

Remembering Roger MILLS

With a Emeritus Prof. Dr. Alan TAIT Words



Throughout his 50 year career, Dr. Roger Mills demonstrated a dedication to education, teaching, open and distance learning, and most profoundly to the learners themselves. In 2008 Dr. Mills was granted an Honorary Doctorate by the Open University UK where he spent his career, in senior positions as Regional Director and Pro Vice-Chancellor. In 2010, Dr. Mills was made a Commonwealth of Learning Honorary Fellow. Professor Mill's impact and influence on open and distance learning were felt throughout the Commonwealth

and around the world, his work taking him from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Australia to Bangladesh Open University to the University of Botswana and beyond.

A regular consultant, the world benefited deeply from his passions for expanding access to higher education through ODL and promoting quality. He further brought this knowledge and experience to the position of Chair of the Programme Committee for the 2008 Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning.





With Narend Bajjnath and Roger Mills at Cape Point, where the Indian and the Atlantic oceans meet.

The Forum was held at London University, where Dr Mills had earned a Diploma in Adult Education 30 years earlier and served as a Visiting Fellow in the Centre for Distance Education. Professor Mill's contributions to ODL are felt today across many of the Commonwealth's institutions, contributing not only to enhanced experiences for learners, but improved education and opportunities. He was a kind and caring individual and his death in June 2016 leaves us all poorer.

He will be missed deeply by many of us both professionally and personally.

Dr. Alan TAIT, August, 2016