



“ We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking  
we used when we created them.”

Albert Einstein



ONLINE LEARNING™  
CONSORTIUM

## Kathleen Ives, D.M.

Chief Executive  
Officer and  
Executive Director  
for the Online  
Learning  
Consortium (OLC)

The Online Learning Consortium (OLC) is the leading professional organization devoted to advancing the quality of online learning worldwide. As a member-sustained organization OLC offers:

- Professional development and institutional advancement opportunities;
- Leading-edge instruction;
- Best-practice publications;
- Original research; and
- Community-driven conferences.

For more information visit:

<http://onlinelearningconsortium.org/>

# Outline for Today's Session

- **Highlights from Today's Digital Learning Landscape**



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- **Research in the Field**



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# Outline for Today's Session

- Highlights from Today's Digital Learning Landscape
- Research in the Field
- Resources
- **Innovation Insights**



What's  
happening in the  
**digital**  
**learning**  
landscape  
today?



# The Digital Learning Landscape



**1/4 of US students are taking at least one online course.<sup>2</sup>**



**In 2012, nearly 63% of U.S. colleges offered fully-online degree programs.<sup>3</sup> That's almost double what it was a decade earlier, at just 32.5%.**

2. Babson Research Survey Group and Quahog Research Group, LLC, *Grade Level – Tracking Online Education*, 2015

3. U.S. News & World Report, *Online Course Enrollment Climbs for 10th Straight Year*, January 2013



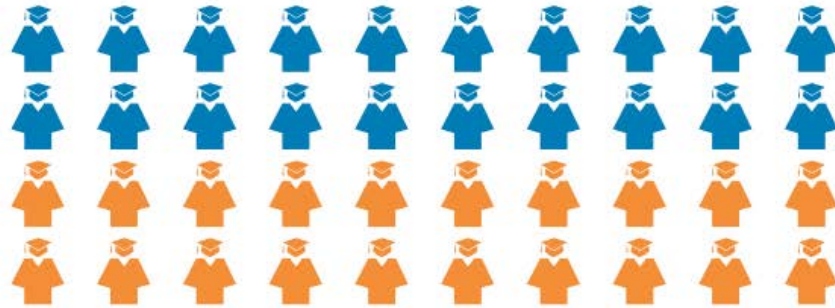
# Universities Embracing Online

## ENROLLMENT WILL DOUBLE

50% more US grads  
expected by 2020.<sup>(1)</sup>  
4-year colleges  
can't accommodate.<sup>(2)</sup>



...SO UNIVERSITIES  
GO ONLINE



CLASS of 2020

70.8% see online learning  
as critical to their long-term strategy.<sup>(3)</sup>  
Up from 48.8% in 2002.

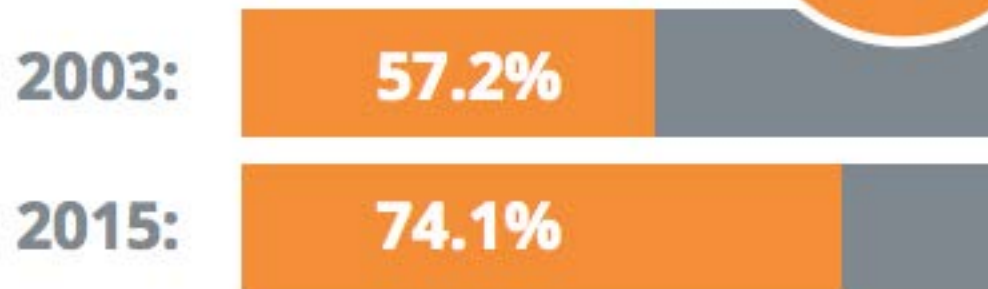
1. U.S. Department of Education, Meeting the Nation's 2020 Goal, 2011

2. Christensen Institute, Hire Education, Mastery, Modularization, and the Workforce Revolution, 2014

3. Babson Research Survey Group and Quahog Research Group, LLC, Grade Level – Tracking Online Education, 2015

# Growing Acceptance

**WITH EDUCATORS:**  
**74.1%** of academics rated learning outcomes in online education as the same, or superior to those in face-to-face instruction<sup>(3)</sup>  
That's up from  
**57.2%** in 2003.<sup>(3)</sup>



3. Babson Research Survey Group and Quahog Research Group, LLC, Grade Level – Tracking Online Education, 2015

# Provosts Anticipate Creating More Online Programs

When asked about the strategies on which they plan to increase emphasis in the next year:

The logo for 'INSIDE HIGHER ED' is displayed in white text on an orange rectangular background. The word 'INSIDE' is in a larger, bold font, and 'HIGHER ED' is in a smaller font below it.

