

**Open EdTech Summit**  
Exploring Learning Solutions Together

**2009**

Barcelona  
19 i 20 d'Octubre

## Participants Bio

### Esra'a Al Shafei



Esra'a Al Shafei is founder and director of MideastYouth.com, an independent interfaith network whose mission is to inspire and provide young people with the freedom and opportunity of expression. Her advocacy on the Internet bridges seemingly impenetrable barriers of faith and geography to unite young people committed to fostering constructive discourse in the Middle East. She is also the director of a series of international campaigns for the rights of ethnic and religious minorities, and for freedom of expression. Among those she runs is the influential global campaign to free Egyptian blogger Abdul Kareem Nabeel Suleiman, better known as Kareem Amer. She is a recipient of 2007's "Best New Intellectual Entrepreneurship Project" honor from the Atlas Economic Research Foundation, and the Berkman Award from Harvard University's Berkman Center for Internet and Society for her "outstanding contributions to the Internet and its impact on society." She is twenty-two years old and is based in Bahrain.

### Marc Alier



Marc Alier works at the Polytechnic University of Barcelona (UPC) teaching project management and social aspects of computing. He also runs free software development related to education (Internalmail, dfwiki and other toys for Moodle) and mobile devices. Here you will find some links to his work:

<http://morfeo.upc.edu/crom/>  
<http://moodle.tiddlyspot.com/>

### Magí Almirall



Director, Office of Learning Technologies, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC). Since 1995 he has worked in the IT department leading the development of the virtual campus platform. His current work focuses on two themes; tools for elearning platforms and new formats of learning contents. These projects use standardization, accessibility for people with disabilities, usability and free software development. Our Office receives the IGC (Internet Global Congress) innovation award 2006 and the IMS Gold award "Best Mobile Learning Solution" 2008.

### Giovanni Bonaiuti



PhD in Education, Bonaiuti is a researcher at University of Florence, Department of Sciences of Education.

Since 2000 he was involved in the activity of the "Educational Technology Lab." team (team coordinated by Antonio Calvani, full professor in Instructional Technology).

The main focus of his studies is on educational technology and particularly in research on instructional design, CSCL (computer supported collaborative learning) and criteria of cognitive effectiveness of technologies in teaching and learning. Now he is involved in some researches on Interactive whiteboard, Web 2.0 and mobile technology for learning. He teaches Instructional Technology in his Faculty and he collaborates at the University of Florence's Master in "e-learning". He's member of the Editorial Staff of the "JELKS - Journal of E-Learning and Knowledge Society", the official review of the Italian e-Learning Society.

### Mark Bullen



Dr. Mark Bullen is the Associate Dean of the Learning & Teaching Centre at the British Columbia Institute of Technology in Vancouver,

Canada. He has an extensive background in open and distance education and is currently leading an international research project involving the UOC that is investigating the impact of digital technologies on higher education. He is also the editor of the Journal of Distance Education. For more information go to:

<http://digitallearners.ca>

<http://bcit.ca/ltc>

<http://markbullen.ca>

<http://jofde.ca>Dr.

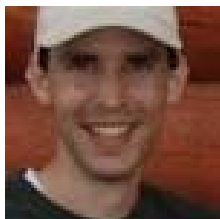
### W. Gardner Campbell



Dr. W. Gardner Campbell is currently Director of the Academy for Teaching and Learning and Associate Professor of Literature and Media at Baylor University. Before coming to Baylor, he was Professor of English at the University of Mary Washington, where from 2003-2006 he also served as Assistant Vice-President for Teaching and Learning Technologies. Dr. Campbell holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Virginia. His research interests and publications include ICT in teaching and learning, literature of the English Renaissance (especially Milton studies), and film studies. He is a life member of the Milton Society of American (Executive Committee, 2003-2006), a Contributing Editor for Literature/Film Quarterly, a Fellow of the Frye

Leadership Institute (2005), and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the New Media Consortium as well as the EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative Advisory Board. You can read his blog, "Gardner Writes," at [www.gardnercampbell.net](http://www.gardnercampbell.net).

