DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Distance education is an emerging global phenomenon that promises to alter fundamentally the nature of traditional education and training. The increasingly pervasive nature of the Net and the Web, and the collaborative infrastructure provided by net centric computing have led to the growth of distance education. The phenomenal growth of distance education is explained by the fact that over 90% of college students access the Internet, with 50% accessing the Web daily. Also, Indian companies and organizations are spending huge amounts on in-house training and education programs through distance and blended mode. The popularity of distance education programs has further increased with the availability of on-line discussion forums.

The growth of distance education is fast and furious world-wide including in India. The future of distance education has been aptly summed up by Mr. David Gray, Vice President, and University of Massachusetts: “Over the next five years, it would not surprise me at all to see the term "distance education" fade or morph into "distributed education" or perhaps simply "education." As the technologies that support distance education mature and become more widely embraced which is happening as we speak, the focus on the tools and the geographic distance at which they are utilized is likely to decrease. Our fascination with the web as an exciting new medium for learning and collaboration will most likely give way to seeing it as a common utility that people make use of routinely. Education and learning will happen, of course, and it will be a rare course indeed that does not take advantage of the tools of technology and high speed networks to aid and abet the learning process."

BLENDING LEARNING

Blended Learning is the process of incorporating many different learning styles that can be accomplished through the use of ‘blended’ virtual and physical resources. The instructor can also combine two or more methods of delivery of instruction. A typical example of the delivery method of blended learning would be a combination of technology-based materials and face-to-face sessions used together to present content. An instructor can begin a course with a well-structured introductory lesson in the classroom, and then proceed to follow-up materials online. Blended Learning can also be applied to the integration of e-learning with a Learning Management System using computers in a physical classroom, along with face-to-face instruction.

With today’s prevalence of high technology in India, blended learning refers specifically to the provision or use of resources which combine e-learning (electronic) with other educational resources. Some of the advantages of blended learning include: cost effectiveness for both the Indian institutions and the students, accessibility to a post secondary education for students, and flexibility in scheduling and timetabling of course work.

Foreign universities have already been recognized as the largest online educational resources for students seeking quality learning experience. Now foreign universities are in a position to offer "Blended Learning" programs in India through Indian institutions by combining a vigorous classroom experience, along with comprehensive online learning. Some of the benefits are:

- Blended learning won’t interfere with student’s current job
- Student will cut down on commuting time and costs – save money on gas, parking, and tolls
- Student can meet and connect with classmates online and in person
- Student can enjoy learning in a hands-on environment
• Taking classes at the Indian institution closest to student's work or home means more convenience and flexibility.

Indian institutions including companies and organizations, in academic collaboration with Foreign universities, will be able to offer an array of degree, diploma, and certificate programs at Bachelor's and Master's levels in a wide range of fields. Distance education can be offered as a dynamic, interactive distance learning method using a diverse array of personal computers, video devices, CD and DVD ROMs, online courses over the Internet, interactive devices, and other modern technological innovations. When each lesson or segment is completed, the student makes available the assigned work for correction, grading, comment, and subject matter guidance by qualified Indian instructors. Corrected assignments are returned to the student. This exchange fosters a personalized student-instructor relationship, which is the hallmark of distance education instruction. Students will be required to take examinations in proctored settings. Assignments will be larger, longer, and more thorough so as to test for knowledge by forcing the students to research the subject and prove that they have done the work. Midterms and Final examinations will be held at common locations so that professors can supervise directly.

The distance education programs to be offered in India by Foreign universities in collaboration with Indian institutions would be graduate and post-graduate degree, diploma, and certificate programs. Students will receive degrees, diplomas, and certificates from the concerned foreign universities after successful completion of the programs in India. Foreign universities and the Indian institutions will administer the programs jointly.

Following are some of the benefits for Indian students:

• Students will have access to a wide range of graduate and post-graduate programs of foreign universities in India.
• Tuition and fees will be in tune with the low cost of living in India. Students get valuable degrees, diplomas, and certificates of foreign universities at low cost.
• Students get first-hand knowledge of latest global developments, trends and techniques.
• Students will have better opportunities for employment and international careers by having degrees, diplomas, or certificates from foreign universities.
• Students will have opportunity to transfer with credits to foreign universities for further education.

Given below are the details of Foreign Universities which are interested in offering Distance Education programs in India in Collaboration with well-established Indian institutions. The text used is that of the concerned Universities.

**American Intercontinental University**

Distance education as well as Hybrid of blended learning in: Business, Fashion Design and Visual Communications.

**Binus University**

Accounting, Management, International Business, Computer Science, Computer Engineering and Information Systems, among others.
British Institute of Technology & E-Commerce
Open to discussion.

California State University – San Bernardino
We have several online courses that can be delivered using distance education model, or a model involving facilitation by local faculty members or video conferencing, for an AACSB accredited standards business education.

CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY
We may want to offer the BET in Manufacturing and / or the Bachelor of Technology in Emergency Management via Distance Education.

Carleton University
Already have quite a few. Might add an IIT in engineering.

Champlain College

Eastern University
Master of Education with ESL/ TESOL concentration.

Edith Cowan University
Master of Strength and Conditioning, Bachelor of IT/CS, Bachelor of Science (Security), Master of Health and Aged Services Management, Master of Occupational Safety and Health, & Master of Nursing.