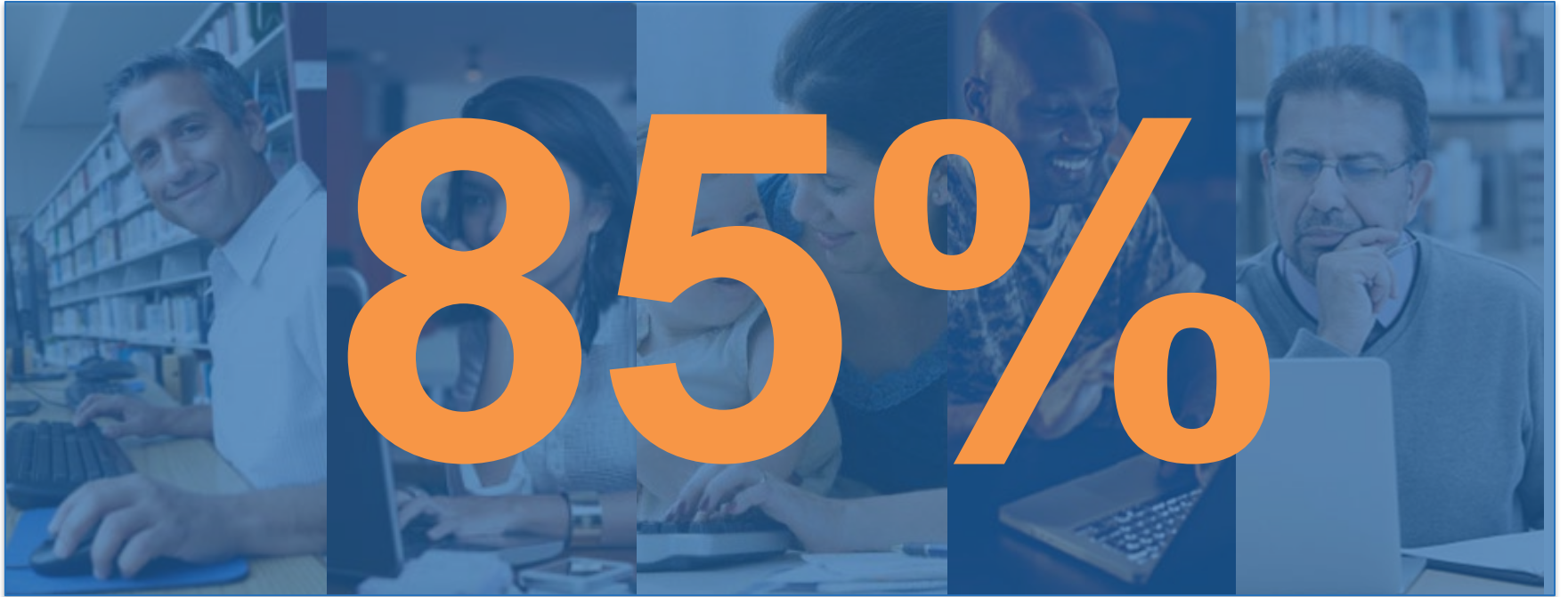
- 82% said expanding online programs and offerings.
- Provosts at public institutions were more likely than those at private institutions to answer that way (86% vs. 77%).

Inside Higher Ed, January 30, 2017

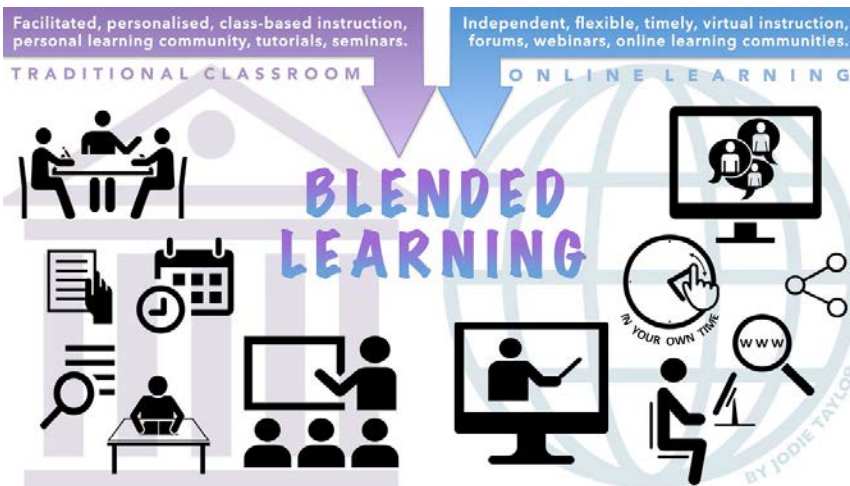
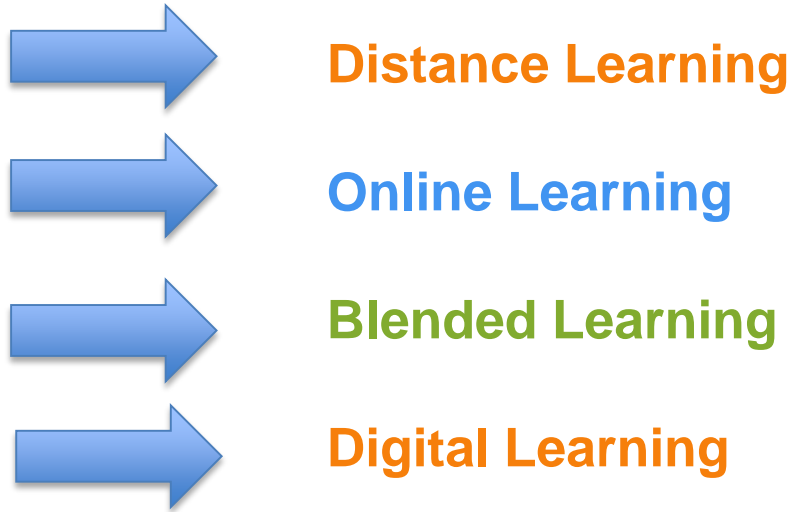




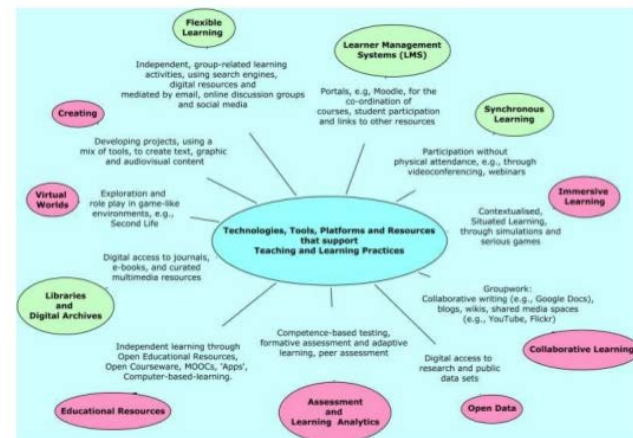




# The Landscape: Online, Blended, and Digital Learning



## The Digital Learning Landscape



# The Landscape: Online, Blended, and Digital Learning



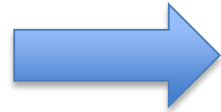
**Distance**



**Online**



**Blended**



**Digital**





# The Landscape: Online, Blended, and Digital Learning



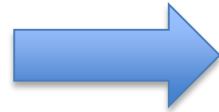
**Distance Learning**



**Online Learning**



**Blended Learning**



**Digital Learning**



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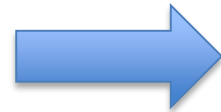
**Distance Learning**



**Online Learning**



**Blended Learning**



**Digital Learning**

Facilitated, personalised, class-based instruction, personal learning community, tutorials, seminars.

TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM

Independent, flexible, timely, virtual instruction, forums, webinars, online learning communities.

ONLINE LEARNING



# The Landscape: Online, Blended, and Digital Learning



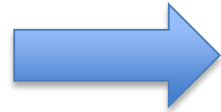
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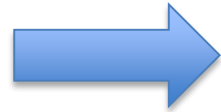
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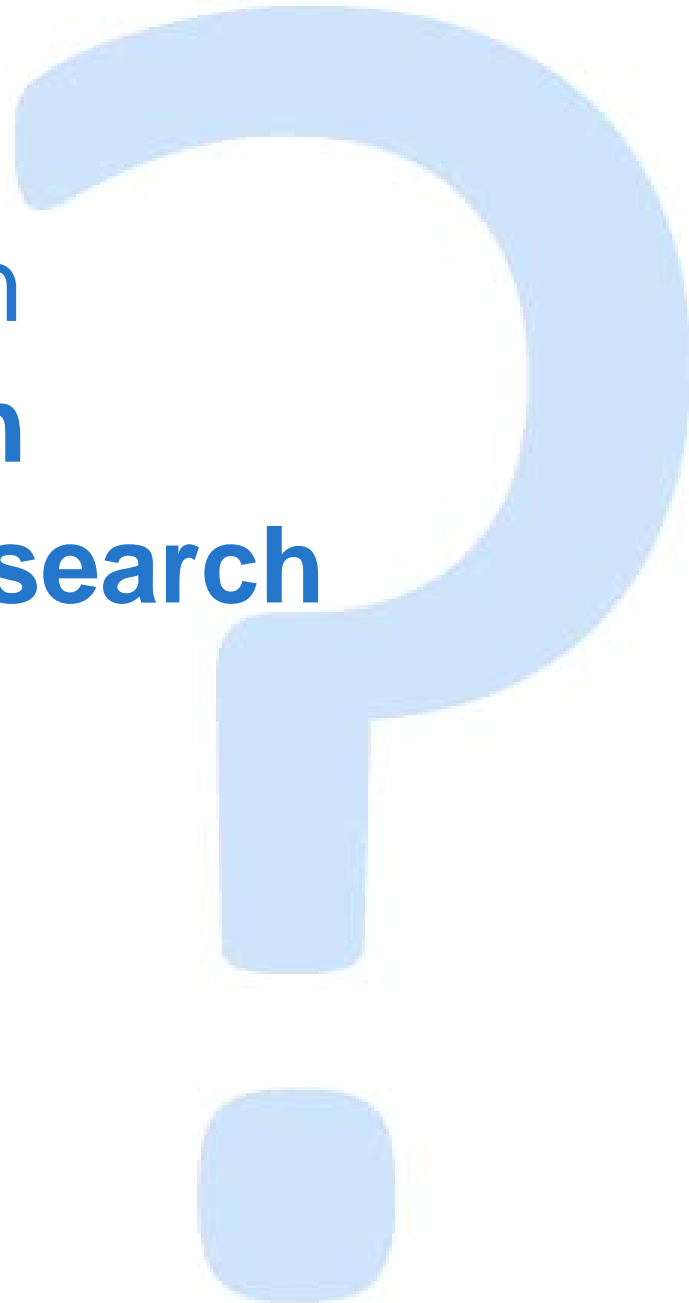


# The Blurring of Lines



<http://www.skilledup.com/articles/online-education-vs-traditional-education-the-pros-and-cons>

What Can  
We **Learn**  
**From Research**  
In This  
Space?



The logo features a semi-circular arc of red lines of varying lengths on the left side, resembling a compass rose or a stylized sunburst. To the right of this arc, the text "digital learning" is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font, and "COMPASS" is written in a larger, uppercase, sans-serif font below it.

