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### Introduction:

Botho University is a multidisciplinary education provider offering tertiary education from its faculties of, Accounting and Finance, Business Management, Computing and Education and Counting Studies. The institution has been providing education and career development programmes in Botswana since 1997 when it started operating as a computer training institute. Botho University was granted the University status in 2013 by the Tertiary Education Council in Botswana. Botho University strives to offer high quality education and is a BOS ISO 9001:2008 certified institution.

The University has successfully hosted two International Research Conferences in the last two years, drawing together internationally-acclaimed academics, researchers and captains of industry, to deliberate on crucial and topical issues relating to the important role of tertiary education in order to meet the growing demands of the global economy and community.

In 2014 the University, in maintaining its cherished academic custom and international research mandate, will host the BUIRC 2014. The Conference presents a special forum for the audience that has traditionally graced its corridors to amalgamate and share thought-provoking ideas surrounding the methodologies, pedagogies, application and potential that e-learning holds for tertiary education institutions, governments, employers, policy advisors and graduates as a significant tool for enhancing access and quality in tertiary education in the world today.

### About Botswana

The BUIRC 2014 Conference also presents a rare and unique opportunity for international delegates to visit Botswana, the land of diamonds and untouched wilderness areas in Africa. With a population of over two million people, Botswana is one of the sparsely populated countries in the world. The Kalahari Desert which makes up 70% of the country is teeming with wildlife, making it the paradise of tourists visiting Southern Africa. The country shares its border with South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

### BUIRC2014

Over the last fifteen years, the world has witnessed a dramatic and irreversible penetration of technology as an effective and efficient tool for building student-centred education. e-Learning represents an exciting set of tools and innovations that have contributed immensely to the massification of education, and still carry tremendous potential in terms of their impact on current institutional practices. As governments, employers, students and academics grapple with the pressures of making education a "right" for all their citizens, the role and place of e-Learning in education and the workplace has raised its profile, giving it pre-eminence in the field of education.

BUIRC2014 is a multi-disciplinary forum designed to disseminate information, ideas, research, issues, developments, and applications of topics related to e-Learning in education and higher education in particular. This innovative collaboration brings convergence between the academics, researchers, developers, business professionals, Government, and Higher Education sectors together to discuss current trends to address the global call on education for all. All submissions are reviewed and selected by program committee based on relevance, merit and value to the conference.

Papers should be reports of significant work or reviews in research, development, application, and societal issues related to all aspects of the conference topics.

The scope of the conference includes but not limited to the following themes relate to the e-Learning and e-Learning technologies:

- Accreditation and Quality Assurance of programmes based on e-Learning methodologies
- Assessment and Evaluation for e-Learning based programmes
- Asynchronous Learning
- Blended learning
- Content Development
- Content Management
- Collaborative Learning
- Cloud based e-Learning
- Courseware Development
- Developing e-Learning Solutions
- Digital Libraries for e-Learning
- Distance Learning
- Design of instruction for various teaching pedagogies
- e-Learning and Open Educational Resources (OERs)
- e-Learning Architectures
- Electronic Publishing Tools
- Emerging media and technologies for e-learning.
- FutureLearn prospects and potential
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Instructional Design
- Industry University Partnership
- Innovative Curriculum in e-Learning
- Instructional Design for e-Learning
- Intelligent e-Learning Technology
- Interactive e-Learning
- Institutional capacity for sustainable e-Learning
- Knowledge Management in e-Learning

- Learning Management Systems
- Management of Learning Resources
- Management, leadership and administration of e-learning
- Marketing and Promoting Learning Activities
- Multimedia-based e-Learning Systems
- M-Learning
- Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
- Organizational e-Learning Strategy
- Pedagogical Issues in e-Learning
- Policy, strategy of e-learning
- Problem based learning
- Quality Management in E-Learning
- Research Perspectives for E-Learning
- Social and Cultural Issues
- Standards and International best practices
- Simulations
- Virtual Universities, Virtual Classrooms, and Virtual Laboratories

Presentations can take the following formats: Panel discussions, Paper presentations, Lightning presentations, Roundtable discussion, Workshops, Product showcases and Virtual presentations.

**BUIRC2014 Proposal submission and presentation guideline:**

**Panel discussions**

Presentation time: 2 hour  
Submission length: 2-6 pages  
Equipment provided: Laptop, LCD Projector and Internet

Each Panel consisting of 3-5 people (including the chair), present their views on a common theme/ issue/ question, and allow discusses with the audience. Selection of the panel based on importance and timeliness of the topic. Discussion should be informative on either ways. Panels must allot at least 50% of the time for interaction and discussion with the audience.

