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# **Beyond the MOOCs** Online Education and the Liberal Arts

Kenneth C. Green THE CAMPUS COMPUTING PROJECT www.campuscomputing.net

Council of Colleges of Arts & Sciences 14 March 2013 • Long Beach, CA



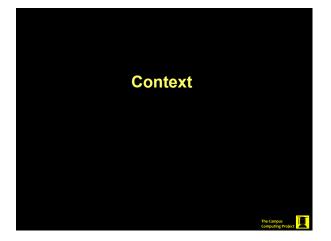
I'm Casey. I am the proud graduate of a liberal arts college.

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Peter Drucker on the Liberal Arts

Management "deals with action and application; and its test is its results. This makes it a technology," Drucker explained in *The New Realities.* "But management also deals with people, their values, their growth and development — and this makes it a humanity.... Management is thus what tradition used to call a 'liberal art': 'liberal' because it deals with the fundamentals of knowledge, self-knowledge, wisdom, and leadership; 'art' because it is practice and application."

"Managers draw on all the knowledge and insights of the humanities and the social sciences — on psychology and philosophy, on economics and on history, on the physical sciences and on ethics."

# Peter Drucker on the Condition of American Higher Education



universities won't survive... higher education is in deep crisis. Already we are beginning to deliver more lectures and courses offcampus via satellite or two-way video at a fraction of the cost [of traditional courses]. The college campus won't survive as a residential institution. Today's [campus] buildings are hopelessly unsuited and totally unneeded . . .

"Still The Youngest Mind" Forbes Magazine Interview, 1997

# What Do We Know?

The conversation about MOOCs is really a discussion about online education.



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Elephants in the Room				
High touch vs. high tech	Tech-enabled high touch			
Technology saves money	Unmet expectations: the elusive quest for academic productivity			
Online ed is "as good or better" than classroom ed	Mixed evidence; context matters			
Students are "tech savvy"	GGTT are not core tech skills for the new economy			
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### Big Gains for Online Ed, 2002-2010

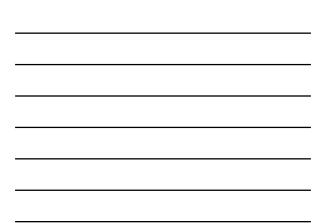
	Fall 2002	Fall 2005	Fall 2008	Fall 2010	% Change 2002-10	
Total US Higher Ed Enrollment	16.1 M	17.43 M	19.1 M	19.6 M	+22 pct.	
Students Taking One Online Course	1.6 M	3.2 M	4.6 M	6.1 M	+380 pct.	
Online Enroll. as Pct. of Total Headcount	9.6%	18.2%	24.1%	31.3%	up 3x	
Source: Allen and Seaman, Going the Distance: Online Education in the United States, 2011						

Dramatic enrollment
gains for online ed over
the past decade

69 pct. of CAOs at forprofit colleges report that "online education is critical to the longterm strategy of my institution" vs. 77 pct. for public colleges and 54 pct. for private colleges.

**Presidents Support Online Ed** pct. of presidents who "agree" or "strongly agree" 100 Support reflects Increase tuition revenues Serve more lea . 90 mission and money issues 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 Pub- Pub- Pub- Comm Pvt- Pvt-DOC MA BA Colleges DOC MA Pvt-BA

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#### Large Numbers of High School Students Now Take Online Courses

- 2010 PROJECT TOMORROW REPORT: More than a fourth (27 pct.) of high school students take at least online online course.
- Alabama, Florida, and Michigan now mandate at least one online course for high school students; an online course requirement is now under discussion in Georgia, Idaho, and elsewhere.
- A growing number of state and campus-sponsored online courses and diploma programs for high school students: Florida Virtual School, Georgia Virtual School, Indiana Univ., Michigan Virtual University, North Carolina Virtual School, Penn State, U-Missouri, U-Texas, and the Wisconsin Virtual School, among others.