### Tom Caswell



OpenCourseWare Specialist and Web 2.0 Entrepreneur. He is an Open Education consultant and founder of Dynamic E-Learning Strategies, Inc. He has consulted for the OpenCourseWare Consortium at MIT, The Open University of Catalonia, and ccLearn (the learning division of Creative Commons). He is particularly interested in personal learning environments, mobile learning, instructional game design, Open Educational Resources, and micro learning using Twitter. His other professional experiences include High School teaching, software project management, web application testing, technical writing, and community-driven projects in internationalization and accessibility. He is a PhD student in Instructional Technology at Utah State University and co-owner of HookedOutdoors.com.

### Jessica Colaço



She is the principal researcher at Strathmore Research and Consultancy Centre and a mobile technology evangelist in Kenya. Jessica holds a degree in Computer Science from the University of Nairobi School of Computing and Informatics and is a certified researcher. As an undergraduate student in 2007, she had been exploring the possibility of studying mobile Geographic Information Systems systems for her thesis work. She developed a mobile application known as Wireless Map Service, which received accolades from the public during the tenth annual IEEE Engineering Students Exhibition in 2007. Her passion to evangelize technology impelled her to organize the first-ever Nairobi Facebook Developer Garage and Mobile Boot Camp in East Africa in March 2008 and November 2009 respectively. Business Daily recently named her one of the top 40 women under 40 in Kenya because of her achievements.

### Susan D'Antoni



Susan D'Antoni is responsible for the UNESCO Education Sector project on Open Educational Resources. The current activity builds on a project she initiated on the virtual university and e-learning while heading the Virtual Institute of the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning. She currently supports a large international community and a series of "virtual seminars" aimed at information sharing and capacity building to advance the OER movement. Planning is under way to apply for the first UNESCO Chair on OER. The application will come from Athabasca University, Canada's Open University. The proposed Chair will provide continuing support the OER Community and launch an international OER Network to promote and support North-South and South-South networking and collaboration.

### Claudio Dondi



Claudio Dondi, born in Modena in 1958 and an industrial economist as a university background, is the President of SCIENTER - a non-profit research organisation based in Bologna and active Europe-wide in the field of innovation of education and training systems - since its establishment in 1988. In this position his main activities are the co-ordination of large national and European projects, as well as policy advice and evaluation at regional, national and international level. His other positions include: Member of the Board of the MENON EEIG (enabling eLearning) in Brussels, Member of the Editorial Board of the British Journal of Educational Technology, Vice-President of EIfEL - the European Institute for eLearning and President of EFQUEL - the European Foundation for Quality in eLearning. From 2001 to 2006 he has been Vice-President of EDEN - the European Distance Education Network.

### Gavin Dykes



Education and technology consultant and Associate Director of Futurelab, UK. Gavin works as an independent education and technology advisor to governments, agencies, and corporations. While his focus is policy and strategy, his passion is the positive impact learning can have on communities and individual lives. He recently wrote Malta's e-learning strategy; reported on leading global practice in technology for education for Cisco; was a member an OECD team reporting on innovative use of digital learning resources in the Nordic countries; and as a fellow of Paris based Education Impact produced a global review of technology in education.

### Antonio Fini



He have been working in ICT since 1981, from 1985 he have been a high school teacher, a consultant, and a trainer. His primary interests are in Open Source, LMS/LCMS, Learning Objects, new standards such as EML and IMS-LD. Recently he have new interest in Web 2.0 / E-learning 2.0 stuff, mainly about social networking, learning networks, personal learning environments, digital competence and OER. He is presently working at the Educational Technology Laboratory (L.T.E.) of the University of Florence. Hi is also involved as e-tutor and teacher in the Master in "Progettista e gestore di formazione in rete". Since 2007 he is the Technical Editor of Je-LKS - Journal of E-Learning and Knowledge Society. He also is coauthor of the books "Learning Object e Metadati - quando, come e perchè avvalersene" and "Web 2.0 e Social Networking, nuovi paradigmi per la formazione", both published by Erickson - Trento. He also wrote several articles and papers about e-learning and learning technologies

