

How Does Technology Influence Higher Education's Approaches To Teaching and Learning? What Are The Challenges and Opportunities In Integrating Technology In Teaching and Learning?

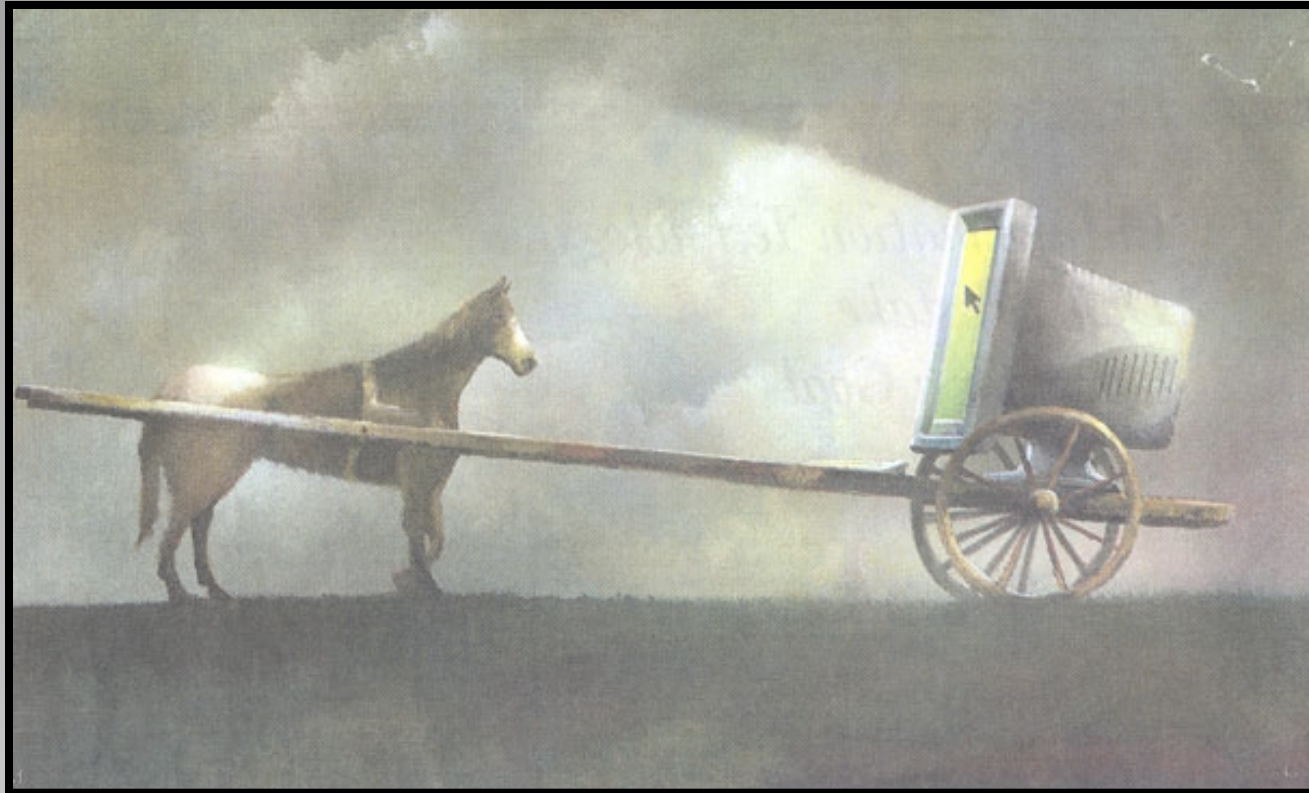


illustration by Michael Gibbs for The Chronicle

Challenges of E-Learning

- Aligning desire for more technology-enhanced learning with the institutional mission;
- Maintaining quality of instruction, while developing e-learning as a teaching tool;
- Providing assistance to faculty in delivering distance courses;
- Providing incentives for faculty (time and money) to develop on-line courses;

Challenges of E-Learning

- Prioritizing the distribution of resources (faculty, funds, facilities);
- Competing with fellow institutions and with for-profits;
- Addressing security issues/student authentication;
- Meeting infrastructure support needs (capacity, platform differences);
- Responding to asynchronous vs. synchronous delivery issues (adjustments to time zone differences)
- Responding to boards and various constituencies;
- Assessing distance education learning outcomes for internal and external audiences.

Opportunities in E-Learning

- Addressing diverse learning needs of multiple constituencies;
- Addressing the needs of various student and regional demographics;
- Developing on-line assessment tools, including e-portfolios;
- Image-building for institutions;
- Reaching different global markets and cultures;
- Sharing resources among institutions;
- Sharing best practices among institutions.

Faculty Development

- Not just learning how to use specific tools, but also reflecting on larger conceptual frameworks.
- Situate development not only within pedagogy but also within professional/disciplinary practice.
- Must have time and opportunities for development.

