



Philip J.-L. Westfall, Ph.D. Over the past 20 years, Phil has been a leader in distance learning within the Air Force. Phil began government service in 1974 as an Air Force officer. He served as an aviator of tactical fighter aircraft, served as professor of French and flight instructor at the United States Air Force Academy, and in 1990, he was assigned to the Air Force Institute of Technology. There, Phil established and directed the Center for Distance Education and created an interactive television (ITV) network, the Air Technology Network (ATN), which now reaches over 355 receive sites (including Europe, Middle East, and the Pacific Rim) through a satellite uplink linking 18 broadcast studios. After his retirement in 1994, he returned to the Air Force in Civil Service. The continuing expansion of ATN across the Air Force led to his present position as network director under Air University's Educational Logistics & Communications Division. His pioneering efforts and active promotion of ITV within the Federal Government led to the establishment of an interagency ITV network, which he named the Government Education & Training Network (GETN). From a single uplink at AFIT in 1992, GETN has grown into a network of 10 uplinks used by 17 government agencies reaching over 2,300 downlink sites.

Phil is Chairman Emeritus of the Board and formerly President of the United States Distance Learning Association, the leading professional association in the field of distance learning. He was president (and co-founder) of the Federal Government Distance Learning Association, a chapter of the USDLA. Phil is also on the Executive Committee of the Government Alliance for Training & Education by Satellite, a government organization that promotes the use of distance learning within the Federal sector. He is on the Editorial Board of the American Journal of Distance Education, the Business Intelligence Board of the Chief Learning Officer magazine, and on the Board of Advisors of Satellite Application Conference & Expo (SATCON). A frequent speaker at various distance learning conferences, he has also participated in developing sessions in distance learning for conferences such as SATCON, Training and Online Learning Expo & Conference, the Interservice/Industry Training Simulation & Education Conference, the Learning Technologies Conference, TeleConference, and the Government Learning Technologies Symposium. He has also co-published articles on instructional media selection, blended learning, learning styles, and generational differences in learning.

Phil is the recipient of the Air Force Association's Schriever Award for the Advancement in Aerospace Power and Technology. He is a member of the USDLA Hall of Fame, and is also the first military member inducted into the Teleconferencing Magazine's Hall of Fame. He also received the FGDLA Outstanding Distance Learning Network for the year 2000. He is a member of Phi Kappa Phi, an academic honorary society. Phil earned a Ph.D. in Educational Metrics and Humanities Education from Ohio State University, a M.A. in Foreign Language Education, and a B.S. in Engineering Technology & Management.