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THE ONE-OFF WORKSHOP

 **LIVE** WEBINAR

Reimagining **Continuous Professional Development** for Quality Open and Flexible Learning



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MANCOSA

Dr Omolola A. Arise is an accounting academic, researcher, and academic programme leader with nearly a decade of experience in higher education. She holds a PhD in Accounting from the University of KwaZulu-Natal and a Master of Accounting (cum laude) from the Durban University of Technology. Based in the School of Accounting, Finance and Tax at MANCOSA, she teaches, leads programmes and develops curriculum within an open and distance learning environment, working with the realities of flexible delivery rather than studying them from the outside. Her research spans accounting education, continuous professional development, open and flexible learning, and artificial intelligence in higher education.

As open, distance and flexible learning continue to expand across South African higher education, academics are being asked to design, teach and assess in ways that many were never prepared for. Yet continuous professional development (CPD) too often remains a series of one-off workshops, tool-focused, disconnected from pedagogy, and poorly integrated into institutional strategy and academic workload.

This webinar makes the case for a different approach. Drawing on adult learning theory, communities of practice and digital pedagogy scholarship, it presents a conceptual framework for CPD built on three interacting dimensions: digital pedagogical competence, flexible learning design, and institutional support structures. The session unpacks what each dimension asks of academics and of institutions, and why the three cannot meaningfully be pursued in isolation.

The framework is deliberately offered as a lens rather than a template. Participants are invited to test it against their own contexts, whether at a large ODL institution, a contact university moving into blended delivery, or somewhere in between, and to consider what its implications are for institutional practice, national policy and academic leadership.

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THURSDAY
13 August 2026



2PM - 3PM



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