Teaching and learning online: a beginner’s guide to e-learning and e-teaching in higher education

Ron Oliver
Jan Herrington

Document Type
Book

Publisher
Centre for Research in Information Technology and Communications, Edith Cowan University

Place of Publication
Mount Lawley, Western Australia

School
Centre for Research in Information Technology and Communications

Abstract
The move to online learning has a huge groundswell of approval and support across all sectors of education and it is likely that this level of interest which has been growing steadily will continue to grow even further in the immediate future. There are a number of clear reasons that can be seen to sit behind the popularity of this form of technology-based education. Some of the more common factors and influences driving the uptake of online delivery include:

- Flexibility: In many institutions, administrators are seeing advantage in the flexibility that online learning settings create for course delivery. The technologies provide a capacity to tailor courses to the needs of learners and to provide support for program delivery to new markets;
- Economy: Many people are of the firm opinion that online delivery provides opportunities for cost savings over conventional delivery forms due to its ability to be scaled for mass delivery; and
- Enhanced learning: Some people see online delivery as a means to provide enhanced learning opportunities for students and as a means to help students become self-sufficient and capable self-learners.