

Anne Forster
Curriculum Vitae

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In Brief

Anne Forster is an independent e-Learning Consultant and Adjunct Associate Professor with the University of Maryland University College. She teaches courses in Systems Thinking and Business in the online Master of Distance Education and E-Learning. Through her consulting company based in Sydney Australia, she advises on eLearning, entrepreneurial education and the international education industry. Anne is an accredited mediator committed to the transformative role of mediation in campus development and partnerships between institutions.

A past president of the Open and Distance Learning Association of Australia, Anne has worked for over twenty five years as an academic and manager developing innovative and technology enhanced education. In Australia Anne directed post graduate programs in Distance Education, an Executive MBA (at the AGSM) and was founding director of an Innovation and Technology Unit at the University of Sydney. She worked as a senior manager with KPMG consulting and also for NextEd a private internet company. Her own consulting client base is extensive and includes clients in New Zealand and the Pacific.

Anne lived ten years in Canada with clients including the Getty Centre for the Arts, the Commonwealth of Learning, the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, the Telelearning Network of Centres of Excellence and the Federal Government. Anne is a member of the Editorial Board of the Canadian Journal of Distance Education and has herself published widely. She has consulted on education projects in Europe, the South Pacific, South Africa and South East Asia.

Academic Qualifications

PhD candidate: Southern Cross University, School of Commerce and Technology

Research topic: A framework for entrepreneurial higher education: managing the dilemmas faced by academic staff developing innovative programs for emerging global student markets.

Master of Education, University of Sydney, (1983).

Graduate Diploma of Education, University of Newcastle, (1973)

Bachelor of Arts, University of New South Wales, (1973)

Research Interests

Inter-related areas of e-learning, open, distance and flexible learning:

- The creative design of learning environments to optimise access and equity particularly in higher education and in the workplace
- Factors in continuing professional development of academic and professional staff that encourage adoption of innovative forms of teaching and learning
- Professional identity, and the ethics of professionalism, as it applies in e-Learning, open, distance and flexible education
- The global education industry, analysing emerging student markets and the application of business principles in the development of education ventures.

In general terms all of my research is concerned with deepening our understanding of the theory and practice of working with educational technologies in the interest of enabling access and designing the highest quality lifelong learning experiences. The research approach typically involves evaluating knowledge and practices of academic staff and managers within the context of their institutional setting and the characteristics of the learners served.

Research and Consulting Partnerships

The following companies and universities have been research and consulting partners over the past fifteen years. In each case partners have either co-funded the research within a grant process or fully funded the research as a means of gaining commercial insights and /or to improve their own internal processes.

- E-Learning Centre, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Government Skills Australia
- The University of Technology, Sydney
- Massey University, New Zealand
- The Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver, Canada
- Reed Midem Organisation, France
- Macquarie Graduate School of Management, Sydney, Australia
- NSW College of Nursing, Australia
- AusAID
- IDP Australia
- Zurich Financial Services Group, Switzerland
- Lion Nathan Australia
- DEST (then DETYA, EIP program)
- Australian Defence Force Academy, UNSW, Australia
- Macquarie University, Graduate School of Management, Australia
- Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA
- Commission of the European Communities, DGXIII, Belgium
- Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada
- Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, Ottawa, Canada
- Canadian Association for Distance Education
- Transport Canada (Future Learning Branch)
- Parks Canada
- Industry Canada, New Media Branch
- Telesat, Canada, (Marketing Division)
- Canadian Department of Employment, Immigration and Training, Ottawa, Canada.

Anne Forster CV

- Ministère de l'Éducation, Québec, Canada
- Stentor Resource Centre Inc, Ottawa, Canada
- The Getty Center for the Arts in Education, Los Angeles, California, USA.

Funded Research and Evaluations

The following includes projects managed from 1989 to 2010. It does not include institutional research carried out internally as part of ongoing appointments.