# digital learning COMPASS

- **Previously the Babson Annual Report**
- **Uses data from US Department of Ed's National Center for Education Statistics IPEDS**
- **2012: First time IPEDS included distance ed enrollments**

# Distance Education Enrollments

## IPEDES Fall Enrollment 2015

**29.7% of all students enrolled in  
at least one distance course.**

Students Enrolled in...	Enrollments	Percentage
ALL courses at a distance	2,902,756	14.3%
SOME courses at a distance	3,119,349	15.4%



# One Last Tidbit

## Top 50 Institutions by # Students Taking at least 1 in 2012

**Top 50 Institutions by Number of Students Taking at Least One Distance Course - 2012**

Rank	Institution	ST	2012 Total Enrollment	2012 Distance Students	Percent Distance	Control
1	University of Phoenix	AZ	256,402	256,346	100.0%	Private for-profit
2	Ashford University	CA	77,734	76,722	98.7%	Private for-profit
3	Liberty University	VA	74,372	69,935	94.0%	Private non-profit
4	American Public University System	WV	58,115	58,115	100.0%	Private for-profit
5	Walden University	MN	50,209	50,209	100.0%	Private for-profit
6	Kaplan University-Davenport Campus	IA	48,865	46,374	94.9%	Private for-profit
7	Grand Canyon University	AZ	48,650	44,006	90.5%	Private for-profit
8	Ivy Tech Community College	IN	100,272	42,821	42.7%	Public
9	University of Maryland-University College	MD	42,268	42,165	99.8%	Public
10	Western Governors University	UT	41,369	41,369	100.0%	Private non-profit
11	Excelsior College	NY	39,728	39,728	100.0%	Private non-profit
12	Arizona State University-Tempe	AZ	73,378	36,095	49.2%	Public
13	Capella University	MN	35,754	35,754	100.0%	Private for-profit
14	Everest University-South Orlando	FL	33,852	33,239	98.2%	Private non-profit
15	Pima Community College	AZ	32,988	27,677	83.9%	Public
16	Florida International University	FL	46,171	25,028	54.2%	Public
17	Full Sail University	FL	23,497	23,486	100.0%	Private for-profit
18	University of Florida	FL	49,913	23,180	46.4%	Public
19	Colorado Technical University-Online	CO	22,608	22,608	100.0%	Private for-profit
20	University of Central Florida	FL	59,601	21,782	36.5%	Public
21	DeVry University-Illinois	IL	24,246	21,616	89.2%	Private for-profit
22	Thomas Edison State University	NJ	20,606	20,456	99.3%	Public
23	Columbia Southern University	AL	19,933	19,933	100.0%	Private for-profit
24	Northern Virginia Community College	VA	51,864	19,152	36.9%	Public
25	Lone Star College System	TX	64,872	18,602	28.7%	Public
26	Houston Community College	TX	58,476	17,524	30.0%	Public
27	Rio Salado College	AZ	24,342	16,902	69.4%	Public
28	St Petersburg College	FL	32,612	16,669	51.1%	Public
29	CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College	NY	24,537	16,546	67.4%	Public
30	University of South Florida-Main Campus	FL	41,116	16,241	39.5%	Public
31	Troy University	AL	22,554	15,444	68.5%	Public
32	Nova Southeastern University	FL	26,808	14,983	55.9%	Private non-profit
33	American Inter-Continental University-Online	IL	14,170	14,170	100.0%	Private for-profit
34	Valencia College	FL	42,915	13,985	32.6%	Public
35	College of Southern Nevada	NV	35,678	13,270	37.2%	Public
36	Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus	PA	45,783	13,238	28.9%	Public
37	Tidewater Community College	VA	30,134	13,164	43.7%	Public
38	National University	CA	17,898	12,775	71.4%	Private non-profit
39	Northern Arizona University	AZ	25,991	12,544	48.3%	Public
40	Cuyahoga Community College District	OH	29,701	12,418	41.8%	Public
41	South University Savannah Online	GA	12,364	12,364	100.0%	Private for-profit
42	Tarrant County College District	TX	50,439	12,290	24.4%	Public
43	Wake Technical Community College	NC	20,440	11,853	58.0%	Public
44	Portland Community College	OR	33,767	11,822	35.0%	Public
45	Brigham Young University-Idaho	ID	23,261	11,763	50.6%	Private non-profit
46	Columbia College	MO	17,830	11,718	65.7%	Private non-profit
47	Columbus State Community College	OH	25,863	11,558	44.7%	Public
48	Middle Tennessee State University	TN	25,394	11,416	45.0%	Public
49	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Worldwide	FL	15,562	11,368	73.0%	Private non-profit
50	Southern New Hampshire University	NH	17,454	11,286	64.7%	Private non-profit

