



# First Botswana Open University (BOU) International Conference on Open and Distance Learning



**8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024**



**Avani Hotel Gaborone**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
**FURTHER EXTENDED**



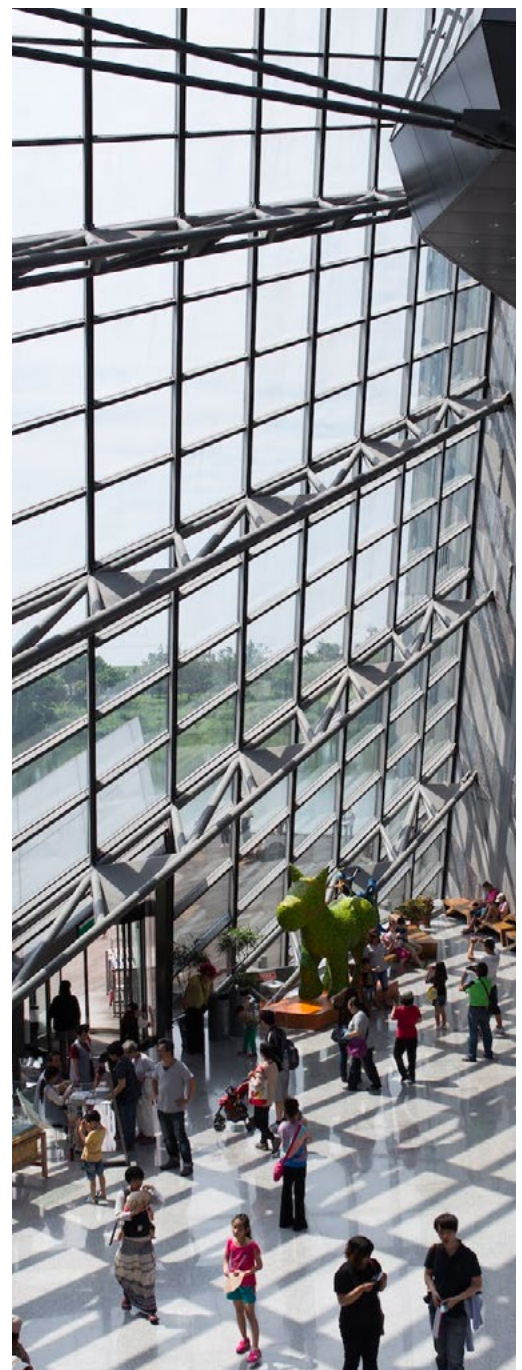
# CALL FOR PAPERS

## FURTHER EXTENDED

 **Conference Venue**

## Conference rationale

Against this background, this conference brings together thought leaders and academics and others in tertiary and vocational education, to share ideas on developments in ODL. It aims to showcase innovative practices in teaching and learning, share best and alternative practices in assessment, and provide actionable insight on technology adoption and management, research and innovation, partnership and collaboration, and support service provisions in the field.



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## Conference Theme:

# *Exploring Teaching and Learning in Open and Distance Learning*

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## Sub Themes

The following sub-themes will be explored.

# 1

### TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES POST COVID 19

Innovative teaching and learning approaches; Blended learning modalities and methods; Strategies in technical and vocational education; Teaching and learning innovations in special and inclusive education; Creating innovative and supportive teaching and learning environments; Managing the teaching and learning function in higher education; Developing teaching and learning resources in ODL; Innovative practices in continuing and professional development, and lifelong learning.

# 2

### ASSESSMENT IN ODL

Assessment models and methods; E-assessment methods and practices; Alternative assessment practices; Embedding innovative activities in assessment; Designing and developing authentic assessment; Involving students in assessment practices; Developing and managing e-portfolios; Quality assurance of assessment items.

# 3

### TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION AND MANAGEMENT IN ODL

Technology enabled learning in the 4IR context; Innovative learning management systems; Mobile learning and mobile learning technologies; Developing technology integration frameworks; Technology-enhanced course development; Promoting digital scholarship; Embedding digital tools in teaching and learning; Use of open educational resources; and Implications of artificial intelligence in education.



Photo by Christina Morillo

## **4** RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN ODL

Trends in ODL research and innovative practices; Use of learning analytics; Research on blended, synchronous, and asynchronous learning; and Case studies of institutional practices; and Research management.

## **5** PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION IN ODL

Partnerships and collaboration in open and distance learning; Team approach in the development of teaching/learning materials; Role of regional and continental organisations in fostering collaboration; Effective networks in promoting teaching and learning; Models and methods of collaboration; and international collaboration and networking opportunities.

## **6** SUPPORT SERVICES FOR LEARNING

Viable support systems for e-learning; Strategies for enhancing learner support; Managing tutorial services and activities; Innovative practices in libraries and information services; Counselling and e-counselling support; Capacity building and human resource development; and Marketing learning programmes to students.

## **7** FINANCING OF ODL

Expenditure patterns and cost drivers in ODL; Budgeting and forecasting resource needs; Innovative sources of funding for open universities; Financial management and cost containment strategies; Mobilising for resources in ODL; Competing for funding of ODL; Research and scholarship in ODL Financing.

## Outcome of the conference

Following the conference, a selected number of papers will be published in a special book.

## Submission of abstracts

Abstracts should be submitted by the 15th March 2024.

Submit an abstract of not more 350 words, indicating the title, focus of presentation, research methods and key findings. Each abstract should identify a topic and the conference sub-theme. They should also include a list of key words at the end.

Abstracts should be sent to this email: [boubiennialconference@bou.ac.bw](mailto:boubiennialconference@bou.ac.bw). Notification of abstract peer review/acceptance is from the 15th March 2024.