National Center for E-Learning, Ministry of Higher Education, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Review of strategic plan for the Virtual University 2010

The University of Technology, Sydney

2007. A feasibility study of interdisciplinary centres of study in the digital industries.

Government Skills Australia

2007. Public Sector Industry Advisory Committee: Developing the workforce of the future. Research project on Elearning in public sector training including web based development tool to capture initiatives.

Massey University, New Zealand

2006. Positioning Massey University for the Future. A Report on e-Learning and Distance Education prepared for the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Judith Kinnear.

The Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver, Canada

The South Pacific: An Environmental Scan, COL's Strategic Planning 2006-2009.

Reed Midem Organisation, France

World Education Market representative for Australia, New Zealand and the Island Nations of the South Pacific Region for events held in Lisbon 2002 and 2003

Macquarie Graduate School of Management, Sydney, Australia

2001, Technology strategy for flexible delivery at the Macquarie Graduate School of Management, KPMG.

NSW College of Nursing, Australia

2000, A strategic analysis of distance education for the NSW College of Nursing, KPMG.

AusAID, Ministry of Finance, Tonga

Lattimore J, Forster A, and Warren, N (1999) Management and technical strengthening of the revenue departments, the Ministry of Finance, Kingdom of Tonga, AusAID project, UNSW Global.

Zurich Financial Services Group, Switzerland

Ackermann, A., Bryant B., Forster A., and Wolfson G, (1998), A Concept and Design for Organisational Transformation Through Executive and Organisational Development

Lion Nathan Australia

Forster, A and Di Corpo S, (1998) Brewing Science: Program design, development and evaluation for Masters in Business and Technology.

Australian Defence Force Academy, UNSW, Australia

1998 Provide strategic planning advice to senior executives on the introduction of flexible learning technologies

Anne Forster CV

AusAID, South African Broadcasting Commission, Johannesburg, South Africa

1997 Australian Broadcasting Commission consultant to the South African Educational Broadcasting Unit to provide educational research and evaluation methodologies and contribute to strategic planning .

Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs, Canberra

Philip Yetton and Associates (1997), Managing the Introduction of Technology in the Delivery and Administration of Higher Education, Evaluations and Investigations Program, Higher Education Division

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA

Coldeway D and Forster A, 1995. A Strategic plan on the implementation process for instructional innovation in the flexible delivery of programs for the School of Public Health and Hygiene

Commission of the European Communities, DGXIII, Belgium

Forster A and Mitchell J, (1995), Survey of Telematics for Education and Training, Volume IV: Australia, Report for the DGXIII of the European Commission by the European Association of Distance Teaching Universities, Project coordinated by Bridgewater Research Group, Heerlen, the Netherlands

Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada

1994, The Potential of Australia and New Zealand as Markets for the Canadian Distance Education/Learning Technologies Industry, Report for the Asia Pacific South Trade Development Division.

Inuit Broadcasting Corporation, Ottawa, Canada

Thomas L and Forster A, (1994), Connecting the North: Defining Northern Users' Needs, Government of the Northwest Territories.

Parks Canada

1994. Educational strategy and implementation plan for collection management training.

Industry Canada, New Media Branch

1994, Collaborations in the Canadian Distance Learning Industry with Examples.

Telesat, Canada, (Marketing Division)

1993, Development of a business case in support of training in distance learning for national HR managers.

Canadian Department of Employment, Immigration and Training, Ottawa, Canada

Forster A and EDS Canada (1993), Distance Learning Strategies and New Media.

The Commonwealth of Learning, Vancouver, Canada

1992, A Design Framework for Training Distance Educators in Member Countries.

Ministère de l'Éducation, Québec, Canada

1992 Strategic development and instructional design for linking remote English language schools in the province of Quebec.

Stentor Resource Centre Inc, Ottawa, Canada

1992, Analysis of international trends in high speed telecommunications applications for learning and training.