### Lev Gonick



Lev Gonick, vice president for information technology services and CIO at Case Western Reserve University, has been teaching, working, and living on the Net since 1987. He is also president of the board of OneCleveland, a metropolitan-wide strategy to extend high-speed network connectivity to the nonprofit sector in northeast Ohio. Gonick serves on multiple national and local boards and has been named one of the country's top CIOs by both InformationWeek and ComputerWorld. Previously, he served as chief information technology officer for Cal State Monterey Bay. From 1996 through 1999, Gonick was university dean for instructional technology and academic computing at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California. He has been involved in designing and implementing digital learning network projects in West African countries and in Israel, Egypt, Jordan, and Palestine. Gonick received his PhD in international political economy from York University in Ontario, Canada.

### Joel Greenberg



Joel Greenberg is Director of Strategic Development, Learning and Teaching Solutions at the Open University in the UK. On-going projects include the development of eProduction systems for the University's learning and teaching materials; developing and supporting the University's VLE and its OpenLearn OER repository; enhancing and integrating the Moodle open source LMS into the VLE. He is on the Board of Directors of IMS GLC and plays a leading role in European standards activities. He is currently serving as Technical Director of the University's SocialLearn Project, a major new initiative which is developing a social networking environment, tuned for learning.

### Begoña Gros



Vice-Rector for Innovation, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC). Begoña Gros holds a PhD in Pedagogy. She has been a lecturer at the University of Barcelona since 1988 and holds the Advanced Research accreditation from the AQU (2004). In recent years, she has supervised research at the Faculty of Education Sciences (2001-2003) and has been head of research at the Institute for Education Sciences at the University of Barcelona (2004-2007). She has participated in a number of research and innovation projects at national level (R+D Programme of the Ministry for Education and Science, MQD of the Catalan Regional Government, etc.) and at international level (Fifth Framework Programme, E-learning Programme, Minerva). She sits on a number of scientific committees of national and international journals (International Journal of Web Based Communities, Educational Research and Development, etc.). She has published a number of papers on virtual learning environment design and materials for university teaching. She is currently the primary researcher of the research group set up by the Catalan Regional Government Environments and materials for learning (EMA). Her

specialisation focuses on studying the integration of information and communication technologies in education and learning.

### Montse Guitert



Lecturer in higher education in the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC), coordinating Multimedia and Communication subject (a compulsory and cross-curricular subject in all degrees, on the ICT competences) since 1995, when the virtual university was created. Current Director of the Digital Literacy area at the UOC.

Research focused on Educative Technology and E-learning Area, and most specifically on team work in virtual environments, on online teacher training, didactic multimedia materials and digital literacy. Current manager of research group about Collaborative Work and Learning in Virtual Environments in UOC (TACEV), and also a researcher on Training, Innovation and New Technologies at the Barcelona

University (UB), in the quality research of Catalonia.

### Marvin G. Hall



He is an innovative educator using his entrepreneurial skills to improve learning for Jamaican youth. Trained in Mathematics and Technology, Marvin has always sought ways to excite children about Math, Science and Art, through hands-on learning activities. Driven by a desire to build a school for his son, he evolved beyond "middle school Math teacher" to form his brainchild, Halls of Learning. Halls of Learning is committed to providing educational experiences, equal to, or exceeding international standards, regardless of background. Through after-school workshops, summer camps and inner-city projects ranging from animation and music to robotics, their mission

is to lead a learning revolution in Jamaica. Marvin is kept awake at night by visions of a sea of robotic creations, held high in the hands of the children who made them.