## Guidelines for conference papers

Final papers for presentation should be written in Times New Roman 12pt font, 1.5 line-spacing and justified margins. Each paper should include the title page (title, author – name/s and organisation), an abstract with five keywords, the main body, conclusion, and references. Each paper should be between 10 and 15 pages.

## Guidelines for manuscripts

A book will be published following the conference, based on selected high-quality papers chosen from the papers presented. Conference participants should submit their final papers by the 30th of May 2024 for peer review. The length of the paper should be between 4500-6000 words. Further publication details will be provided later.



## Conference mode

The conference will be both in-person and online (hybrid).

## Important dates and deadlines

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Call for conference abstract proposals                  | 1st August 2023<br>-15th March 2024 |
| Notification of accepted abstract<br>(further extended) | 30th March 2024                     |
| Deadline for receiving conference papers                | 15th April 2024                     |
| Registration and conference fee deadline                | 28th April 2024                     |
| Deadline for final book chapters                        | 30th May 2024                       |

## Preliminary conference programme

| Date                  | Item  |
|-----------------------|---|
| 7th May 2024          | Arrival and welcome of participants                               |
| 8th May 2024 (Day 1)  | Welcome, Keynote speech, parallel sessions (in person and online) |
| 9th May 2024 (Day 2)  | Parallel sessions (in person and online)                          |
| 10th May 2024 (Day 3) | Parallel sessions (in person and online).<br>Afternoon excursion. |

## Conference fees

| Groups                 | US Dollars | Botswana Pula |
|------------------------|------------|---------------|
| In-person participants | \$300.00   | P4000.00      |
| Online participants    | \$200.00   | P2700.00      |
| Students               | \$100.00   | P1350.00      |

## Payments details

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Account Name:   | Botswana Open University   |
| Bank Name       | First National Bank  |
| Branch:         | First Place Branch   |
| Branch Code:    | 281467   |
| Swift Code:     | FIRNBWGX   |
| Account Number: | 62769594815  |
| Currency:       | USD for those outside Botswana<br>and Pula for Botswana residents. |

**When paying online, kindly reference your payment thus:  
BOU Conference 2024 (Please add your names)**

## Conference contact persons

| Name                      | Role/Position                            | Contact   |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| Prof. Baakile Motshegwa   | Conference Chair                         | bmotshegwa@staff.bou.ac.bw<br>+267 3646197 / 76248577 |
| Prof. Sunny Aiyuk         | Chair, Abstract & Paper Review           | saiyuk@staff.bou.ac.bw<br>+267 3646131 / 71794833     |
| Prof. Gbolagade Adekanmbi | Abstract & Paper Review                  | gadekanmbi@staff.bou.ac.bw<br>+267 3646195 / 71781715 |
| Dr. Tebogo Seretse        | Chair, Registration                      | tseretse@staff.bou.ac.bw<br>+267 3646126 / 74297879   |
| Prof. Bantu Morolong      | Chair, Conference Publications           | bmorolong@staff.bou.ac.bw<br>+267 3646004 / 71238028  |
| Mr. Bonny Bashe           | Chair, Marketing, Publicity and Printing | bbashe@staff.bou.ac.bw<br>+267 3646082 / 71724758     |
| Mr. Kealeboga Disho       | Chair, Logistics, and Transportation     | kdisho@staff.bou.ac.bw<br>+267 3646067 / 71297188     |



## List of hotels in Gaborone

| Hotel                        | Location  | Contact  |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Avani Hotel                  | Plot 4272<br>Chuma Drive, Gaborone  | Tel: +267 3616000<br>Email: gaborone@avanihotels.com<br>Web: www.avanihotels.com                   |
| Grand Palm Hotel             | Plot 17989 Cnr Bonnington Farm<br>Molepolole Road Gaborone                  | Tel: +267 363 7777<br>Email: info@grandpalm.bw<br>Web: www.walmart.com                             |
| Peermont Met Court Inn       | Plot 17989 Cnr Bonnington Farm,<br>Molepolole Road, Gaborone                | Tel: +267 3637907<br>Email: info@grandpalm.bw<br>Web: www.walmart.com                              |
| Grand Aria Conference Centre | Plot 32943, Phase 2, Gaborone<br>Opposite Botswana Examinations Council     | Tel: +267 3104584<br>Email: info@grandaria.co.bw<br>bookings@grandaria.co.bw                       |
| Room 50Two Hotel             | Plot 54368 Itowers CBD South<br>Tower, Gaborone                             | Tel: +267 397 5557<br>Email: res@room50two.com<br>Web: www.room50two.com                           |
| Hilton Garden Inn            | Plot 54366 Western Commercial<br>Rd, CBD Gaborone                           | Tel: +267 370 4200<br>Email: gbegi_res@hilton.com<br>Web: www.hgigaborone.hgi.com                  |
| Protea Hotel by Marriot      | Plot 54353 Masa Square New CBD,<br>Cnr 1st &, Western Commercial Rd         | Tel: +267 315 9954<br>Email: info@masasquarehotel.com<br>Web: www.marriot.com                      |
| Cresta Lodge                 | Plot 50719 Fairgrounds Mall<br>Samora Machel Dr, Gaborone                   | Tel: +267 397 5375<br>Email: reslodge@cresta.co.bw<br>Web: www.crestahotels.com                    |
| Peermont Mondior Hotel       | Plot 21117, Maratadiba Road<br>village opposite IDM Institution<br>Gaborone | Tel: +267 319 0600<br>Email: csemphadile@peermont.com<br>Web: www.perrmont.com/<br>www.mondior.com |
| Travel Lodge                 | Plot 28295 BelaBela Street Block<br>3, Gaborone                             | Tel: +267 310 5000<br>Email: reservations@travelodge.co.bw<br>Web: www.travelodge.co.bw            |

*Participants are also free to navigate the web for additional hotels and lodges.*