The Getty Center for the Arts in Education, Los Angeles, California, USA

1991 Analysis of television and videoconferencing models for national training program in arts education.

International Development Programme, Australia

1989 Professional Development in Distance education at the University of the South Pacific: Needs and Options.

Teaching Experience

University of Maryland University College, USA (2003 – present)

Graduate School of Management and Technology, Adjunct Associate Professor

Online Master of Distance Education and E-Learning (MDE) offered jointly with Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany. Visiting expert: Oct/Nov 2003, April/May 2004

www.umuc.edu/grad/mde

Courses taught:

DEPM 622, The Business of Distance Education and E-Learning

DEPM 609 Systems Thinking in Distance Education and E-Learning

UMUC is one of the largest providers of distance education in the United States with over 140,000 web-based enrolments. The UMUC's MDE program was awarded accreditation in 2006 under the European Federation for Management Development –CEL. This represents the highest international standard of technology-enhanced learning programs in the field of management education. It was the 2003 winner of the Sloan-C Award for most outstanding online teaching and learning program and the 2003 recipient of the Program of excellence award of the Distance Learning Community of Practice of UCEA. It also won the 2004 Prize of Excellence from the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) for “the highest possible excellence in the fields of open, distance, virtual and flexible learning”.

The University of Sydney (2001-2006)

Academic staff development workshops on the following topics:

- Business planning for post-graduate courses
- Project management in eLearning projects
- Strategic planning: Identifying opportunities for growth using flexible delivery approaches
- Resource management in flexible programs
- Introducing the Balanced Scorecard in managing postgraduate courses
- An introduction to instructional design of blended learning programs
- Ideas generation for multi disciplinary curriculum design

The University of New South Wales (1997-1999)

Director, Professional Education, Unisearch Limited

Responsible for the executive and operational management of the Professional Education Division of Unisearch Ltd (UPE) that commercially leveraged the UNSW's teaching programs for corporate and external clients. The Division managed and coordinated activities and courses, conducted workshops, and made regular presentations promoting UNSW to external partners. Led workshops on business development in customised education, educational technology evaluation and cost benefit analysis, and academic staff development for technology based teaching and learning.

University of Wisconsin – Madison, School of Education (1993 - current)

Course Author: Learning at a Distance, a core module in the Distance Education Certificate Program

<http://www.uwex.edu/disted/depd/0101.htm>

Founding member of the start up team, responsible for devising and writing one of the four core modules offered continuously with regular updates since 1993. The module presents a conceptual framework for examining the factors involved in learning and teaching at a distance. The module is published as a course text accompanied by audio and video supplements provided on CD-ROM or via the Internet. Students can elect to study using the text based materials and completing assessment and activity tasks independently or may choose to join a collaborative, online learning group.

University of Technology Sydney, Faculty of Education (1996 – 2000)

Sessional instructor: Master of Education in Adult Education

Anne Forster CV

Taught the following courses delivered using a blend of delivery modes including face to face, synchronous conferencing and asynchronous online modes.

- Managing Change in Adult Education and Training;
- Educational Development and Instructional Design for Flexible Learning;
- Issues in Computer Mediated Adult Education and Training.

University of South Australia (formerly SACAE), (1983 to 1986)

Lecturer and Coordinator Graduate Diploma of Distance Education;

Member of the foundation course team of this, the world's first post-graduate qualification for distance educators, responsible for contributing to the writing of course units, developing learning support systems, liaising with international contributors and marketing the program. In 1986 appointed co-ordinator of the program and steered it successfully through its external accreditation process.

The courses taught in the program include:

- Introduction to Distance Education
- Program Development in DE
- Instructional Design in DE
- Communication Technology in DE
- Administration in DE
- Student Support in DE
- Evaluation in DE
- DE project

NSW Department of TAFE (1980-82)

Outreach Coordinator New England Region, based at Tamworth and Inner Western Sydney, based at Petersham.

