An Overview of Distance and Technology-Mediated Instruction in the State University System of Florida

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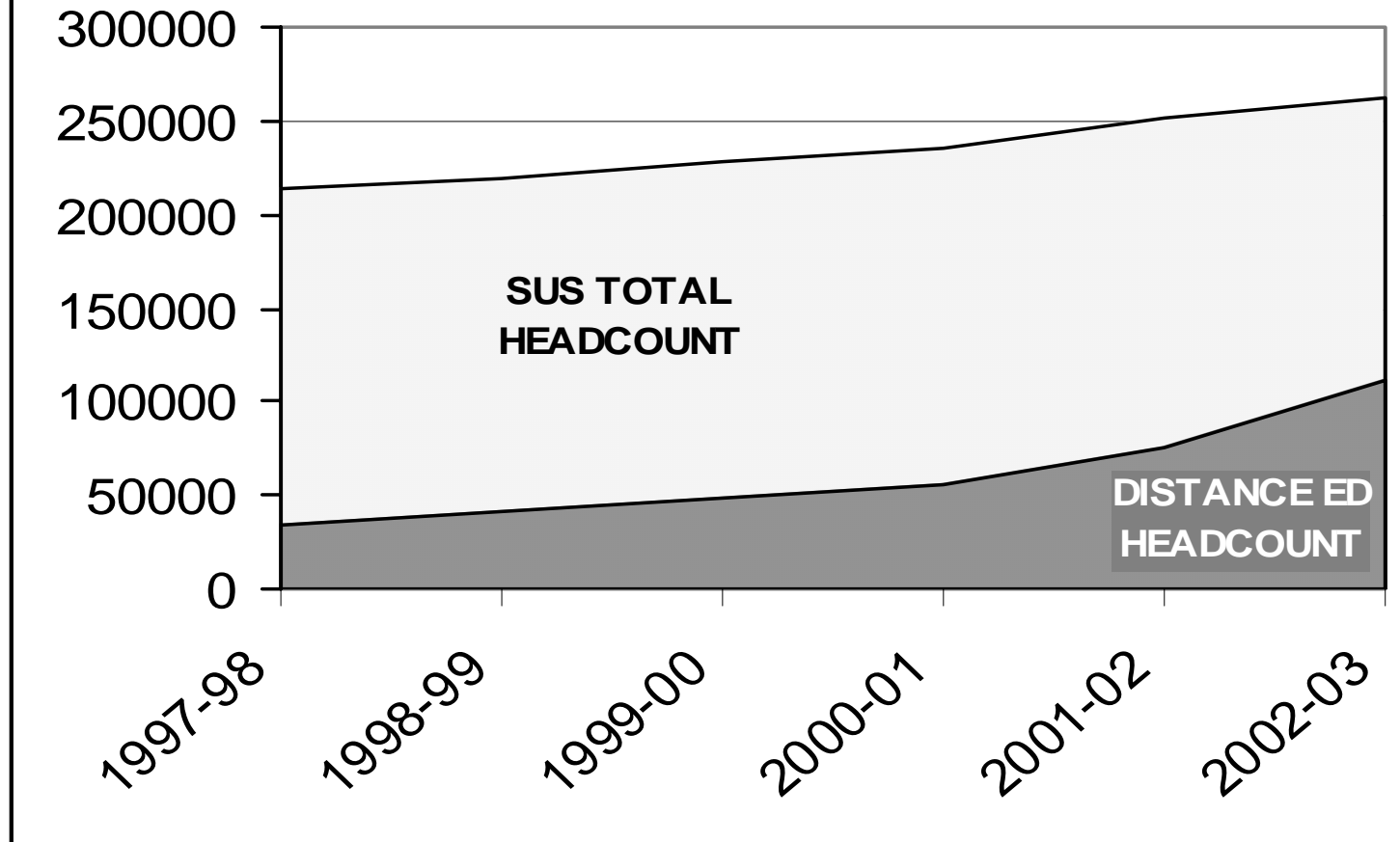
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Enrollment in distance and technology mediated instruction has seen strong growth at Florida's public universities over the past six years, closely following the growth in overall student enrollment up to 2002-03. The following pages include a bulleted list of key growth indicators, a chart that compares distance education enrollment with system total enrollment, a table that provides a breakdown of course offerings by associated technologies, and the most current inventory of degree and certificate programs offered primarily through distance education. The most current data represents Summer Term 2002, Fall Term 2002 and Spring Term 2003.