EDUARDO MONDLANE UNIVERSITY

Emporia State University
- TESOL (Teaching English as a Second Language)
- Instructional Design and Technology

EVOLVENCE CAPITAL
Yes, but once again this is a preliminary due diligence trip for me and I am unable to mention any by name as I do not know the landscape.

**Fayetteville State University**

Fayetteville State University is interested in offering distance education programs in Business Administration and MBA, Sociology, Psychology.

**Ferris State University**

1. Engineering technology programs
2. Languages
3. Business
4. Health Care

**Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University**

Work force Education & Skills Development, Technology Education, Mental Health -- all at the graduate level.

**Fresno Pacific University**

Possible: Master's in Kinesiology, Master's in Education.

**Indiana University-Purdue University**

We are developing number of courses and programs that may be offered through distance education. For more information please visit http://www.iu.edu/~iuonline/de/degrees.html

**Inter American University of Puerto Rico**

Accounting (A.A.S); Business Administration (A.A.S); Computer Science (A.A.S); Computer Science (B.S.) Criminal Justice (B.A.); Criminal Investigation; Education (Teacher Education) (B.A.); Early Childhood Elementary Level (K-3), Early Childhood Elementary Level (4-6), Teaching English as a second Language at the Secondary Level, Special Education; Electronic Commerce (A.A.S.); Human Resources Management (B.B.A.); Industrial Management (B.B.A.); Marketing (B.B.A.); Office System Management (A.A.); Office Systems Management (B.A); Studies in Religion (A.A.); Studies in Religion (B.A.).

**Kent State University**

Yes, but we would like a better understanding of the needs of students in India.

**Macquarie University**

Master in Policing and Counter Terrorism
Master in International Security Studies

**Magna Carta College**

Distance learning and blended learning programmes available in flexible fashion.
Missouri University of Science and Technology
Interested in distance education graduate programs in Engineering. We currently offer 11 degree programs entirely on-line and have over 175 classes in the distance education format.

Mount Royal University
Project Management certificate program; Human Resource Development certificate program; Leadership Development certificate program.

New York Institute of Technology
Yes but limited.

North-West University, Vaal Triangle Campus
* The Environment
* Health, particularly rural and community health
* Indigenous Peoples
* Energy and Sustainability

Northwestern College and Media
Again, yes but the opportunities will have to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Oregon State University
Yes – Natural Resource Undergraduate degree; Master of Natural Resources graduate degree (MNR); Sustainable Natural Resources graduate certificate program.

Sam Houston State University
Graduate: Information Assurance and Security.

SAXION UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES
We are in the process of developing this for our Dutch students; we may consider extending similar programs for foreign student. (please refer to our website WWW.SAXION.EDU for details on departments and programs).

Siauliai University
Yes. Details about twinning / transfer programs we will specified later.

SOUTHERN OREGON UNIVERSITY
Undergraduate Business
Criminal Justice
State University of Medicine and Pharmacy

On the base of collaboration Agreement between State University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Nicolae Testemitanu” with East Carolina University, Greenville, USA, from North Carolina for the last 4 years is running “Distance Learning Project”.

Originally the project thematic courses were held by East Carolina University professors. Last year there were initiated presentations of clinical cases by Moldovan students to USA experts. An additional course “Global Understanding” was started last year that successfully continues this year. This course is important in order to develop exchange of interests between students from USA and such countries like Algeria, Republic of China and other countries.

Tallinn University

E-learning

TCS EDUCATION SYSTEM

The TCS Education System’s division TCS Online does offer distance education programs in the field of professional psychology that are currently available to all enrolled students. Potential exists to expand the course and program offerings in this market and therein, these programs could also reach to Indian student populations. Current online degree offerings include PhDs in Organizational Leadership and International Psychology, and several masters and certificate programs in specialized professional psychology.

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

This is something that we are considering for the future.

Trinity Western University

Master of Business Administration

UNAD FLORIDA

M.B.A; Master in Education; Master of Teaching English as a Foreign Language; Bachelor of Social Psychology; Bachelor of Mass Communication.

Universidad Privada Boliviana

Export oriented MBA for medium and small enterprises

University College of Plymouth St. Mark & St. John

We are open to options in any of our academic areas which are: Leadership and Management, Sports Development and Coaching, Health Sciences, Media and Creative Arts, English, Education and Teacher Training.
University of Agriculture
Yes, On-line programmes in Agriculture and Sciences.

University of Applied Management
Graduate (Master): MBA, Business Administration, Business Psychology, Sport/Event/Tourism/Adventure, Management, Business Law, Intercultural Management, Educational Management, Sustainable Development

University of Edinburgh
The University of Edinburgh offers a number of high-quality post-graduate distance education programmes for working professionals and has a number of Indian students enrolled in some of these courses. We would like to further promote our programmes in Law, Medicine and other disciplines.

University of Michigan
Setting up a distance education program in creative work presents multiple difficulties that the UM School of Art & Design deems unproductive to creative work.

University of Northern British Columbia
We are particularly well-equipped to deliver curricula through high definition video conferencing. We teach medicine and other health sciences through this technology. The subject areas and program areas as above.

University of Science & Technology Chittagong
CURRENTLY NOT PERMITTED BY THE BANGLADESH PRIVATE UNIVERSITY ACT

Ural State University of Railway Transport
We are interested in distance education programs.

Widener University School of Law
On-line legal education classes offered by Widener and available for students in India.