The Outreach program was an initiative aimed at engaging adults facing barriers to participation in education and training as a consequence of disability, distance, gender, social or economic disadvantage, language, culture or institutional access. Managed analysis of needs, generated the curriculum documentation and guided the implementation through the selection and briefing of teaching personnel.

Administrative and Academic Leadership Experience

The University of Sydney (2001 – 2006)

Manager of Special Projects & Director of ITEV, the Innovation and Technologies in Education Ventures Unit

The Special Projects Unit was established within the Vice-Chancellor's Office to manage initiatives with whole-of-university involvement. The ITEV project was established to stimulate a creative response to the need for multi-disciplinary, post graduate professional programs. Based on a fixed asset of \$4.5m over a five year period, developed a funding and investment. The ITEV investment strategy was aimed at assisting faculties in developing high growth post-graduate programs, using innovative designs and targeting emerging national and global markets. Responsible for working with the Deans to identify and nurture venture opportunities, develop business cases with faculties, work across the University to develop shared knowledge and services in e-learning, assist in the design of innovative learning environments, increase revenues from the post-graduate area and promote the University's achievements to internal and external audiences. Each venture was modelled as a business start up, with a strategic, financial and project management team to complement the academic and instructional resources in the Faculty

Member of the following University committees

- Vice-Chancellor's Advisory Committee
- Teaching and Learning Committee of Academic Board
- Management Reference Group for eLearning
- Management Reference Group for IT Strategic Development
- Advisory Board Faculty of Health Sciences, Sexual Health Postgraduate Program

Member of the University's senior management team, participating in the planning and advisory process.

Anne Forster CV

As manager of special projects responded to international issues relating to emerging student markets, management of international agents and quality assurance arising from off shore programs. In addition coordinated two major proposals for the University as an academic partner to industry and for a cooperative research centre. Regular presenter to international delegations on the University's innovations in teaching and learning.

ITEV was proactive in university wide initiatives such as designing the learning environments of the future campus, and conducting professional development symposia on teaching and learning and emerging technologies.

Canadian TeleLearning Network of Centres of Excellence (TL-NCE), Vancouver, Canada

Interim CEO, June to Sept 2001

Responsible for managing the transition of the network on its sudden disestablishment, including managing relationships with key stakeholders, winding up spin off business, negotiating staff relocations and sourcing alternative support for viable research groups. Involved regular liaison with the Chair of the Board and consultation with senior Government advisors and Ministers. The TL-NCE was funded with \$62m over seven years and coordinated research teams from 25 Universities working with industry partners to develop tools, technologies and methodologies for elearning.

The criteria for my appointment had been guided by my extensive knowledge of the Canadian eLearning industry and the perceived benefit of impartiality as an Australian.

NextEd Ltd. March 2000 to June 2001

Vice President, Learning Services

Responsible for partner universities world wide and the management of HR development for NextEd's workforce of one hundred and thirty staff. Assisted with the establishment of the Global Universities Alliance and negotiated partnerships with universities in the USA, Canada, the UK, Australia and New Zealand. Responsible for a major bid to provide infrastructure for the UKeUniversity with consortia partners: Pearson Education, BlackBoard and Bell & Howell (ProQuest). Responsible for negotiating and drafting contracts, assessing institutional capability, structuring courseware design and delivery strategies, conducting staff development workshops and monitoring service level performance.

NextEd Ltd was a systems integrator that provided infrastructure for higher education and training providers targeting global student markets through the application of web based learning services supported by local presence. It focused its market operations in China and South East Asia and sourced products from partners around the world.

KPMG Consulting 1999 to Mar 2000

Senior Manager, Strategy, Education Practice

The Education Practice within KPMG's Strategy Group managed education sector clients and supported the learning and development components for clients in other industries, particularly those implementing elearning strategies. Projects included: the viability of online learning as an alternative to campus based delivery, cost benefit analysis and market readiness; e-learning as an integrated approach to customer relationship and staff development for e-commerce implementation. Other projects included the design of skills training for the GST implementation for small and medium sized enterprises and the evaluation of enterprise performance management systems in Universities. General responsibilities included tender writing and documentation, project management, client liaison, financial management of projects and performance monitoring.

