</b>	1–18 September 2015 (3 weeks)
<b>Number of fellowship:</b>	2
<b>Deadline for proposal submission:</b>	10 July 2015

For details, please refer to the document [AAOU Staff Exchange Programme \(KNOU\)](#).

The Staff Exchange Fellowship Programme of the AAOU aims to foster exchange of knowledge and experience in open and distance education, and provides scholars with opportunities for academic exchanges. AAOU member institutions and their academic staff are encouraged to seize this chance to broaden their horizons through mutual assistance and partnership. Any member institution (donor) may offer one or more short-term Fellowship(s) to staff from other member institutions (recipients) to spend up to one month at the donor institution. Activities may include training, academic exchanges or collaborative research. For interested member institutions, please send the details of your programme to AAOU Secretariat at [aaou@ouhk.edu.hk](mailto:aaou@ouhk.edu.hk).

Collaboration

## ICDE Project — Conducting a Survey to Compile a Global Higher Education Report (GlobalOHER)



AAOU is collaborating with the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) to carry out projects on key initiative for online, open and flexible higher education. One of the projects is to conduct an online survey to look into how higher education institutions offer online, distance and open education. The results of this survey will provide a snapshot of the global impact of these approaches. The survey results will be compiled into regional reports (and later on a global scale) for discussions on the future development in these areas in the High Level Policy Forum to be held in Pretoria, South Africa in October 2015. AAOU member institutions will be invited by email to take part in this important survey in the coming months. We strongly encourage you to support and contribute to this project by completing the online survey.

Your help with sharing this *eBulletin* with your colleagues and staff members is highly appreciated.

**Do you have news to share with the AAOU community?**

Your suggestions, information or ideas to share with us are most welcome!

Please contact the AAOU Secretariat at: [aaou@ouhk.edu.hk](mailto:aaou@ouhk.edu.hk)