### Mara Hancock



Mara Hancock is the Director for Educational Technologies at UC Berkeley, overseeing the Educational Technology Services (ETS) department. ETS serves the UC Berkeley campus community by providing

services and technologies, which support faculty, students, and staff in their teaching, learning and collaborative endeavours. ETS is committed to the pursuit of innovative educational technology projects

in collaboration with other higher ed partners from around the world.

ETS is an active collaborator in the Fluid Project, Sakai Project, and are the lead university for the OpenCast Project -- all open source, community developed products by and for higher education. Mara has a background in both fine and graphic arts, and in instructional

design. She has been in the e-learning field for fifteen years.

### Laurence F. Johnson



Ph.D. is Chief Executive Officer of the New Media Consortium (NMC), an international not-for-profit consortium of learning-focused organizations dedicated to the exploration and use of new media and new technologies. Its hundreds of member institutions constitute an elite list of the most highly regarded colleges and universities in the world, as well as leading museums, key research centers, and some of the world's most forward-thinking companies. A noted keynote speaker who over the past 15 years has addressed several hundred major summits, conferences, and leadership groups in more than a dozen countries, Johnson is an acknowledged expert on emerging technology and its unfolding impacts on society and education, as well as the topics of creativity, innovation, and how to think about the future.

### Paul A. Kirschner



Paul A. Kirschner is professor of Educational Psychology and Programme Director of Research on Learning and Cognition in the Centre for Learning Sciences and Technologies at the Open Universiteit Nederland. He is an internationally recognized expert in his field as can be seen from his CV. A few notable examples of this is his election to the CSCL Board (within the International Society for the Learning Sciences) of which he is the President-Elect and will become President in 2010, his selection to the Scientific Technical Council of the Foundation for University Computing Facilities (SURF WTR), his associate editorship of the highly ranked journal *Computers in Human Behavior*, his recently successful book

Ten steps to complex learning, and his editorship of two other recent books (*Visualizing Argumentation* and *What we know about CSCL*). Further, he is one of the 'instigators' in the OpenER project at the Open Universiteit Nederland, having co-written the original proposals which launched the project.

### Debby Knotts



Director, New Media & Extended Learning at The University of New Mexico Debby Knotts provides administrative leadership for NMEL. Of course that means that she only looks good if the rest of the staff does a great job. NMEL has an amazing staff so this is not an issue. Debby has over 20 years' experience in development and support for university level computer based technologies. She has managed UNM's primary web applications development and web based course unit since 1996 growing the unit to support over 15,000 users.

Debby holds a Master of Science with her post graduate work and research having focused on design for children's technology, telecommunications and distance learning.

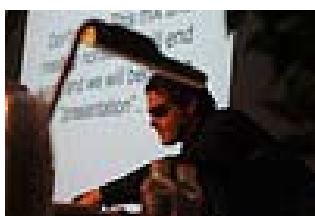
## Vijay Kumar



Senior Associate Dean & Director, Office of Educational Innovation and Technology (OEIT), MIT. Vijay provides leadership for sustainable technology-enabled educational innovation at MIT. In his prior roles at MIT as Assistant Provost and Director of Academic Computing, as well as at other institutions, Vijay provided leadership for units engaged in delivering infrastructure and services for the effective integration of information technology and media services in education.

Vijay was the Principal Investigator of O.K.I (Open Knowledge Initiative), an MIT-led collaborative project to develop an open architecture for enterprise educational applications. Vijay is honorary advisor to India's National Knowledge Commission and advisor to the Open University of Catalonia.

## Brian Lamb



Emerging Technologies Discoordinator, Office of Learning Technology, The University of British Columbia (UBC).