Forster & Gibson Ltd, Ottawa, Canada, 1990 to 1995, Sydney 1995 continuing

Principal Consultant

On relocation to Canada established an independent consultancy business with a focus on strategic planning and use of information and communication technologies in education and economic development. I undertook work in three main areas: evaluating opportunities for new media and eLearning; applying open and distance learning approaches to the needs of indigenous people and developing countries; and strategic analysis and management of elearning programs. Clients included Parks Canada, Industry Canada, CADE, Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, The Getty Centre, Johns Hopkins University, EDS, Stentor, the Commonwealth of Learning, Quebec Ministry of Education, Telesat, The University of Wisconsin (Madison) and the Inuit Broadcasting Corporation.

The University of New South Wales (1995 – 1999)

Director Unisearch Professional Education (UPE)

Anne Forster CV

Responsible for the executive and operational management of the Professional Education Division of Unisearch Ltd (UPE) that commercially leveraged the UNSW's teaching programs for corporate and external clients. The UPE had a core staff of twenty and managed a large network of associates and consultants in the design, management and delivery of customised courses. Revenue averaged \$4m a year. In addition to negotiating contracts, and developing new products the Division managed and coordinated activities and courses, conducted workshops, and made regular presentations promoting UNSW to external partners.

Director, Educational Development, Australian Graduate School of Management

Invited by the Dean and Director, Professor Fred Hilmer, to lead the mainstreaming of innovative approaches introduced in the Executive MBA Program. Led academic staff development relating to interactive teaching, the introduction of technology enhanced learning environments, the design of flexible learning programs for external clients and continuous improvement of the Executive MBA. For benchmarking purposes, Conducted an international evaluation of best practice in graduate management education programs visiting McGill University in Montreal, the University of Toronto, the University of British Columbia, the Sloan Business School at New York University and Carnegie Mellon University.

Associate Director Open Learning, (Executive MBA program), 1988 to 1990

Hired initially as a consultant, and subsequently appointed Associate Director working with Professor Preston Bottger to design, develop and implement a radical change in the delivery of post-graduate management education for the AGSM. Responsible for the start up operations of the first stage of the Executive MBA program, including design of the pedagogical environment and also the management systems needed for implementation. Undertook recruitment and training of new staff, liaising with external partners, and the development of marketing and communication plans. Drafted the policy and procedures for adjunct faculty and agents managing interstate learning centres. In addition managed the academic staff development for transition to the new pedagogical environment and co-wrote and edited course materials.

Professional Associations

Past President, Open and Distance Learning Association of Australia (2003 - 2006).

Associate Fellow MAPLE Research Centre, Managing and Planning Learning Environments, University of British Columbia, www.maple.ubc.ca.

Member, Institute of Arbitrators and Mediators Australia

Practitioner Member, LEADR Association Of Dispute Resolvers

Membership,

- International Federation for Information Processing, Technical Committee 3.6, Distance Learning, Training, and Education
- Women on Boards
- Women in Information Technology
- Australasian Society for Computers in Learning in Tertiary Education, ASCILITE
- Canadian Association for Distance Education CADE now CNIE
- Elearning Network of Australasia, ELNet
- Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia Inc, HERDSA
- International Council of Online and Distance Education, ICDE
- International Education Association of Australia
- Open and Distance Learning Association of Australia, ODLAA
- University Continuing Education Association
- Foundation executive member, Transnational Education Forum, Australian International Education Association

Editorial Work

Chair of the Management Committee of Distance Education (2003 – 2006)

Member Editorial Board, Canadian Journal of Distance Education.

Reviewing

Regular reviewer of papers/proposals to a number of international and national conferences in the fields of open and distance learning, web-based education environments and the use of computers in learning and teaching.