Growth Indicators and observations about distance education that were derived from the available data and university sources are:

- *Web Based* instruction increased by 43.6% over the previous year (includes Internet, Intranet and e-mail), and is the most common method of instructional technology used for course delivery for both distance education and technology-mediated instruction. In 1998-99 the most common technology for instructional delivery was video tape.

- *Instructional Materials* instruction increased by 64% over the previous year (includes a combination of various prepared items), and is now the second most common and fastest growing method of instructional technology used for distance education. Course sections have increased from 153 in 1999-00, to 909 in 2000-01, to 1,837 in 2001-02, and to 3,016 in 2002-03. This method was not measured separately prior to 1999.

- Approximately 67% of the distance education course sections (6,355) used more than one technology to deliver instruction. This is up from 25% last year, indicating increasingly diversified use of instructional technologies for course development.

- The total number of fundable credit hours for distance education courses has increased 48% over the previous year. The annual totals are: 167,231in 1998-99, 227,749 in 1999-00, 269,511 in 2000-01, 460,770.5 in 2001-02, and 682,872.5 in 2002-03.

- The total number of students enrolled in distance education continues to grow at a healthy rate each year with a 46% increase in headcount over the previous year. The annual headcount totals are: 34,563 in 1997-98, 40,449 in 1998-99, 49,398 in 1999-00, 56,198 in 2000-01, 76,098 in 2001-02; and 111,327 in 2002-03.

- The number of students enrolled in technology-mediated learning continues to grow more slowly (50,332 in 1999-00, 54,130 in 2000-01, 55,503 in 2001-02, and 58,580 in 2003-04). Enrollment prior to 1999-00 was not adequately captured in the database.

- Approximately 79% of the students enrolled in distance education courses are also enrolled in on-campus courses. This is a significant drop in a percentage that remained fairly constant over the previous five years, hovering around 90 percent. While the change could be a one year statistical anomaly, it also might indicate greater acceptance of distance education among the student population, or be driven by the greater number of complete degree programs now available. This change is illustrated in the growth chart on page two.

- The number of students who appear to be pursuing their studies only through distance education increased steadily over the first three years measured (1,511 in 1997-98 to 3,375 in 1998-99, to 5,305 in 1999-00), decreased to 4,687 for 2000-01, and jumped to 7,101 for 2001-02 and 8,849 in 2002-03. Of the 2002-03 students, 2,700 appear to be non-degree seeking, possibly interested only in professional development or gaining courses to transfer.

Growth in Distance Education in the State University System of Florida

NOTE Spike in 2002-03. This represents the drop from 90% to 79% for the number of students enrolled in both distance education and on-campus courses.

SUS Total Headcount is derived from the SUS Fact Books, using the Fall headcount for each year. Distance Ed headcount is derived from the Student Data Course File and would include any new enrollments in Spring and Summer of each year. For this reason, the two data sets may not be a direct one-to-one correlation, but are close enough to make a reasonable comparison.

State Universities Distance Education Courses Summary (Includes Summer 2002, Fall 2002, and Spring 2003)

Source: Student Data Course File and I&R Data File, using technology categories as defined for Data Element '01418' and Remote Learning Indicators as defined by Data Element '01417'.

| Instructional Delivery Indicator | Course Sections using Technology as the Primary Method of Instructional Delivery (Distance & Distributed Learning) | | | | | | | | | | | Student Head-count |
| | Number of Course Sections by Primary Technology Indicator | | | | | | | Course Summary | | | | |
	AUD TAPE	INSTR MTRLS	TELE COURSE	VIDEO CLASS	VIDEO AUDIO	VIDEO CONF	WEB BASED	Total Course Sections	Fund Credit Hours UG	Fund Credit Hours GRAD		
Asynchronous	17	153	71	908	5	1	1937	3092	210,219	37,946.5		Combined for all course sections
Synchronous	149	2833	19	127	356	384	1394	5262	312,906	47,748		
Mixed (less than 75%Synch or Asynch)	11	30	0	73	3	2	957	1076	52,846	21,207		
TOTALS	177	3016	90	1108	364	387	4288	9430	575,971	106,901.5		111,327

Course Sections using Technology as the Secondary Method of Instructional Delivery (Technology Mediated Learning)												
Combined For All Instructional Delivery Indicators	Number of Course Sections by Secondary Technology Indicator											
	142	2968	3	43	67	241	4178	7642	476,661	54,961		58,580

NOTES: (1) Technology Delivery Indicator Data Elements: AUD TAPE = Audio Tape or Audio Conferencing / INSTR MTRLS = Instructional Materials (combination of items such as video tape, CD-ROM, DVD, print) / TELE COURSE = Professionally produced courses broadcast on local TV channels / VIDEO CLASS = Videotaped Classroom Sessions / VIDEO AUDIO = One-way Video & Two-way Audio / VIDEO CONF = Two way Video Conferencing / WEB BASED = Internet or Intranet.

