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Santosh PANDA is Professor of Distance Education at the Staff Training and Research Institute of Distance Education (STRIDE), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU). A former Senior Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Panda has been Director of STRIDE and Director of Inter-University Consortium for Technology-Enabled Flexible Education and Development (IUC-TEFED) at IGNOU; and Director of Research & Policy at the Association of Indian Universities.

A trained expert on educational media/ television at the BBC, UK, he has subsequently researched on online continuing professional development for his Fulbright post-doctoral research, and online research resources for Manchester Metropolitan University and IGNOU collaborative Higher Education Link programme of the British Council. He has been visiting/adjunct professor at Manchester Metropolitan University, University of London and University of Maryland, USA, and has consulted and conducted programs for UNESCO-IICBA and UNESCO-China; World Bank and Global Distance Learning Network; British Council; Commonwealth of Learning; UNDP; Ford Foundation; IDRC; Asian Development Bank; Governments of Lesotho, Nepal and Nigeria; and for capacity building of Indian government bureaucrats on distance training sponsored by the UNDP and the Government of India. Dr Panda has visited, lectured, presented keynotes, and conducted workshops in 23 countries.

A well known educator from the developing world, Dr. Panda has published 16 books, 32 book chapters, and 48 articles and research papers nationally and internationally; is Founder Editor of a refereed international journal *Staff & Educational Development International* <http://www.ignou.ac.in/institute/profpanda/FINAL/SEDI/Home.htm> ; past Chief Editor of internationally refereed *Indian Journal of Open Learning* <http://www.ignou.ac.in/IJOL/Home.htm>; and currently in the Editorial Board of many international journals including: British '*ALT-J: Journal of Learning Technology*' (Routledge), '*Interactive Discourse: The International Online Journal on Higher Education Learning and Teaching*' (UK), Canadian '*Journal of Distance Education*', '*International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning*', Australian '*Distance Education*' (Routledge, UK), '*Tertiary Learning & Professional Development*', '*Malaysian Online Journal of Instructional Technology*', American '*International Journal of Instructional Media*' (Westwood Press, USA), '*International Journal for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*' (IJ-SoTL) (Georgia Southern University), African '*International Journal of Theory and Practice of Educational Management and Administration*', (Kampala International University) among others. His latest books include *Planning and Management in Distance Education* (Routledge, London , 2003.

http://www.routledge.com/shopping_cart/products/product_detail.asp?sku=&isbn=0749440686&pc) and, with William Bramble, *Economics of Distance and Online Learning* (Routledge, New York, 2008 <http://www.routledge.com/books/Economics-of-Distance-and-Online-Learning-isbn9780415963886>).

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