Organisation of Conferences and Workshops

- Corresponding Member of the Programme Planning Committee for the 5th Pan Commonwealth Forum, London, July 13 – 17, 2008
- Member of the planning committee for the 18th Biennial Conference of the Open & Distance Learning Association Of Australia to be held in Christchurch New Zealand in 2007.
- Program Committee member: International Forum on Quality Assurance in Online Education, Beijing, October 15-16, 2006
- Chair and program convenor: Crafting Sydney's Future, Learning in the 21st Century, an international symposium to consider pedagogy, technology and spaces in the planning of the University's future learning environments, the University of Sydney, 2005
- Chair of the Commonwealth of Learning workshop, Open and Distance Learning as a Tool for Sustainable Development in Australia and the Pacific Region, Adelaide, Australia, 2005
- Co-Chair and program committee member of Breaking Down Boundaries, 17th Biennial Conference of the Open & Distance Learning Association Of Australia, Adelaide Australia, 2005
- Coordinator and presenter, AusAID & IDP Australia, Bangladesh Open University Project
- Academic Staff Training Program, 18 day training on open learning systems, team based instructional development, and student support systems, held at the UNSW in conjunction with ATAX and Central Queensland University. (Oct/Nov 1998)
- Coordinator and Presenter, Macquarie University, Technology Aided Teaching, Professional development workshop for Institute of Early Childhood, 1997.
- Co-ordinator with Clark Quinn of the international virtual Pre-conference on the Virtual University and member of the planning committee for TeleTeaching 96, 14th World Computer Congress, Sydney and Wollongong, Australia, September 1996
- Coordinator and presenter, Strategic development workshops on distance learning principles, new media and future developments. Delivered for Transport Canada's Future Learning Branch learning and development managers (1992).
- Co-ordinator of a four-way satellite linked videoconference to the 1992 Canadian Association for Distance Education (CADE) National conference, working with Telesat Canada as the delivery partner.

Publications

Monographs

- Contributing author, KPMG (1999), Business Skills and the GST: an Action Guide, print and web based public education materials, GST StartUp Assistance Office, Department of Treasury
- Co-author with Philip Yetton and Associates (1997), Managing the Introduction of Technology in the Delivery and Administration of Higher Education, Evaluations and Investigations Program, Higher Education Division, Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs, Canberra.
- Forster A and Encel, D (Eds), (1996) Distributed Learning and the Use of New Media at the University of New South Wales, 1996, Division of Information Services, UNSW,
- Forster A, (1995), Go the Distance! A Canadian Guide to the Tele-Learning Markets in Australia and New Zealand, Asia Pacific South Trade Development Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada.
- Forster A (1993) Editor, Proceedings of international workshop and report on distance learning collaborations between carriers, developers, users and investors for DELTA Project, Europe, and New Media Branch, Industry Canada.
- Forster A, (1992), Satellite Technology: A Versatile Ingredient in Distance Education Programs, Study Guide to the Canadian Association for Distance Education Video Conference, Telesat Canada. Also in French Translation.

Chapters in books

- Forster A and Hewson L, (1998) Developing People for Changing Times: The Lure of the Net, in Latchem C and Lockwood F (Eds) Staff Development Issues in Open and Flexible Education, Routledge, London
- Forster A and Quinn C, (1996) Virtual University on the CD-ROM, TeleTeaching 96: Practising What We Preach, edited by Wills, Fritze and Cavallari, Australian Computing Society
- Forster A, Hedberg J G, and Knights S, (1991), Adult and Continuing Education in Universities and Colleges, in Tennant M, (Ed), Adult and Continuing Education in Australia, Issues and Practices, Routledge, London.
- King B, and Forster A, (1985), A South Australian Perspective on Student Support, in Castro A, Livingston K, and Northcott P, (Eds), An Australian Casebook of Study Centres in Distance Education, Deakin University Monographs, No. 12.