Lamb also teaches courses on "Text technologies: The Changing Spaces of Reading and Writing" in the Masters program for Educational Technology at the university. In his blog, Abject Learning, Lamb writes on social learning, open education, technology disruptive and related topics:

<http://blogs.ubc.ca/brian/about/>

## Eva de Lera



Senior Strategist, Office of Learning Technologies, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) since 2001. Eva is also the principal investigator of the 'Joy of Learning' project and a member of the Affective Technology Research Group, exploring and designing Affective Educational Technology methods to help enhance engagement and motivation in online learning environments. She has been doing research in the areas of image and video analysis of face and body gestures (co-creating the Ten Emotion Heuristics), human computer interaction and user experience. She received her M.A. degree in Information and Knowledge Society from the Universitat Oberta de Catalunya and her B.A. degree in Psychology from New York University.)

## Alan Levine



Alan Levine is the Vice President of Community and Chief Technology Officer (CTO) for the New Media Consortium, where he leads efforts to research and integrate those cool new 2.0, 3.0,... technologies. Before this, he spent 14 years evangelizing technology for the Maricopa Community Colleges, where he hoisted the first web server in the system way back in 1993. Alan was a key contributor to significant

efforts such as Ocotillo, a faculty-led initiative that promotes innovation and drives change, created the , a virtual warehouse of innovation that pioneered the use of RSS in syndicating learning object content, and developed Feed2JS, an open source software shared for allowing people to easily incorporate RSS content into web pages. Alan works from home in the tiny town of Strawberry, Arizona, and continues to bark and growl about his work at CogDogBlog.

### Phil Long



Director of the Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology (CEIT), University of Queensland.

Phil Long is also Associate Director, Office of Educational Innovation & Technology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His professional activities are numerous: New Media Consortium Board (2006-09), current chair of the NMC Board, NMC Project Horizon (2005 to present), 2006 Syllabus Conference Campus Host, 2006, the SAC Program Committee (2005-07, 06 Chair), Adobe Higher Education Advisory Board (2007), Steven's Institute of Technology WebCampus board,

past member of the US Army Distance Learning Subcommittee, MIT DSpace Policy Committee and many others. Dr. Long is also a Senior Associate with the TLT Group, a non-profit organisation dedicated to improve teaching and learning by making more appropriate and cost-effective use of information technology.

For more information on Phil, visit his page at MIT:

<http://web.mit.edu/longpd/www/longpd.htm>

or on the EDUCAUSE website:

[http://www.educause.edu/content.asp?page\\_id=750&ID=29943&bhcp=1](http://www.educause.edu/content.asp?page_id=750&ID=29943&bhcp=1)

### Susan E. Metros



Susan E. Metros is Associate Vice Provost for Technology Enhanced Learning and Deputy CIO at the University of Southern California. She also holds professorships in visual design and clinical education. In her executive role, she leads the academic community in integrating new and emerging educational technologies into teaching, learning and research. In her role as educator and designer, she teaches courses in multimedia and new literacies and has served as principal designer on several international award winning multimedia

projects. She has published and presented widely on leadership, knowledge management, visual literacy, and the role of technology in transforming education to be active and learner-centered.

### Julià Minguió



Associate Director, Internet Interdisciplinary Institute, IN3, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) He is also involved in the integration of e-learning standards into virtual learning environments, such as IEEE LOM, SCORM and IMS LD for both content and service description and IEEE PAPI and IMS LIP for user profiling. He was in charge of the UOC participation in the OLCOS (Open Learning Content Observatory Services) EU funded project. He leads the Spanish Government funded PERSONAL(ONTO) project, the framework that articulates all the aforementioned research lines and the E-MATH++ project which promotes the use of learning object repositories in virtual learning environments.

### Carlos Miranda-Levi



Consultant and Project Developer in Technology Strategies. Coordinator of CIVILA, Educar and Virtual Libraries.

Social Entrepreneur and Consultant in Information Technology and Communication (ICT) with over 10 years of experience in developing projects and strategies for the Information Society, Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Human Development, Education, Government, free content, Virtual Communities and Social Networks. Fellow in Social Entrepreneurship and Technology, Stanford University, with fundings from the Reuters Foundation and awarded with the Scholarship of Google Developing World (2004-05). Selected by CNN as one of the 20

Most Influential "Latinos" on the Internet in 2000. He has written numerous essays and delivered over 40 lectures and workshops in over 10 countries, including Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominica, Spain, United States, Haiti, Puerto Rico and Dominican Republic.

