

Dr Maylyn

Joining CODE Fellows meetings

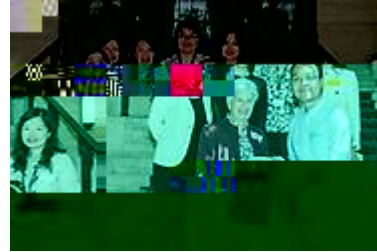
Meeting with colleagues from across the University of London including Vice Chancellor Prof Wendy Thomson CBE.

Meetings and practical activities within the University of London that included the video suite and learning designers

Meetings with professional service staff at the University to explore how they support the on-line and distance education student population including careers, student well-being, staff development, and student voice

Visiting University of London Federation Member Institutions, Kings College London, and UCL

Individual meetings with



The visiting scholars attended an exit interview with CODE Fellow, Prof Sam Smidt, to provide feedback on the experience and to identify ways in which the placement can be further developed. Feedback was also sought from the supervisory teams and others involved in the programme.

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All the visiting scholars felt that their research focus had changed and deepened as a result of their interactions with their supervisors. It took some time, much recourse to the literature, and many research in the real world was an eye-opener. This led to frustrations, but also to recognition that there are other research methods than quantitative ones and alternative approaches to data collection. The end results were quite different from the initial proposals.

Recommendations

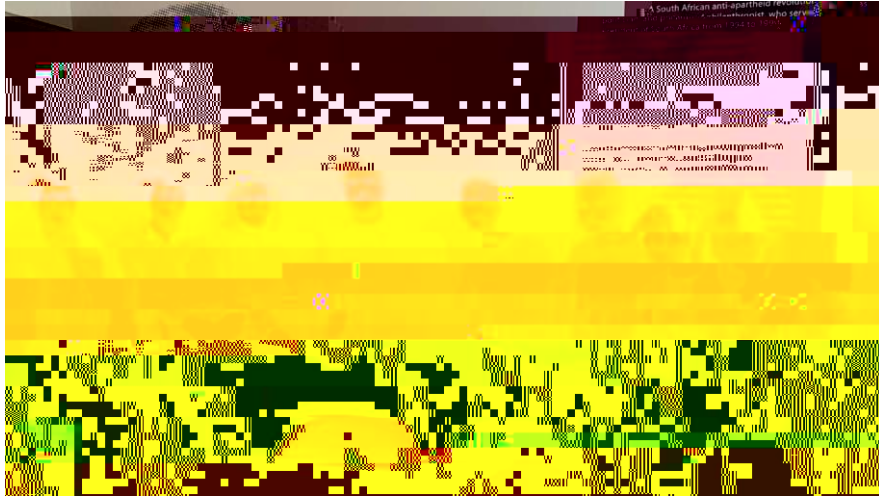
The visiting scholars collectively identified the strengths of the programme included enhanced understanding of on-line education for example assessment, student engagement, learning design and research approaches, and the value of immersion into wider working culture and wider community and different ways of thinking.

The visiting scholars suggested improvements to the experience, including the opportunity to join on-line modules in advance as a student to understand the student perspective; connection with supervisors in advance of coming to the UK; a longer time in the UK, as four months was felt to be too short. In response CODE are now adapting the provision to provide greater induction in advance of arriving in the UK for the visiting scholars. Two new scholars will arrive for 2023-24.

With the growth in CODE Fellow numbers and the expansion of supervisory capacity, the opportunity to grow the programme exists. This would depend on gaining additional funding from the SBFT or from an alternative source. Given the successes and the links to OUC, it might be that a similar programme funded by OUC could be established.

There is an opportunity for the programme to be replicated with other countries that are seeking to develop or expand ODL. This could run in conjunction with other capacity-building activities.

The development and support of a visiting scholar alumni network



Appendix 1

The Open university of China visiting scholars 2023

	Guangzhou Open University, China	The Impact of Heutagogy (self-determined learning) on Encouraging Learner Agency of Adult Learners	Prof Philip Powell, Prof Anita Walsh
	The Open University of China	Teacher Professional Learning Influenced by the Intelligent Technology from the perspective of the Complex Dynamic System Theory (CDST): An Empirical Study Focused on the Learning Needs and Approaches	Dr Jonathan San Diego, Dr Maylyn Tan
	The Open University of China	An empirical study on professional identity of teachers engaged in distance education	Prof Norbert Pachler, Dr Michele Milner