



Prof. Tian Belawati

Rector of Universitas Terbuka, Indonesia
President of the International Council for Open and
Distance Education (ICDE)

Professor Tian Belawati has made lifetime professional contributions to open and distance learning (ODL). She has had extensive experiences in research, teaching, and administration of a mega university, which serves over 500,000 students residing in Indonesia and overseas. Her work experience includes various positions within an ODL institution that serves diverse groups of students with different needs and circumstances. She started her career in academic life as a researcher with the Canadian Communication Consortium in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Upon her return to Universitas Terbuka (UT) in Indonesia in 1996, she was appointed as Head of the Center for Indonesian Studies. Her leadership experience at the Centre has further taken her to greater responsibilities as Vice Rector for Academic Affairs at UT. As Vice Rector she introduced innovations and good practices in the use of new technology for the delivery of ODL. Her two-terms as Vice Rector, from 2001 to 2009, have taken UT into a new ODL platform in a developing country context through utilization of new and appropriate technology. Among others, she has introduced innovations through UT Online, such as online tutorials, open educational resources (OERs), online examination, digital library, integrated information system for learning materials development, and other ICT-based initiatives in teaching, learning and academic administration.

Professor Belawati is currently Rector of UT. As Rector, she has taken decisive actions to mobilize effort in partnerships with stakeholders to improve the quality of ODL, develop greater public confidence in ODL, and establish collaborative effort with international as well as regional ODL institutions and associations. She is extensively involved in various joint initiatives with other ODL players and organizations in her capacity as both ODL researcher and top administrator. Professor Belawati had been active as Deputy Coordinator of the IDRC-funded collaborative research network PANdora (2004 – 2009) and Board member of PANdora Network (2010 – now). Her professional achievements have led her appointments as Secretary General (2007-2009) and then President (2009-2010) of the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU). She has also served as member of the Election Committee (2007-2009) and Executive Committee (2009-present), and now the President of the International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE).