

**Association of Pacific Rim Universities (APRU)  
Distance Learning and the Internet Conference 2003  
@ the National University of Singapore**

Conference website: <http://www.cit.nus.edu.sg>

**Presenter: Ms Anne Forster**

**Biography**

Anne Forster is the Director of the Innovation and Technology in Education Ventures (ITEV) project and, Manager Special Projects, in the Vice-Chancellor's Office at the University of Sydney, Australia. ITEV is a strategic development and investment initiative providing business and project management expertise in the development of post-graduate professional programs.

ITEV works with the Pro-Vice-Chancellors of the Colleges and the Deans of Faculties to identify growth opportunities and develop business plans for flexible learning ventures using innovative technologies to reach new national and global markets. In collaboration with the University's existing expert groups, ITEV is developing methodologies and processes to support business planning, pedagogical design and financial management of education ventures including web based tools for team decision making and collaborative writing.

Before joining the University of Sydney in 2001, Anne was interim CEO of the Canadian Telelearning Network of Centres of Excellence. She had previously been Vice President of Learning for NextEd Ltd, a systems integrator and infrastructure company, with education partners worldwide providing courses in Asia through local sites and online services. As a consultant in her own company and as a Senior Manager for KPMG, she has worked internationally on over thirty research and development projects aimed at distance and internet based delivery of education and training in all sectors and in both developed and developing economies.

Anne Forster has been working in the field of distance learning and instructional design for over twenty years. From the Institute of Educational Technology at the UK Open University she worked in Australian distance education at RMIT and the University of South Australia where she was an author and academic coordinator of the world's first professional qualification in distance learning. She is author of a core module in the University of Wisconsin (Madison) professional qualification in distance education (1991). As Director of Educational Development at the Australian Graduate School of Management she designed the learning system for the Executive MBA programme and managed its start-up operations. She has a Master's degree in Education (1981), a Graduate Diploma in Education (1974), and a B. A. (1973). She is an Associate Fellow of MAPLE, the Centre for the Management and Planning of Learning Environments, based at the University of British Columbia, Canada, and President Elect of the Open and Distance Learning Association of Australia.

<http://www.itev.usyd.edu.au>