Reward and Recognition

- Tenure and Promotion
- Publishing and Scholarship (online and print)
- Disciplinary and Interdisciplinary opportunities
- Showcase events for work with students, esp. undergraduates
- Awards
- Assessment

Networks and Consortia

- EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative
- SCHEV Learning Technology Advisory Council
- Regional conferences / workshops with both pedagogical and disciplinary foci
- Undergraduate research

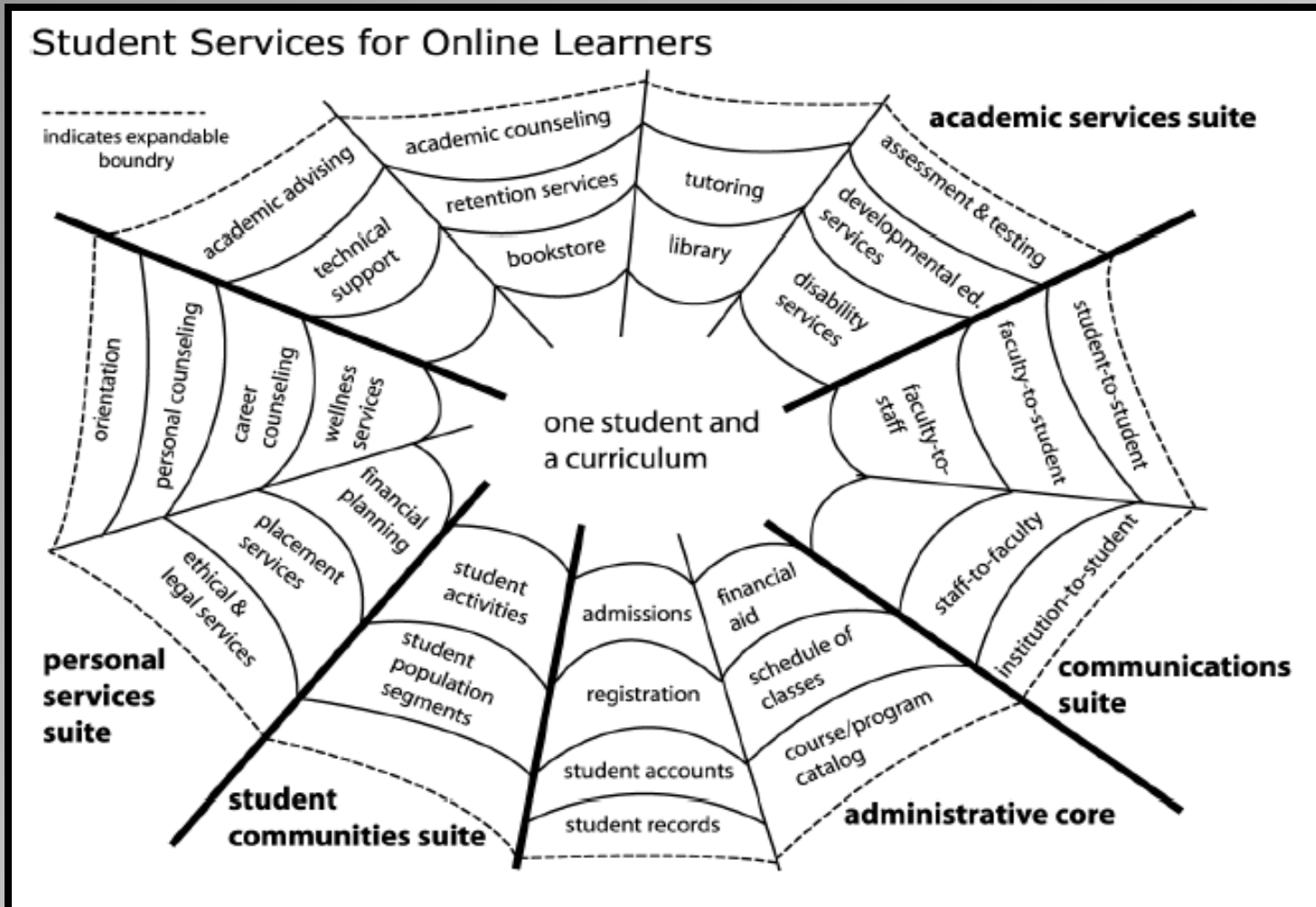
Today's Student

- Live with an abundance of technology and networks
- Look to information technology (IT) for convenience and to make it easy to connect to others
- Students spend a lot of time online
- Technology permeates all aspects of student life - its use as a tool has become paramount.
- IT facilitates student communication and academic feedback

Student Services

- Student services are important in terms of success and retention.
- Students expect and demand one voice and unified services from their single institution
- Students expect services to be available at a time and place convenient to them. This is most broadly achieved by putting services online.

Student Services for Online Learners



Source: WCET LAPP project.

Challenges

- Declining budgets
- Growing enrollments on-campus and online
- Increased accountability
- Student expectations
- Competition among institutions
- Smart usage of new technologies

Opportunities

- Decrease phone time
- Increase knowledge base of all employees on- and off-campus
- Students have access 24X7
- Increase access to an increasingly diverse demographic
- maintaining quality
- Hold down cost
- Satisfied students on- and off-campus