### Sugata Mitra



Professor of Educational Technology, Newcastle University. In 1999, Sugata Mitra and his colleagues dug a hole in a wall bordering an urban slum in New Delhi, installed an Internet-connected PC, and left it there (with a hidden camera filming the area). What they saw was kids from the slum playing around with the computer and in the process learning how to use it and how to go online, and then teaching each other.

In the following years they replicated the experiment in other parts of India, urban and rural, with similar results, challenging some of the key assumptions of formal education. The "Hole in the Wall" project demonstrates that, even in the absence of any direct input from a teacher, an environment that stimulates curiosity can cause learning through self-instruction and peer-shared knowledge. Mitra, who's now a professor of educational technology at Newcastle University (UK), calls it "minimally invasive education."

### Paula Nirschel



Founder/Director of the Initiative to Educate Afghan Women. Presently there are 43 women at 20 colleges within the US. Shortly after 9/11 Paula learned that Afghan women were kept in the house and denied education for 7 years. She decided to make a difference in the lives of many Afghan women and their families. Education betters the lives of people professionally and personally.

The IEAW has been featured on major TV in the US as well as the New York Times and other well known publications. Paula was the keynote speaker at the 2007 NAFSA; Association of International Educators Conference. The IEAW was the recipient of the 2007 New England

Board of Higher Education Excellence Award. Paula holds a Masters in Social Work. She is an exercise enthusiast and enjoys traveling and reading.

### Ismael Peña



Lecturer, Public Policies for Development, School of Law and Political Science, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC). PhD in the Information and Knowledge Society. Bachelor in Economics. Master en ecoaudit and environmental planning. Specialist postdegree in Knowledge Management. DEA in Political Science. His main field of interest is twofold. On one hand – and due to a personal philosophy of life – the aspects related with Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICT4D): e-Readiness, the Digital Divide, ICTs in cooperation for development, nonprofit technology, online volunteering, e-Inclusion. On the other hand – and due to a professional engagement in the field – the aspects related with e-

Learning and empowerment: digital capacity building and literacy, e-Portfolios, Open Access, Open Science, Access to Knowledge. When both ends meet, the conjunction is perfect. Founding member and director for five years of UOC's cooperation for development programme, mainly about e-learning for development. He is editor of ICTlogy.

### Gregorio Robles



Associate Professor at the Universidad Rey JuanCarlos (URJC) in Madrid, Spain. He earned a degree on electrical engineering from the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid and obtained his PhD in 2006. His research work is centered in the study of libre software development from an engineering point of view and especially with regard to quantitative and empirical issues. He has been involved in teaching libre software at the masters at UOC and URJC and has organized several activities for the libre software community (Mozilla, GNOME, etc.) in the region of Madrid.

### Albert Sangrà



Director, Education & ICT Program, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) and Executive Committee member, EDEN (European Distance and E-learning Network)

Postgraduate degree in pedagogy and in Open and Distance Education by the Open University (UK). He serves as a senior consultant on various projects on distance education in Europe and America. He is currently the director of numerous research projects in e-learning and distance education. He is collaborated in several books regarding e-learning and educational technology. Sangrà is a member of the Editorial Board of The American Journal of Distance Education (AJDE) and The International Research Review on Open and Distance Learning

(IRRODL).

### Rachel Smith



Rachel S. Smith is the Vice President, NMC Services for the New Media Consortium (NMC). She is recognized for her work in making new technologies approachable for higher education faculty and staff through talks, trainings, and written materials. A specialist in project coordination, user interface design, and visual facilitation, Rachel leads the NMC's fee-based services units, directs the NMC's involvement in projects such as the Steve museum tagging project, and directs all NMC internal and external publications. She serves as an interorganizational liaison, bringing together NMC members from around the globe to develop new projects. Rachel authors

instructional materials, guides, and monographs on the creative and technical aspects of teaching with technology. Her interests include educational gaming, new media, fine arts, and cooking.