**Paper presentations**

Presentation time: 40 minutes  
Submission guideline: 8 pages minimum, 12 pages maximum  
Equipment provided: Laptop, LCD Projector and Internet

These presentations report significant work, research, development and application related to conference topics/theme.



**Lightening presentations – Small paper, Best practice and Research presentations**

Presentation time: 20 minutes  
Submission guideline: 4 pages minimum, 6 pages maximum  
Equipment provided: Laptop, LCD Projector and Internet

These are more condensed presentations. Presenters are allowed to discuss their own research works, experiences and contemporary perspectives related to the conference theme.

This format will allow the presenter to present their work with 30 slides that advance automatically every 30 seconds.

**Roundtable discussions**

Presentation time: 1 hour  
Submission length: 2-6 pages  
Equipment provided: none

These sessions allow maximum interaction in informal and small-group discussions on a single topic.

**Workshops**

Presentation time: 2 -3hours  
Submission length: Clear description of the objectives  
Intended audience (experience level and prerequisites)  
Proposed length (Maximum 3 hours)  
1-page topical outline of the content  
Summary of the facilitator qualifications and experience  
Equipment provided: Laptop, LCD Projector and Internet

Workshops are intended to enhance the skills and broaden contemporary perspective of e-Learning. These workshops aimed to introduce rigorous frameworks for e-learning or to provide advanced knowledge on conference topics/theme. Submissions will be selected on the basis of the facilitator qualifications and experiences in the overall conference program.

**Research/Technical/product showcases**

Presentation time: Throughout the conference days  
Submission length: 2-6 pages  
Equipment provided: Poster board, 1table, 2 chairs, Laptop, LCD Projector and Internet

Research/Technical/product showcases enable researchers and developers to demonstrate and discuss their latest results and developments in e-Learning / e-Learning technologies.

**Virtual presentations**

Presentation time: 40 minutes  
Submission proposal length: 4 pages minimum, 6 pages maximum  
Equipment provided: Laptop, LCD Projector, and Internet

Virtual sessions enable researchers to present and asynchronously discuss their research via Skype/online discussion tools. These papers are brief or extensions to existing projects.

**BUIRC2014 Deadlines & Important Dates**

Proposals Submission Due	
Notification to Authors	14 May 2014
Author Confirmation/Early Registration Deadline	14 June 2014
Hotel Reservation	15 July 2014
Proceedings file Submission (Final Paper/Proposal/PPTs)	30 August 2014
Conference Dates	30-31 October 2014

**Registration**

All rates are BWP/USD	Registration and Payment Received	
Early registration rate	By 14 June 2014	After 14 June 2014
BU Staff	800BWP/100USD	1000BWP/125USD
BU Students	400BWP/50USD	500BWP/65USD
Botswana TEI staff	1200BWP/150USD	1500BWP/190USD
Delegates from Botswana	1500BWP/190USD	1800BWP/225USD
International Delegates	2000BWP/250USD	2500BWP/315USD
Authors /presenters	480BWP/150USD	550BWP/190USD

Your registration includes:

- Welcome Reception
- Morning and afternoon refreshment breaks
- Luncheon on conference days
- Commemorative registration kit (conference bag, proceedings booklet, lanyard with name badge, any other freebie(s) )
- Access to keynote sessions

- Access to all concurrent sessions
- Wireless access for all conference delegates at no cost in conference venue(s)
- Complimentary E-mail/Internet stations
- Technical helpdesk support
- Post conference proceedings access via Botho University website
- Meeting rooms for network meetings on conference days – this facility will be provided based on requests.

**Note:**

1. Requests for refund of registration fee will be considered based on case by case.
2. No refunds can be issued after early registration date.
3. Refunds are subject to a cancellation fee.
4. There are no refunds for non-attendance.

**Travel and Accommodation**

All participants are expected to pay for their own travel, accommodation and subsistence costs. Block bookings for specially negotiated room rates will be arranged. Once we have received indication of your participation, you will be sent additional information on the Conference.

**Questions**

If you have questions about the submission process, don't hesitate to send them to the appropriate email address

[research@bothouniversity.ac.bw](mailto:research@bothouniversity.ac.bw)

[conference@bothouniversity.ac.bw](mailto:conference@bothouniversity.ac.bw)