

Key Consultants

CERD Research Associates

• **David Bridges** is Director of the Centre for Educational Research and Development (www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk/vhi/cerd). He is also Professorial Fellow in the Centre for Applied Research in Education at the University of East Anglia, where he was previously Dean of the School of Education. His recent work for CERD has focused on widening participation in higher education. He has worked in a number of countries but most enduringly in Ethiopia, where he has contributed to a succession of programmes for the last twenty years.

Areas of ODL expertise – research design, research methods, teacher training, widening participation, tertiary education.

• **Anne Gaskell** is Assistant Director, Teaching and Learner Support at the UK OU, where she has particular responsibility for the support and professional development of the OU's 7,500 part-time tutors. She is also Editor of *Open Learning*, one of the leading distance learning journals in the field and co-directs the biennial Cambridge International Conference on ODL. In 2007 she was made a Fellow of EDEN – the European Distance and E-Learning Network.

Areas of ODL expertise – learner support and services, staff development, management and development of distance tutors, the use of blended media to deliver the above.

• **Roger Mills** is co-director of **cdec**. He is an experienced distance educator and worked for the UK OU for over 30 years in a number of roles, including Pro Vice-Chancellor and Regional Director. He has published widely in the field of ODL and has been a co-convenor of the Cambridge International Conference on ODL, which has been held biennially since 1983.

Areas of ODL expertise – student support systems and services, quality assurance, policy and strategic management.

• **Ros Morpeth** is co-director of **cdec**. She was, for 16 years, the Executive Director of the National Extension College in Cambridge, UK. She is a graduate of the University of Cambridge and was awarded an honorary doctorate by the UK OU in 1994 for services to distance learning. In 2000 the Commonwealth of Learning awarded her an honorary fellowship.

Areas of ODL expertise – strategic management and leadership, marketing and business planning, project management and vocational education and training.

• **Hilary Perraton** has a degree in history from the University of Cambridge and has a PhD in education. He has worked for the National and International Extension Colleges and as founding director of the International Research Foundation for Open Learning.

He spent ten years at the Commonwealth Secretariat playing a central role in planning and establishing the Commonwealth of Learning. He has published extensively on open and distance learning. He was made an honorary fellow of the Commonwealth of Learning in 2002. He is now deputy chair of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission and is researching a history of commonwealth scholarships at CERD.

Areas of ODL expertise – institutional planning, teacher education and higher education.

• **Alan Tait** is Pro Vice-Chancellor for Curriculum and Awards at the UK OU and was formerly Dean of the Faculty of Education and Language Studies. He is Professor of Distance Education and Development. He has a long record of professional practice, publishing and the support of professional development in distance and E-learning. He is Editor in Chief of the European Journal of Distance and E Learning (EURODL), and co-director of the Cambridge International Conference on ODL. He is President of the European Distance and E-Learning Network (EDEN).

Areas of ODL expertise – management and leadership, learner support and quality assurance.

Consultants

• **Tony Dodds** was Director of the Centre for External Studies, University of Namibia from 1995–2001. Before that he was Executive Director of the International Extension College Cambridge, UK since its establishment in 1971. He started his career in Tanzania at the University of Dar es Salaam in the Institute of Adult Education.

Areas of ODL expertise – the uses of ODL for adult basic and non-formal education, with special emphasis on the uses of radio and study groups.

• **Peggotty Graham** was previously Dean and Director of Studies in the Faculty of Social Sciences at the UK OU. She has degrees from the UK OU and the London School of Economics.

Areas of ODL expertise – strategy and policy, teaching and learning and quality assurance.

• **Greville Rumble** has a long career in distance education, now as an independent consultant but with 31 years at the UK OU, most recently as Professor of Distance Education Management. He has wide experience in the planning, costing, budgeting, management and organisation of distance education, including 9 years as the corporate planner of the UK OU and 9 years as director of a regional office providing services to students. He has published and consulted widely in open and distance learning.

Areas of ODL expertise – policy, planning, management and organisation, costs and economics.

cdec

Cambridge Distance Education Consultancy

*Tap in to our expertise
in the development and delivery
of open and distance learning*

- ▶ policy development and implementation
- ▶ institutional change and transformation
- ▶ corporate planning
- ▶ organisational structures
- ▶ professional development
- ▶ costing and funding
- ▶ evaluation
- ▶ conference design and management
- ▶ quality assurance including trial audits



Von Hügel Institute
St Edmund's College
Cambridge CB3 0BN
United Kingdom
www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk/vhi

The Cambridge Distance Education Consultancy [cdec] was established in 2005 as an independent, policy-focused research group. It offers expertise in the development and delivery of open and distance learning [ODL] at all levels from basic to tertiary education. It has a special interest in low-income countries where ODL is often promoted as having the potential to solve many educational problems.

cdec is part of the Centre for Educational Research and Development [CERD], which is one of the research and development groups within the Von Hügel Institute [VHI] at St Edmund's College, Cambridge. For more information go to www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk/vhi

The VHI research groups share a commitment to social justice and social inclusion and an interest in methodologies that give a voice to the underprivileged.

The work of the Cambridge Distance Education Consultancy embraces:

Consultancy, research and evaluation

cdec has the skills and expertise to take on small-to medium-sized projects, either working directly with an organisation, or as part of a larger team. The members of the consultancy group, directed by Roger Mills and Ros Morpeth, are committed and experienced ODL professionals.

All consultants:

- have worked in ODL organisations and have direct experience of the realities of management
- have substantial experience of working on projects both in the UK and overseas
- are used to working independently or as part of a team
- are committed to sharing their skills and knowledge and building capacity within the organisations they work with.

Brief profiles of the key consultants in the group are given overleaf. We are also able to draw on wider networks to bring in specialist skills as and when needed.

We take pride in delivering high quality work on time and within the agreed budget.

Recent assignments

- Advising the University of Botswana on its distance education policy and practice. Funded by the University of Botswana.
- The development and implementation of a policy for open and distance learning in Namibia. Funded jointly by The Commonwealth of Learning and the Namibian Open Learning Network.
- Tracer study to follow up former graduates of the Namibian College of Open Learning commissioned by NAMCOL.

Other clients and partners include The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand, Allama Iqbal University, University of South Africa, Africa Educational Trust, DFID, and the Commonwealth of Learning.

For more information about our work and publications go to www.irfol.ac.uk

Professional development and capacity building

The Cambridge International Conference on Open and Distance Learning is a core activity. The Conference takes place every two years in Cambridge, UK. The next conference, in association with the UK Open University and the Commonwealth of Learning, will take place in September 2009.

The conference theme is *Supporting learning in the digital age: rethinking inclusion, pedagogy and quality*. For more information go to www2.open.ac.uk/r06/conference

The Cambridge conferences are recognised as one of the most important events on the ODL calendar and they bring together ODL practitioners from all over the world to discuss, debate and share experiences.

Our location in St Edmund's College has made it possible to host a number of distinguished visiting fellows, to set up tailored study programmes, organise seminars and courses for practitioners.



Contact

If you have a project or idea you would like to discuss with **cdec** contact:
Roger Mills Email: arm50@cam.ac.uk
Ros Morpeth Email: rlm50@cam.ac.uk, or
Kate Crofts, Administrator
Centre for Educational Research and Development
Von Hügel Institute, St. Edmund's College,
Cambridge, CB3 0BN United Kingdom

Email: kmc1@cam.ac.uk
Tel: 44 (0) 1223 741844 • Fax: 44 (0) 1223 741843