## According to 2016 Report:

- **29.1%** of CAOs believe their faculty accept the value and legitimacy of online education
- **60.1%** of those institutions with **10k or more distance enrollments** report faculty acceptance
- **11.6%** of those institutions with **no distance enrollments** believe faculty accept value & legitimacy of online



# What's Hot in Digital Learning Research



**Alternative Credentials**



**Digital Courseware**  
**Adaptive, OER, Learning Analytics**

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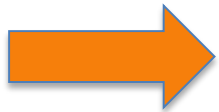
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**Digital Courseware**  
**Adaptive, OER, Learning Analytics**



**Social Media Use**

# Resources: Practical Application



**DETA**



**CWiC**



**PEDL**



**Annual Surveys**

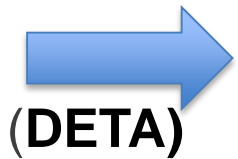


**Peer Review Journals**



**Networking/Conferences**

# Resources: Practical Application



## Distance Education and Technological Advancements

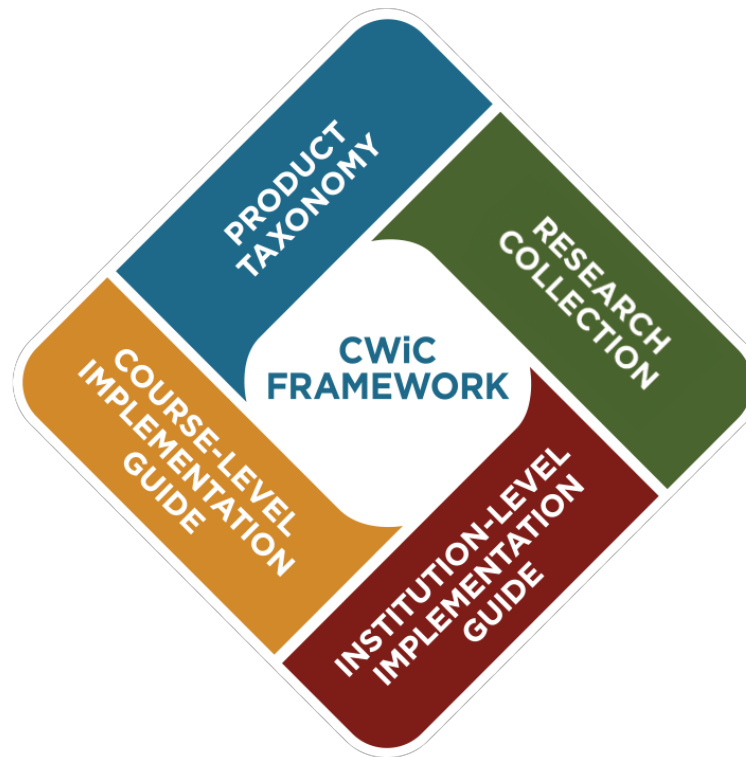
- *The objective of the DETA Research Center is to promote student access and success through evidence-based online learning practices and learning technologies. Specifically, the DETA Center will identify and evaluate effective course and institutional practices in online learning (including competency-based education) for underrepresented individuals (i.e., economically disadvantaged, adult learners, disabled) through rigorous research.*
- The **DETA Research Toolkit** serves to guide research conducted across institutions and disciplines, including both experimental and survey studies.



# Resources: Practical Application



## Courseware in Context (CWiC)





# Resources: Practical Application



## **(Practical Evaluation for Digital Learning) PEDL**

*Practical Evaluation for Digital Learning (PEDL) is designed to guide users in evaluating digital learning interventions aimed at improving student learning and success in college courses. The goal is to support higher education decision makers seeking evidence about the impacts of course redesigns and instructional models involving digital learning.*

# Resources: Practical Application



**OLC Research Center for Digital Learning & Leadership**



## READ (or Listen)

Expert research, insight in the evolving field of online learning.