Journal articles and published conference papers

- Forster A, 2007, Book Review, Strategies for Sustainable Open and Distance Learning, Hope and Guiton (eds), in The American Journal of Distance Education, 21(3), 173-175, Laurence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.
- Forster A & Pender G. 2006, Developing education businesses for global markets: the ITEV model and the dilemmas it raises. Fourth EDEN Research Workshop, Research into Online Distance Education and E-Learning, Barcelona, Spain.
- Forster A 2006, Globalisation and the ethics of demand, in Continuing Higher Education Review, Vol 70, Fall 2006.
- Supporting members supporting learners: a professional association grapples with change, Research Workshop, Oldenburg, in Bernath and Szucs (editors) (2004) Proceedings of the Third European Distance and E-learning Network (EDEN) Research Workshop, BIS der Universitat Oldenburg, Germany.
- Forster A, 2004, Case Study: A Strategic Business Planning Approach to new Program Development at the University of Sydney, in Macfadyen, L P (2004), A Handbook of Best Practices in the Integration of Learning Technologies into Higher Education, The MAPLE Centre, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.
- Forster A, 2002, Online Teaching and Learning: a Discussion Paper, Synergy, issue 18, Institute for Teaching and Learning, the University of Sydney.
- Distance Education at the University of Sydney: Seminar for the International Distance Education Network, Busan, Korea, 2003
- Building Alliances, the Potential of Canadian and Australian Collaboration in Global Education and Training Markets, in Hewson and Toohey (eds), The Changing University, Proceedings of the biennial education conference UNSW Education '95.
- A Mechanism for Innovation: Post Graduate Management Education by Open Learning, Seventh Annual Conference on Distance Teaching and Learning, University of Wisconsin, Madison, 1992.
- Forster A, Hedberg J G, (1989) Continuing Professional Education Provision in Australia, in H Edwards & S Burraclough (Eds) Research and Development in Higher Education. Vol 11, Sydney HERDSA pp 167-172
- Consultant Relationships: Distance Educators in the Corporate World, the Australian and South Pacific External Studies Association, 9th Biennial Forum, Gippsland, 1989. Co-author L Pfahl.
- With King B, and Luke R, Professional Development for Distance Education, International Council for Distance Education 13th World Conference, Melbourne, 1985.
- Berrigan F, and Forster A, (1977), Guidelines for the Use of Radio and Audio-Vision, IET Papers on Broadcasting, Paper No. 83, The Open University, Milton Keynes, U.K.

Published course materials

- Forster A, 2006, DEPM622 The Business of Distance Education, Master of Distance Education, University of Maryland University College
- Allen, N. and Forster A, 2009, DEPM609 Systems Thinking in Distance Education, Master of Distance Education, University of Maryland University College

- Anderson E and Forster A, (1998), Value to the Customer, Unit One of Brewery Operations, Master of Business and Technology Program, Graduate School of Engineering, for Lion Nathan Australia, Unisearch Professional Education, the University of New South Wales, Sydney.
- Forster A, (1993), Developing Management Skills With People, Participant manual for Atii Training Inc., Ottawa. (Also Translated Version in Inuktitut).
- Forster A, (1993), Learning at a Distance, Text book accompanying the Module, Certificate of Professional Development in Distance Education, University of Wisconsin, Madison.
- Forster A, Harris K, King B, Luke R, Mitchell I, (1984), Student Support in Distance Education, Graduate Diploma in Distance Education, South Australian College of Advanced Education.
- Dunn J, England G, Forster A, Gunning P, King B, (1984) Willmott G, Evaluation in Distance Education, Graduate Diploma in Distance Education, South Australian College of Advanced Education.
- Forster A, King B, Luke R, Mitchell I, Moore B, Smith B, (1984) Distance Education Project, Graduate Diploma in Distance Education, South Australian College of Advanced Education.

