Santosh PANDA <u>spanda@ignou.ac.in</u> spanda.ignou@gmail.com



Professor Santosh PANDA, after obtaining PhD in Education in 1984, started university teaching in a dual-mode university the same year; and joined the Indira Gandhi National Open University in 1987 to become a full Professor in 1997. In the past, he has been: Director, Association of Indian Universities; Director, Staff Training & Research Institute & Founding Director, Inter-University Consortium at IGNOU; Director, Centre for Flexible & Distance Learning, University of South Pacific; a senior Fulbright Scholar in USA; and Visiting/ Adjunct Professor at University of London, Manchester Metropolitan University,

University of Maryland.

During the past 28 years of university teaching/research/administration, he has provided consultancy for: British Council, Commonwealth of Learning, IDRC, UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank, Ford Foundation; and governments of P R China, Nepal, Lesotho, and Nigeria, and Government of India/UNDP on training of bureaucrats for distance and online training. He has visited, presented keynotes, and conducted workshops on higher education, teacher education, open/distance/online/blended/lifelong learning in 25 countries. He has conducted above 400 workshops in India and about 40 workshops overseas.

He sits in the Editorial Board of over 15 internationally refereed journals including: MERLOT Journal of Online Learning & Teaching (USA), International Journal of Educational Media (USA), International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (USA), International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning (Canada), Journal of Research in Learning Technology (Routledge, UK). He has extensively published internationally, and his latest books include: Planning and Management in Distance Education (London: Routledge), and Economics of Distance and Online Learning (New York: Routledge).

Prof. Dr. Santosh PANDA
Professor of DE (& former Director),
Staff Training & Research Institute,
Indira Gandhi National Open University,
New Delhi 110068, INDİA

Tel office: +91-11-26535080

URL (personal): www.santoshpanda.net

URL: http://www.ignou.ac.in/ignou/aboutignou/icc/stride/staff/detail/Prof Santosh Panda-740

Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/people/Santosh-Panda/100000458524897

WikiEducator: http://wikieducator.org/User:Santosh
Email: spanda@ignou@gmail.com

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