



# Dr. Richard E. Durr

Presented by: Matthew Gossom, University of Central Oklahoma  
Jackson College of Graduate Studies, Adult and Higher Education – Training  
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Lori Risley



**Background:** Dr. Richard E. Durr is currently an adjunct professor with Palm Beach Atlantic University, in West Palm Beach, FL. Richard served with Motorola, Inc. for 20 years and retired as Director of Learning and Development at the facility in Boynton Beach, FL. He received his Bachelor and Master degrees from the State University of New York and earned his Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Florida Atlantic University. Richard resides in Wellington, FL, and has three children and four grandchildren.

## Major Contributions to SDL:

Dissertation measured the readiness level for self-directed learning of Motorola employees using the SDLRS

Due to his dissertation, Richard was provided the opportunity to implement a self-directed learning process within the company's learning and development system. It provided for individual learning plans to be developed and managed by employees

Developed format that incorporated Malcolm Knowles' model of preparing a learning plan, requiring the learners to identify their own learning goals, determine what resources would be used to achieve each goal, specify a target date to complete each goal, and define an evaluation standard that would satisfy the learner the learning goals had been completed

Coordinated the SDL symposia from 1999 to 2002, held in Phoenix, AZ, and Boynton Beach, FL

## Recommendations:

The performance of the public education system has continued to decline for many years and the need to incorporate self-directed learning as a key foundation for supporting the education of today's youth is past due. With knowledge and technology advancing at warp speed, SDL can be an important catalyst in assuring each learner possesses the skills as a life-long learner to learn what they need to learn, when they need to learn it, in order to be a valuable contributor to society.

## ISSDL Involvement:

Dr. Richard E. Durr is the 2008 recipient of the Malcolm Knowles Memorial Self-Directed Learning Award. He is a member of the board for the *International Journal of Self-Directed Learning* and Webmaster for the ISSDL website (2009-2015).



## Important SDL Publications:

2010- Self-directed Learning Readiness and Adult Students Returning to College, Twenty-fourth International Symposium on Self-Directed Learning, Cocoa Beach, FL.

2002- Update on Expatriates, Culture, and Self-Directed Learning Readiness at Motorola, Sixteenth International Symposium on Self-Directed Learning, Boynton Beach, FL. (co-author)

2001- Integrating e-learning with current learning methods, Online Learning Conference, London, UK.

2000- Expatriates, Culture, and Self-Directed Learning Readiness at Motorola, Fifteenth International Symposium on Self-Directed Learning, Boynton Beach, FL. (co-author)

1997- Does culture make a difference in self-directed learning readiness?, Eleventh International Symposium on Self-Directed Learning, Kissimmee, FL. (co-author)

Durr, R., Guglielmino, L. M., & Guglielmino, P. J. (1996). Self-directed learning readiness and occupational categories. *Human Resource Development Quarterly*, 7(4), 349-358.

1995- Global rollout of self-directed learning by Motorola, Inc.'s Paging Products Group, Ninth International Symposium on Self-Directed Learning, February, West Palm Beach, FL.