*ONLINE  
LEARNING (OLJ)*  
PEER-  
REVIEWED  
SCHOLARLY  
JOURNAL  
ISSUED  
QUARTERLY

OLC Insights



BLOG ON KEY  
TOPICS FROM  
SME's



LATEST  
RESEARCH &  
NEWS SHARING  
ONLINE  
LEARNING  
TRENDS

OLC Podcast

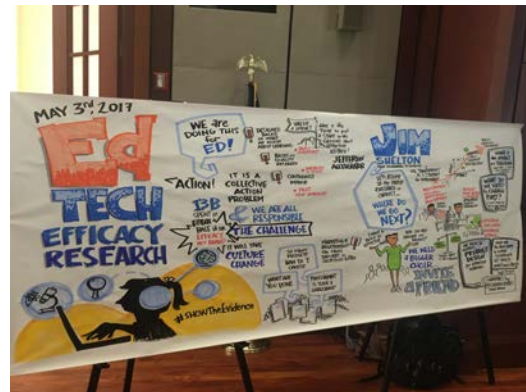


TIMELY TOPICS  
DISCUSSED ONLINE,  
FEATURING  
UNIVERSITY OF  
CENTRAL FLORIDA  
TOPcasts

# Resources: Practical Application



## Networking/Conferences

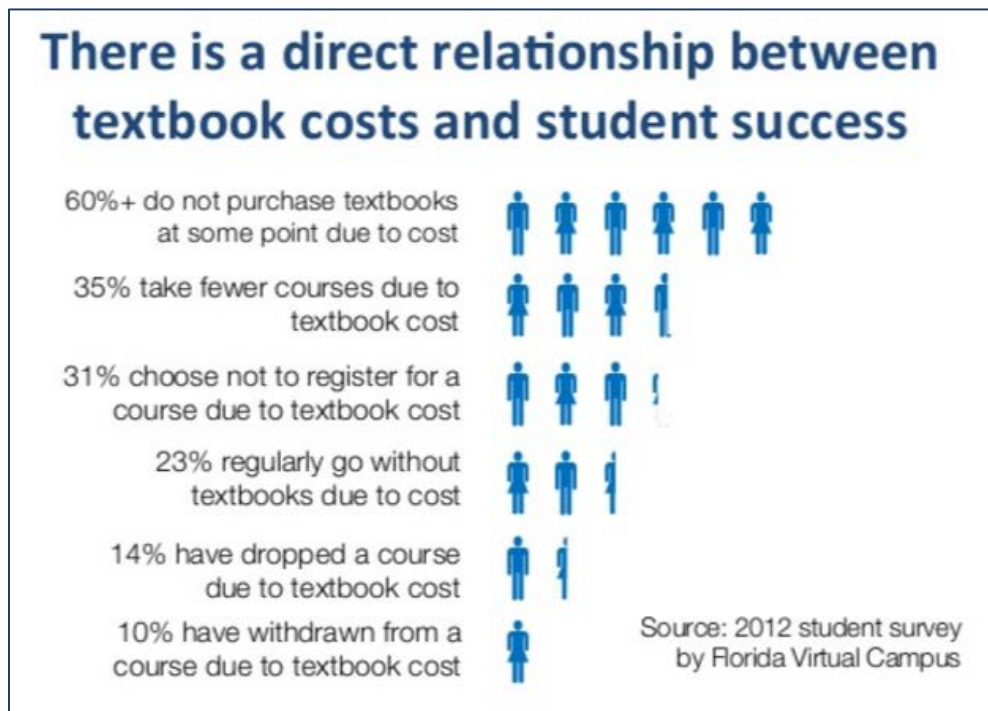


What Are  
Some **Innovation**  
**Insights** We  
Are Hearing  
From the  
Field?



