

**NEWS
RELEASE**



September 20, 2018

UCN TO HOST DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR AND SCHOLAR DR. A.W. TONY BATES

University College of the North's Department of Research and Innovation is pleased to announce a site visit and presentation by **Dr. A.W. Tony Bates** at The Pas Campus, on September 27, 2018. Dr. Bates will be presenting on: **Teaching in a Digital Age: Developments in Online Learning in Canada.**

Dr. Bates has over 40 years of experience in higher education in Canada and around the world and is the lead researcher on The National Survey of Online and Distance Education in Canadian Post-Secondary Education project.

He is well versed in all aspects of distance and open education serving on Canadian and internationally committees and boards. He is the author of 12 books and countless journal articles and research projects. During his visit Dr. Bates will be meeting with Faculty to discuss innovations in practice at UCN.

Please plan on joining us for his presentation from **12:00 noon to 1:00pm in Room 255B The Pas/302 Thompson**. A limited number of web connections for the presentation will be available. Contact Terralyn McKee, tmckee@ucn.ca, for interest in connections to regional sites.

About Dr. Tony Bates

Tony Bates is President and CEO of Tony Bates Associates Ltd, a private company specializing in consultancy and training in the planning and management of e-learning and distance education. He is also Distinguished Visiting Professor in the G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education, Ryerson University, Toronto and a Research Associate at Contact North, Ontario.

Tony Bates Associates Ltd was started in 2003, and since then has served over 50 institutional clients.

Past contracts include work for UNESCO, the World Bank, U.S. state higher education commissions and universities, the U.K. Open University, the Council of Ontario Universities, and for many Canadian colleges and universities, advising on their online learning strategies. He has worked as a consultant in over 40 countries. He has been a Research Associate with [Contact North](#) since 2007.

He has been Chair of the International Experts Panel for the [Open University of Portugal](#), advisor to the Universidad de Guadalajara's [Maestría en Tecnologías para el Aprendizaje](#) (Mexico) and to Universidad Tecnológica Metropolitana's [Magíster en Educación a Distancia](#) (Chile). He was also a member of the [World Economic Forum's Global Advisory Council on Technology and Education](#) between 2008-2009.

He was part-time Chair of Research in e-Learning at the [Open University of Catalonia](#) in Barcelona, Spain between 2003-2006, and was on the Academic Advisory Board of the Volkswagen AutoUni, based in Germany, 2003 -2007. From May 2004 to

September 2005, he was part-time Cisco Systems Chair of e-Learning at the [Southern Alberta Institute of Technology](#) in Calgary, where he led a strategic planning process for e-learning throughout the Institute.

He was Director of Distance Education and Technology in the Continuing Studies Division of the [University of British Columbia](#), Vancouver, Canada from 1995 to 2003 and also Research Team Leader of MAPLE, the Centre for Research into Managing and Planning Learning Environments in Education at UBC. While at UBC, he was instrumental in setting up, initially in partnership with Tec de Monterrey in Mexico and UBC's Faculty of Education, UBC's fully online [Master in Educational Technology](#), which has been running successfully since 2002.

From 1990 to 1995, he was Executive Director, Research, Strategic Planning, and Information Technology at the Open Learning Agency of British Columbia.

Prior to that, he was Professor of Educational Media Research at the British [Open University](#), where he worked for 20 years as one of the founding members of staff.

He is the author of twelve books, including his latest, a free, open online textbook for faculty and instructors, called [Teaching in a Digital Age](#), which has been downloaded over 200,000 times since its publication in April, 2015. It has been or is being translated into ten languages. Examples of his other books include:

- [‘Managing Technology in Higher Education: Strategies for Transforming Teaching and Learning’](#), co-authored with Albert Sangrà of the Open University of Catalonia, and published by Jossey-Bass/John Wiley in 2011,
- [‘Technology, e-Learning and Distance Education’](#), published in 2005 by Routledge, ‘
- [Managing Technological Change: Strategies for College and Universities Leaders’](#) (with Gary Poole)
- [‘Effective Teaching with Technology in Higher Education’](#), both published by Jossey-Bass, and
- [‘National Strategies for e-Learning’](#) published by UNESCO.

His research groups at the UKOU, OLA and UBC published over 350 papers in the area of distance education and the use of technology for teaching. He has been on the editorial board of six journals specializing in distance education and educational technology.

This web site [‘Online learning and distance education resources’](#) has nearly 2,500 posts, over 3,000 ‘followers’, and receives over 30,000 visits a month.

Dr. Bates has a Ph.D. in educational administration from the University of London, England. He was awarded the degree of Doctor Honoris Causa by the Open University of Portugal in 1995, Doctor of Letters, Honoris Causa, from Laurentian University, Canada, in 2001, Doctor Honoris Causa from Athabasca University, in June 2004, Doctor of Social Sciences, honoris causa from the Open University of Hong Kong in December 2004, and Doctor Honoris Causa from the Open University of Catalonia, Spain, in June, 2005.

For more information, please contact:

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