Where are we at with Online Education Research?
A CIDER Workshop

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ONLINE DISTANCE EDUCATION

Towards a Research Agenda

Edited by
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Method

- **AU PRESS**

- **Setting the scene: a framework of research areas in online distance education** Olaf Zawacki-Richter and Terry Anderson

- Zawacki-Richter (2009) carried out an international Delphi study

- patterns in distance education research published in scholarly journals (Zawacki-Richter, Bäcker & Vogt, 2009).

Macro level: Distance education systems and theories

- Access, equity and ethics
- Globalization of education and cross-cultural aspects
- Distance teaching systems and institutions
- Theories and models
- Research methods in distance education and knowledge transfer

Meso level: Management, organization and technology

- **Management and organization**
- **Costs and benefits**
- **Educational technology**
- **Innovation and change**
- **Professional development and faculty support**
- **Learner support services**
- **Quality assurance**
- **Drop Out**

Micro level: Teaching and learning in distance education

- **Instructional or learning design**

- **Interaction and communication in learning communities**

- **Learner characteristics**

Table 1: Ranking of research areas by number of articles by research area (N=695)

Rank	Research Area	Level	F	%	Cum. %
1	Interaction and communication in learning	3	122	17.6	17.6
2	Instructional design	3	121	17.4	35.0
3	Learner characteristics	3	113	16.3	51.2
4	Distance teaching systems and institutions	1	62	8.9	60.1
5	Educational technology	2	48	6.9	67.1
6	Quality assurance	2	41	5.9	72.9
6	Professional development and faculty support	2	41	5.9	78.8
7	Access, equity and ethics	1	31	4.5	83.3
8	Theories and models	1	24	3.5	86.8
9	Learner support services	2	23	3.3	90.1
10	Management and organisation	2	18	2.6	92.7
11	Research methods in DE and knowledge transfer	1	13	1.9	94.5
11	Globalisation of education and cross-cultural	1	13	1.9	96.4
11	Innovation and change	2	13	1.9	98.3
12	Costs and benefits	2	12	1.7	100.0
	Total		695	100.	

Level: 1=macro, 2=meso, 3=micro; F=frequency; Cum. %=cummulative %

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OVER TO YOU

- Connect will automatically place you in a group of 5.
- Your task:
  - Introduce Yourselves
  - Produce a list of 5 most pressing online Learning questions/issues you would like to see DE research focus on.
  - Report of any issue you are currently doing formal research on
  - Report back in 10 minutes

Shameless Plug
Issues in Distance
Education Series
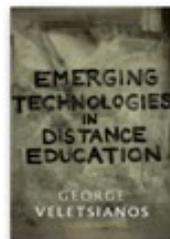http://aupress.ca

8 Free books

Accessible Elements
Teaching Science Online and at a Distance
edited by Dietmar Kennepohl and Lawton Shaw

A Designer's Log
Case Studies in Instructional Design
by Michael Power

Emerging Technologies in Distance Education
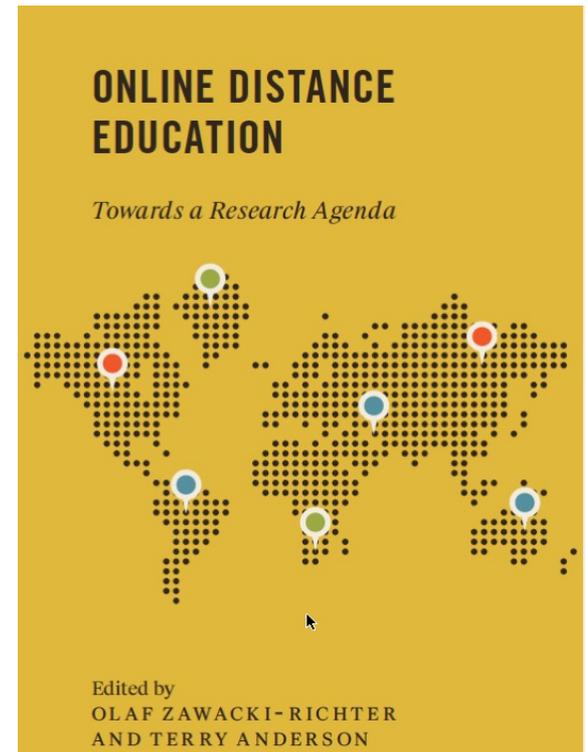*edited by George Veletsianos*

Mobile Learning
Transforming the Delivery of Education and Training
Edited by Mohamed Ally

The Theory and Practice of Online Learning, second edition
edited by Terry Anderson

- Available this fall
- Athabasca University Press

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Your comments &
questions
most welcomed!

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