Keynote addresses and other invited presentations

- Invited participant: Investing in the Future: Innovation in private education, International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group, Washington DC, May, 2008
- Invited presenter: Professional Identity in Distance Education, Canadian Institute for Distance Education Research, international live web cast session, January 19, 2007. <http://cider.athabasca.ca>
- Invited Presenter: Copyright Workshop for the Fourth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning, the University of the West Indies, Ocho Rios, Jamaica, November 2006
- Invited presentation; Investment for Inclusion, e-Agenda, European Roundtable, October 2006, Casteldefells, Spain
- Invited keynote: Australia's Transnational Education Quality Strategy. International forum on Online Education, Quality Assurance, Chinese International Education Association Tenth Anniversary Conference, Beijing, China, October 2006.
- Invited keynote: Policy issues; the role of professional associations and the impact of ICTs. 10th Anniversary conference, National Association of Distance Education and Open Learning in South Africa (NADEOSA), Pretoria, South Africa, July, 2006.
- Invited keynote: Enabling e-Learning in the 21st Century: the role of the professional association. Keynote address Distance Education Association of New Zealand Conference, Auckland, 2006.
- Invited speaker: Degrees of Difficulty: A 360 Perspective on Globalisation, University Continuing Education Association, 91st Annual Conference, San Diego, April, 2006.
- Invited keynote: E-Learning Impact on the Organisation, Keynote Via Videoconference, Lustrum Conference: Spatial Information for Civil Society, International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation, The Netherlands, December 15, 2005
- Invited speaker: Innovations and New Directions in ICT Developments, 10th East Asia and Pacific Regional Meeting of the World Bank Global Development Learning Network, Hanoi, July 11-13, 2005
- Invited speaker: The South Pacific: Environmental Scan, contributing to COL's Strategic Planning 2006-2009, The Commonwealth of Learning, regional experts meeting, Vancouver, April, 2005
- Invited speaker: The Role of the Commonwealth of Learning, Pacific Association of Technical and Vocational Education and Training Regional Experts Meeting, Narere, Fiji, February, 2005
- Invited speaker: The Age Dimension: Innovation in the Mainstream Curricula, AC21 International Forum 2004, Universities, Cities and Society in the 21st century, University of Sydney, July 2004
- Invited Chair to manage one of four themes over three days: Best practices in open and distance learning, Third Pan Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning, Dunedin NZ, July 2004
- Invited speaker: Tools and creativity: generating new knowledge on old age. ED-MEDIA World Conference on Educational Multimedia, Hypermedia & telecommunications, Lugarno, Switzerland, 2004
- Invited: Administration and policy to support quality education at a distance, and Establishing an online campus, Expert Panel, IFIP WG 3.6 Working Conference on Quality Education @ a Distance, Geelong, 2003

- Invited speaker: 21st Century Business Models for Online Education Markets, the NextEd Approach. One-day International Forum hosted by Tele-Learning Network of Centres of Excellence, Toronto, November 7, 2000.
- Invited panellist: Key factors influencing the diffusion and integration of educational technology in Australasia, Educational Technology 2000, Creating a Global Vision for Open and Distance Learning, Singapore, August 2000
- Invited speaker: Flexible Learning, the Total Student Experience, FutureSafe 2000, May, Sydney
- Invited speaker: Flexible Learning and Assessment, Australian Rail Training Conference, Sydney, November, 1999
- Invited speaker. Transitions to New Learning Environments, Presentation to a meeting of the Deans of Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW, July, 1998
- Invited Chair, AusTAFE National Conference, The Knowledge Revolution, Changes in Learning. The blurring of boundaries in Education in Australia and overseas. September, 1997
- Invited keynote: Managing the Transition, presentation by videoconference to the Learned Societies Congress, Distance Learning Forum, Brock University, Canada, June 1996
- Invited keynote: Telecommunications in Canada: the Fifth Dimension, Services and Delivery in Rural and Remote Areas Conference, Darwin, Australia, Department of Transport and Communications, 1992.