

ODLAA

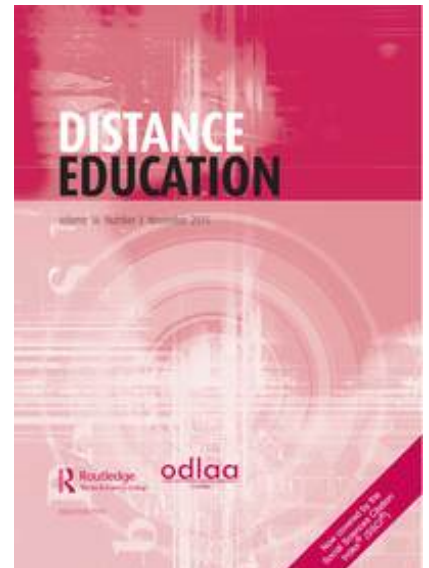
OPEN & DISTANCE LEARNING
ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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ODLAA BYTES

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Hot off the press!
Our Journal
Distance Education
is now ranked 20th!



President Som Naidu received this wonderful news just yesterday!

Thomson Reuters have released the 2015 Journal Citation Reports and Impact Factors. Odlaa's journal *Distance Education* has increased from 0.918 to 2.021. The journal now has a ranking of 20/230 in the Education and Education Research subject category.

This is further evidence that ODLAA continues to increase its international profile and is truly **the premier professional organisation** for Open Distance Learning in Australia. Congratulations are in order for Som the Executive Editor and the entire editorial team!

Visit our website at www.odlaa.org

If you are attending at a conference, please share your experience and resources with your colleagues through ODLAA Bytes. Jo Osborne has recently returned from the DEANZ conference held in NZ and her report follows.

Thank you Jo! 😊

“Jo Osborne (Executive member) met up with ODLAA member Colleen Halupa (from Texas) at the recent DEANZ conference held at the University of Waikato, New Zealand, where both were presenting papers. The Distance Education Association of New Zealand is regarded as ODLAA’s equivalent in its home country, and this year took the opportunity of its biennial conference to announce a formal rebranding to FLANZ: the Flexible Learning Association of New Zealand, ‘to better represent the scope and future of the organisation.’ Jo much enjoyed the conference, which was held at Waikato’s great



Figure 1 Jo Osborne and Colleen Halupa (L to R)

central lecture facilities. Taking into account the region’s fame for feature film associations, the conference theme was ‘There and Back: Charting flexible pathways in open, mobile and distance education’, and most speakers took the opportunity to integrate topics of exploration, journeying and discovery in their fields of education (with occasional reference to wizardry and warding off dragons!). Topping the experience – the conference dinner was held at Hobbiton, the film set built in an idyllic rolling landscape for the filming of the Hobbit movies.

The conference included speakers from all educational sectors – primary to tertiary, vocational and commercial, and keynote speakers reflected this. International keynote, Professor Curt Bonk

from Indiana University gave an animated and fact-filled tour through emerging technologies and transformations in education, emphasising the informal, immersive, social, collaborative, adventurous, ubiquitous (and lots more) that left the audience quite breathless. An interesting new definition to remember: *nomophobia* is now the term to define separation anxiety from your mobile phone!

DEANZ2016 Conference Proceedings can be downloaded from their website at <http://conference.deanz.org.nz/conference-proceedings/>

Selected conference papers, in an extended form, will be published in a forthcoming edition of the FLANZ journal: *the Journal of Open, Flexible and Distance Learning*.”

Don't forget to spread the word of ***your conference*** in February 2017!

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OPEN & DISTANCE LEARNING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA PRESENTS ITS 2017 CONFERENCE

**EXPANDING
HORIZONS**
IN OPEN & DISTANCE LEARNING

MELBOURNE

5-7 FEBRUARY 2017

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Visit our website at www.odlaa.org



INTERNATIONAL
COUNCIL FOR OPEN AND
DISTANCE EDUCATION

A global network for online, open and flexible education

As ODLAA is a member of the International Council for Distance Education it is valuable for all members to check out their website at <http://www.icde.org/> to gain access to resources and information being shared by our international colleagues.

ODLAA Executive:

President – Dr Som Naidu somnaidu@gmail.com

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Secretary – Mrs Sharon Kerr

Publications Officer – Dr Jenny Roberts

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M/s Jo Osborne;

ODLAA Bytes editor : Mrs Sharon Kerr Sharon.Kerr@he-cg.com

Membership to ODLAA includes subscription to [Distance Education](#) and member publications, reduced event fees where applicable, access to member communication channels and information sources including the member's area on the website, and voting rights. [Membership fees of \\$110 include GST and can be paid online.](#)

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