#### Technology vs. Time on Task



"Studies in which learners in the online condition spent more time on task than students in the faceto-face condition found a greater benefit for online learning."



- Flash point on the landscape of online education
- MODELS & METAPHORS: PBS? Oprah's Book Club?
- High attrition, little cash
- Current catalog focuses on upper-division and graduate level courses
- · Investment in research about learning
- MOOC clones

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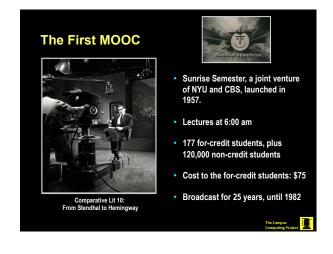






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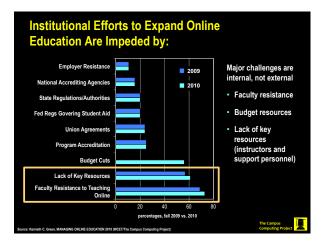
#### Credit is the Coin of the Realm

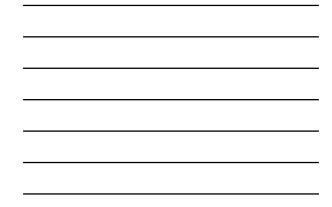
- For most institutions, "MOOCing" is a moot issue
- The real issue is academic credit
- Infrastructure is essential to deliver on the promise of access
- · Current institutional precedents
- Authentication and certification issues
- Catalyst for conversation about online ed
- Catalyst for a discussion about mission

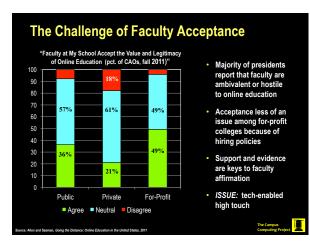




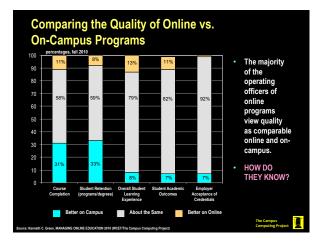
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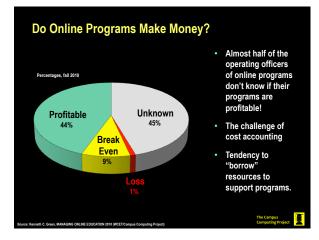
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#### **The Seven Components**

- VISION, MISSION & CONGRUENCE
- FACULTY: making the web "safe" for instructors
- CURRICULA: tech enabled high touch
- INFRASTRUCTURE: resources & services for students & faculty
- TECHNOLOGY: more than just the LMS
- INTEGRATION: "from stem to stern"
- ASSESSMENT & CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

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#### Vision, Mission & Congruence

- Why are we going online -- or expanding our online activities?
- What is the link to the institutional mission?
- Is online ed addressed in the strategic plan and self-study report?
- Does the online program complement the mission or supplement the revenue?

Presidents Support Online Ed							
100	To serv		To increase	9			
90	more le	arners	revenue				
80							
70		117					
60							
50							
40							
30							
20							
10							
0							
	ALL	Public	Private	For-Profit			
Source:	Green with Jasci (Inside Higher E	hik and Lederma Id Survey of Pre	an, Presidential I sidents)	Perspectives, 2011			
The Campus Computing Project							

#### Faculty

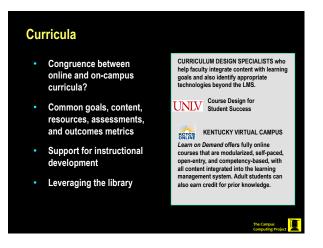
- Technology is a metaphor for change
- Faculty interest in and support for online ed?
- Instructional development?
- Training and instructional support?
- Evidence of instructional effectiveness
- Feedback? Data as a resource, not as a weapon.