### Jutta Treviranus



Jutta Treviranus established and directs the Adaptive Technology Resource Centre (ATRC) at the University of Toronto, an internationally recognized centre of expertise on inclusive design of information technology (<http://atrc.utoronto.ca/>). Jutta has led a large number of international multi-partner research networks that have led to broadly implemented technical innovations that support inclusion. She has helped to develop pivotal accessibility legislation, standards and specifications internationally (including W3C WAI Authoring Tool Accessibility Guidelines, IMS Access For All and ISO 24751). She is also a member of a number of key advisory panels including the AODA advisory committee. Jutta holds faculty appointments in the Faculty of Information, the Faculty of Medicine, and KMDI, at UoFT.

## Llorenç Valverde



Vice-Rector for Technology, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)

He has a PhD in Computing from the Polytechnic University of Catalonia and currently holds the Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Computational Sciences at the University of the Balearic Islands (UIB). He is director of the FOBSIC (Catalan Information Society Observatory Foundation).

Dr Valverde has been an advisor on new technologies and the Information Society to the Majorcan regional government and director of the team commissioned by this body to produce a Strategic Plan for Majorca's incorporation into the Information and Knowledge Society (2001-2004). He also formed part of the committee of experts which produced the Green Paper on the

Knowledge Society for the Balearic Islands' government.

He is author of a number of articles on the new relationships linking technology, culture and education brought on by digitisation and the expansion of the internet. Valverde has spent time researching at a number of different universities and centres in Europe and USA. Llorenç Valverde also coordinated the team in charge of the research project "El programari lliure i la regionalització dels beneficis de la societat de la informació" ("Free software and regionalising the benefits of the Information Society"), which won an award from Caixa de Balears, Sa Nostra (2004-05).

## Lluís Vicent



Blended Learning Coordinator and Faculty member, Universitat Ramon Llull (URL).

Electronics and Telecommunications Engineer and Master of e-learning from the Ramon Llull University (URL) of Barcelona. In 1996 he joined the Department of Signal Theory and Communications from the URL and began his work as Professor of Mathematics and Calculus numeric.

From 2003, Vicent directs the semi-distance studies of Telecommunications Engineering and Computer Engineering at URL. His research focuses on online training. He has directed and took part in several projects the field of learning. He is the author of numerous

articles and reviewer in several journals and conference proceedings.

## Paul G. West



Director, Knowledge Management & Information Technology, Commonwealth of Learning. At COL, he focus on their internal and external knowledge

management functions as well as the Virtual University for Small and Island States (VUSSC). This is a collaborative network of some 30 Commonwealth countries. He have presented papers at numerous international conferences and have published an occasional Report (Blog) on Selected Technologies. He worked with the African Virtual University. And he created the African

Digital Library, a free library, now containing over 10,000 eBooks that are accessible to anyone living in Africa who has an internet connection. He has joined the Commonwealth of Learning to assist in bringing into reality the strategic plan to "To harness the information and knowledge available on open and distance learning and make it accessible to stakeholders throughout the Commonwealth".

### Steve Wheeler



Steve Wheeler is Senior Lecturer in education and information technology in the Faculty of Education at the University of Plymouth. Originally trained as a psychologist, he has spent his entire career in higher education, specialising in new and emerging media and learning technology, and currently convenes the university's e-learning research network. Steve is chair of IFIP group 3.6 (distance education) and is editor of the journal *Interactive Learning Environments*. His research interests in e-learning have led to over 250 scholarly publications and his most recent book 'Connected Minds, Emerging Cultures' (Information Age, 2009) focuses on cybercultures and online learning. His professional blog 'Learning with 'e's' can be found at <http://steve-wheeler.blogspot.com>