



## **US-Australasia Workshop for Research on e-Learning in Engineering Education *Announcement and Call for Applicants***

US applications are due **July 15, 2009!**

Participants are sought for a 1-day workshop on research on distance and blended learning in engineering education to be held at the University of Adelaide, Australia as a post conference activity of the 2009 Australasian Association for Engineering Education (AAEE) Annual Conference. Funded US participants are expected to attend the conference December 6-9 and the workshop December 9-10.

Participants will actively engage in developing an international research agenda for engineering education research on e-learning, including online, distance, and blended learning. Specific topics and technologies of interest may include wikis, games, video conferencing, online courses and labs, learning modules and tutorials, simulations, virtual environments, etc. The results of the workshop will be submitted by the organizers for publication as an article in a special issue of the journal *Advances in Engineering Education*. Some workshop time will also be set aside for cross-national teams to write abstracts for their own submissions to the special issue. Authors not attending the workshop will also be allowed to submit abstracts for the special issue (deadline: January 11, 2010).

The workshop will bring together approximately six researchers from the US with an approximately equal number of researchers from Australia and New Zealand who are also working in the area of e-learning. We are especially interested in research that is relevant across multiple technologies and formats, such as: scaling up to a variety of formal and informal learning environments, evaluating what engineering topics are best taught online, opening up access to diverse student populations, and evaluating the ethics of distance learning (e.g., dealing with plagiarism and cheating). In addition to the development of an international research agenda, the workshop aims to foster international research collaborations between participants and promote the development of an international community of scholars.

The format of the workshop will be highly interactive, and participants will NOT be expected to submit papers or give lengthy presentations on their research. However, the Australasian Association for Engineering Education is accepting full conference papers (double-blind reviewed prior to acceptance) through July 24: <http://www.plevin.com.au/aaee2009/>. Applicants may therefore wish to submit conference papers (on e-learning and/or other topics) for possible presentation at AaeE.

### **Qualifications**

Participants should be tenure-track faculty, graduate students, post-docs, or others conducting research in the field of engineering education. Selection criteria for participants include: theoretically-based empirical research related to distance/blended learning in engineering education, potential to advance the field of engineering education, and diversity, broadly defined.

### **Additional Requirements**

This workshop is funded by the US National Science Foundation (Award #0810990), as part of on-going research. If selected to attend the workshop, you will be asked to fill out anonymous evaluation surveys. Workshop interactions will also be observed (but not audio or video recorded) for research purposes. By accepting an invitation to attend the workshop, you imply consent to these procedures. If you wish to opt-out of the research and evaluation procedures, or if you have any questions, please contact workshop co-organizer Kacey Beddoes ([kbeddoes@vt.edu](mailto:kbeddoes@vt.edu)).

**How to apply**

**The deadline for US participants to apply is July 15, 2009, by 11:59pm EDT.** Applications can be found at <https://survey.vt.edu/survey/entry.jsp?id=1245761074265>. You will be asked to describe your current research in e-learning, particularly how you use learning theory in the design of e-learning environments and/or how you use learning technologies to advance learning theory. Applicants will be notified of acceptance or rejection by August 15, 2009.

Accepted US participants will receive up to \$2,500 toward travel and lodging expenses (receipts required). Workshop attendance is limited to selected participants.

**Workshop Planning Committee**

Maura Borrego, Virginia Tech

Euan Lindsay, Curtin University

Holger Maier, University of Adelaide

Krishna Madhavan, Clemson University

Brent Jesiek, Purdue University

Kacey Beddoes, Virginia Tech