MANAGING ONLINE ED SURVEY: More than half the survey participants mandate training for faculty who teach online courses; training averages 22 hours – a significant commitment for instructor and the institution.

US NEWS RANKINGS: top-ranked programs require training for faculty before they can teach online – and pays faculty while they participate in the training program.

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#### Infrastructure

Infrastructure gives life to the promise of access.

- Systemic/ecosystem approach to resources and services
- Student support services
- Instructional support for faculty
- Continuing assessment and improvement: how can we do better?

US NEWS RANKINGS: top-ranked programs offer extensive tech and career support services, live tutors, and more.

University of Maryland University College Leverages technology to foster a sense of community among UMUC students and faculty.



#### Technology

- Technology entitlements
- Looking beyond the LMS as the enabling technology for online education
- IT user support for students and faculty
- Self-assessment tools for students prior to enrollment
- Using the right tech tools for the appropriate ed tech tasks

MANAGING ONLINE ED SURVEY: Just a third of survey participants offer 24/7 tech support for students in online programs

US NEWS RANKINGS: top-ranked programs provide extensive tech support, typically 24/7. US NEWS LEADER: Arizona State University.

LECTURE CAPTURE: library of easily accessed –lectures to support instruction and learning



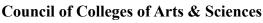
#### Integration

- "From stem to stern"
- Orientation = visualization
- Facilitating access, entry, registration, course participation, and completion

GPS LIFE PLAN, CENTURY COLLEGE Integrated approach that places students in charge of their personal and educ. Plans. Three components: one-stop web site for resources and services, an ePortfolio to track activities, and oncampus workshops and services.

DREXEL UNIV. ONLINE Drexel Pro offers a partnership program for corporations, school districts, and professional associations to support the professional development of currently employed individuals.

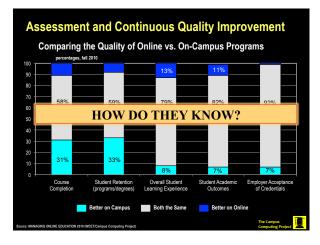
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#### **Assessment and Continuous Quality Improvement**

- "What must we do better?"
- · How and what are students learning?
- · How do we know?
- Online vs. on-campus courses and programs
- Employer input
- Feedback loops



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Nore than half the students at UCF take at least
one online course each term; online now
accounts for 30% of the credit hours for UCF's
6,000 students. Continuing commitment to
using data for program assessment and
development
   development
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#### **Going Online**

"Going online" requires colleges and universities – and campus officials – to commit to informed discussions about and thoughtful assessments of quality for both online and on-campus programs. The quality conversation involves more than simply comparing the performance of students in online vs. on-campus courses: ultimately, the conversation is about what all students learn and what learning environments and enabling resources and technologies foster student learning.



#### Implementation Issues

#### Priorities, Planning & Triage

- What do we do well? (on-campus and online)
- What must we do better? Why? (and how do we know?)
- When and how do we do it? (moving cup to lip)





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Kenneth C. Green is the founding director of The Campus Computing Project, the largest continuing study of the role of elearning and information technology in American colleges and universities. The project is widely cited as a definitive source for data information, and insight about IT issues affecting higher education. Green also serves as the senior research consultant to *Inside Higher Ed* and developed *Inside Higher Ed*'s surveys of college presidents and provosts.

Green is the author or editor of some 20 books and published research reports and more than 100 articles and commentaries that have appeared in academic journals and professional publications. His DigitariWeed big is published by Inside Higher Ed.

In 2002 Green received the first EDUCAUSE Award for Leadership in Public Policy and Practice. The EDUCAUSE award cites his work in creating The Campus Computing Project and recognizes his "prominence in the arena of national and international technology agendas, and the linking of higher education to those agendas."

A graduate of New College (FL), Green earned his Ph.D. in higher education and public policy at the University of California, Los Angeles.

