



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

Let us submit our abstracts to AAOU 2015 for paper presentation!

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). The new frontiers cover but are not limited to the areas of teaching, learning, assessment, open education resources (OER), massive open online courses (MOOCs) and innovative applications of technologies for education delivery. This conference will strive to provide the catalyst for knowledge sharing among participants, particularly in areas pertaining 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
- Open Knowledge Movement

Scholars and administrators are welcome to share studies and good practices under these sub-themes, and explore the relevant topics in depth and breadth. In addition, there will be a keynote speech for each sub-theme. Insights and useful experience will be shared by renowned experts of relevant fields. Participants will gain much benefit from these keynote speeches.

Please note below the **important deadlines** regarding AAOU 2015:

Abstract Submission	30 June 2015
Notification of Abstract Acceptance	31 July 2015
Full Paper Submission	31 August 2015
Early Bird Registration	31 August 2015
Notification of Full Paper Acceptance	15 September 2015
Online Conference Registration	15 October 2015

For details, please visit the official website: <http://aaou2015.oum.edu.my>.

AAOU Meritorious Service Award — Call for Nomination

Every year, the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU) may present a **Meritorious Service Award (MSA)** to an individual for his/her outstanding services and contributions to open and distance education. Individual academics or administrators may be nominated by AAOU member institutions. If you wish to submit a nomination, please note the following details:

- Individual academics or administrators may be nominated by AAOU member institutions or by senior faculty (not below the rank of Full Professor) working in AAOU member institutions.
- Nominees need not be restricted to persons presently working for or associated with the member institutions of the AAOU.
- Nominations must be signed either by the Chief Executive of the nominating institution, or by at least three Senior Academics of the AAOU member institutions.
- More than one nomination can be made.

For each nomination, the following three documents must be submitted: 1) a signed nomination letter; 2) a statement of no more than 1,000 words describing the reasons for making the nomination; and 3) a copy of nominee's curriculum vitae. Kindly note that **the deadline for nomination is 30 June 2015**.

Further details regarding this prestigious award are in the document [AAOU Meritorious Service Award](#) of the AAOU website.

AAOU Journal — Call for Papers

AAOU Journal welcomes high quality papers on topics of 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 papers 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.

Your manuscripts submitted must be original, not having been published elsewhere, scientifically accurate, and in good term editorially. They should be rigorous and well-grounded, maintaining a coherence and unity of thought in summarizing the facts, analysis, and in-depth discussions. Qualified submissions will be reviewed by members of the Editorial Board, to consider for acceptance or rejection. Correspondence and notification will be done through e-mail.

For details, please go to this link: <http://aaou.ouhk.edu.hk/journal.html>.

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

Theme: Making Learning Mobile and Ubiquitous

Dates: 16 – 17 July 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 to adopt 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 collaborations among practitioners and researchers from both open and conventional universities. It also promotes open and flexible education to enhance educational access and quality.

Papers on all topics related to open or flexible education are welcome. Authors with accepted full papers will be included in the conference proceedings and considered for the “Best Paper Award” and “Excellent Paper Award”. In addition, authors of selected papers will be invited to submit an extended version of their papers for publication in an edited book.

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 more information, please visit the official website: <http://icsr2015.hou.edu.vn>.

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 26th ICDE World Conference is calling for papers. The theme of the 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 sustainability character and nature of the ODL philosophy of access, flexibility and student-centeredness. 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.

For details, please visit the official website: <http://www.unisa.ac.za/icde2015>.

Gauhati University Short-term Staff Exchange Fellowship Programme

Institute of Distance and Open Learning, Gauhati University (IDOL, GU) is now offering two fellowships to staff of all AAOU member institutions, in support of the Staff Exchange Fellowship Programme initiated by AAOU. IDOL, GU provides the fellowship candidates with accommodation, living expense allowance and office support. This is a great opportunity for scholars of AAOU member institutions to have academic exchanges and collaboration. Interested academics may submit their applications directly to IDOL, GU for their consideration.

Period of Programme:	1 – 14 September 2015
Number of Fellowship:	2
Deadline of Proposal Submission:	31 May 2015

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

The Staff Exchange Fellowship Programme of AAOU is intended to provide a platform for capacity building and establishment of sustainable partnerships among open universities. Any AAOU member institution (donor) may donate to the programme by offering one or more short-term Fellowship(s) to staff from other member institutions (recipients) to spend up to one month at the donor institution in order to receive training, carry out academic exchanges or undertake a collaborative research project. All member institutions are welcome to participate in this capacity-building initiative. For interested member institutions, please send the details of your programme to AAOU Secretariat.

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 AAOU Secretariat at: aaou@ouhk.edu.hk