

PROF. DR. CHRISTINE von PRÜMMER



Professor Christine von Prümmer, Senior Researcher at the German FernUniversität, a Distance Teaching University, and author of *Women and Distant Education*, will present “Perspectives from Global Research for Women in Distance Learning”. v Christine von Prümmer is a Senior Researcher at the German FernUniversität, a Distance Teaching University. She has experience evaluating distance education systems and has carried out cross-national comparative research on the situation of women and men in distance education.

By focusing on women in distance education, Dr. von Prümmer examines the often neglected area of gender issues throughout the distance education world. A wide variety of evidence from different countries supports the conclusion that open and distance learning has the potential to provide equal opportunities in higher and continuing education, and that these are often being missed.

Dr. von Prümmer believes that it is up to distance education policy-makers to provide a framework for women students that will limit the risks and maximize the opportunities.

Christine von Prümmer is head of the evaluation unit of the Center for the Development of Distance Education at the German FernUniversität which she joined as researcher in 1978. She has extensive experience in various areas of institutional research such as course evaluation, study goals and learning styles, and access to and use of media technologies in distance education. She has a particular interest in gender and distance education and with Gill Kirkup from the OU UK, has done comparative research on the situation of women in distance education.

She has published widely in the field, including the book *Women and Distance Education. Challenges and Opportunities* (RoutledgeFalmer 2000). She is actively involved in professional and feminist networks, both national and international, and has initiated a series of international seminars on Gender Issues in Virtual Open and Distance Learning Environments.

CHRISTINE von PRÜMMER holds a B.A. from Smith College, U.S.A., an M.A. from the University of Konstanz, Germany, and a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of Dortmund, Germany.

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