# What We Heard: Pedagogical Advancements/Innovations

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- Implementing a digital courseware grant.
- **Providing a mix of in-class education and on-the-job experience before graduation.**

# What We Didn't Hear, But Others are Talking About

- **Crowdsourcing projects using massive data sets such as 'citizen science projects'.**



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- Implementing makerspaces.
- **Harnessing today's ubiquitous access to computing power to enhance the educational experience.**

# What's Essential: Engaged Faculty

- **Employing a Faculty Fellows Initiative where 8 – 10 faculty members immerse themselves in online learning pedagogies and convene faculty learning communities.**

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- **Utilizing an Online Steering Committee with regard to strategic inputs.**



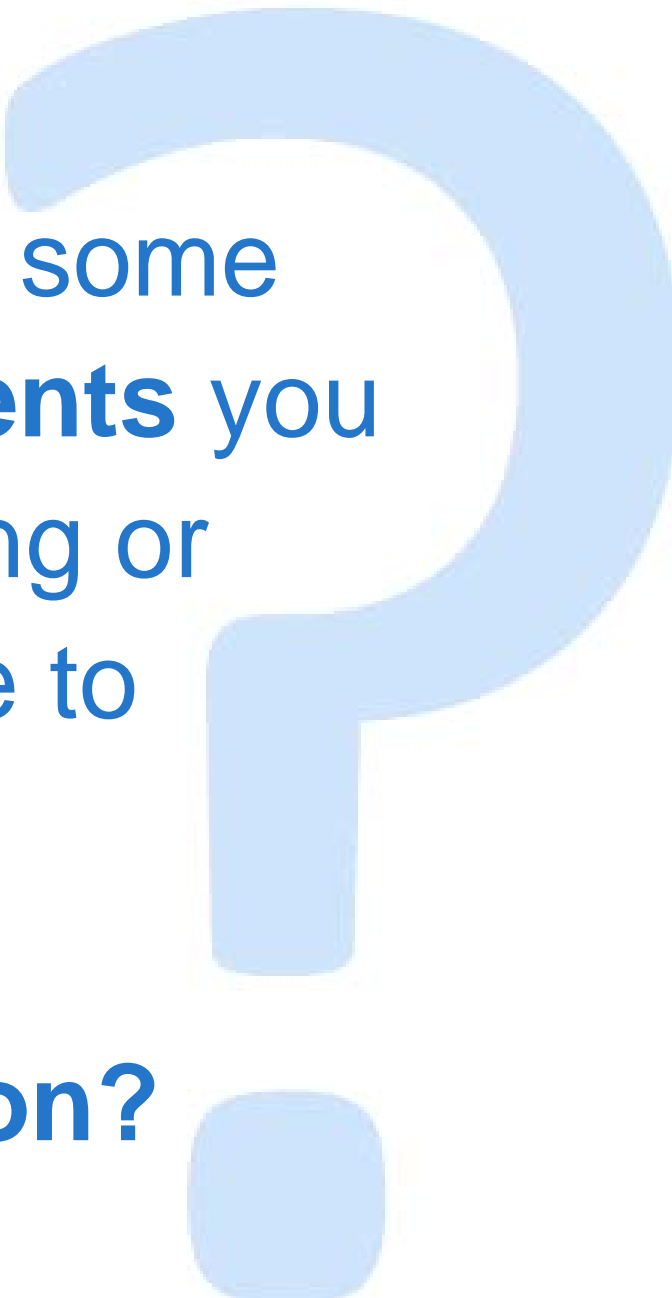
**Discussion  
Questions  
To Ponder...**  
As the  
University Continues  
**Dialogue About the  
Future**



How does  
**digital learning**  
fit into your overall  
**teaching**  
**strategy?**



How would  
you describe your  
**current digital  
learning  
work, assets  
and activities?**



What are some  
**investments** you  
are making or  
can make to  
**incubate**  
**teaching**  
**innovation?**



How do you see  
**digital learning**  
evolving your  
**teaching**  
**approaches**  
in the future?

# Achieving excellence in online learning. Won't you join us?



NETWORKING &  
COLLABORATION



PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT



INSTITUTIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT



RECOGNITION &  
AFFILIATION



ONLINE LEARNING™  
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FORMERLY THE SLOAN CONSORTIUM