(2) Student Headcount is not duplicated by university, but may be duplicated across universities (i.e., student may be enrolled in one university and taking courses from another), and may be duplicated across the two categories of "Primary" and "Secondary" in the table above.

(3) This table does not include course section and enrollment information for courses offered through Continuing Education on a cost recovery basis. The number of students enrolled in distance learning degree and certificate programs offered on a cost recovery basis are estimated at greater than 1,000 systemwide.

State University Degree Programs offered primarily through Distance Education

The following table identifies degree programs for which the majority of courses are offered using distance education delivery modes. Some of the programs identified may be place-bound by virtue of delivery method or accreditation standards. An asterisk (*) indicates a program designed primarily for practicing professionals.

CURRENT UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS		
B.S. Business Administration ~ UF	Bachelor of Fire Science ~ UF	B.S. Interdisciplinary Social Science ~ FSU
B.S. Computer Sciences ~ FSU	B.S. Health Sciences ~ FGCU	RN to BSN - Nursing * ~ FGCU, UCF, USF, FAU, FSU
B.S. Criminal Justice ~ FGCU	B.S. Health Services Administration ~ UCF	B.S. Software Engineering ~ FSU
B.S. Engineering ~ USF	B.S. Hospitality Management ~ FIU	B.S. Vocational Education & Industrial Training ~ UCF
B.S. Engineering Technology ~ UCF	B.A. or B.S. in Liberal Studies ~ UCF	B.S. International Business ~ FIU
B.S. Engineering Tech. - Instructional Support ~ UWF	B.S. Information Studies ~ FSU	B.S. Legal Studies ~ FGCU

CURRENT GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMS		
Doctor of Audiology (Aud.D.)* ~ UF	Master of Gifted Education ~ USF	M.S. Mechanical Engineering ~ FSU
Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.)* ~ UF, FAMU	Master of Health Administration ~ UF	M.S. Occupational Therapy ~ FIU, UF
Masters in Accounting & MBA Accounting ~ FAU	Master of Health Science ~ FGCU	M.S. Open and Distance Learning ~ FSU
Master of Agriculture/ Ag Ed & Communications ~ UF	Master of Health Science in Occupational Therapy ~ UF	Master of Public Administration ~ FGCU
Master of Agriculture/ Agribusiness Mgmt. ~ UF	Masters in Hospitality Management ~ FIU	Master in Public Health ~ USF
Master of Business Administration ~ UF, FAU, FGCU, FIU	M.Ed. ETMS-Instructional Technologies ~ UWF	Master's Public Health Administration ~ FIU
MFA Computer Art ~ FAU	MA Instructional/Educational Technology ~ UCF	M.S. Speech Pathology and Audiology ~ FSU /UWF
M.S. Criminology and Criminal Justice ~ FSU	M.S. Industrial Chemistry, Forensic Science ~ UCF	Executive Masters of Taxation ~ FAU
M.S. Criminal Justice ~ UCF	Master in Information Studies ~ FSU	M.S. Varying Exceptionalities (Education) ~ Inter-university
Master of Curriculum & Instruction - Ed. Tech. ~ FGCU	Ed.S. Instructional Technology ~ USF	M.Ed. and M.A. Vocational Education ~ UCF
M.Ed Educational Media ~ UCF	Master International Construction Mgmt. ~ UF	M.S. Veterinary Medical Sci – Forensic Toxicology ~ UF
Master of Engineering ~ UCF, USF	Master of Nursing, MS Nursing ~ UF, UCF	M.Ed. Human Performance Technology ~ UWF
M.S. Forensic Sciences ~ FIU	MSN Nurse Anesthesiology ~ FIU	M.A. in Latin ~ UF
M.E. or M.S. with concentrations in Mechanics & Aerospace Engr, Biomedical Engr, Computer & Information Sci & Engr, Electrical and Computer Engr, and Materials Engr. ~ UF	M.S. Pharmacy with concentrations in Forensic DNA & Serology, and Forensic Drug Chemistry ~ UF	Ph.D. in Classics with concentrations in Classical Civilization and Latin & Roman Studies ~ UF

CURRENT CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS		
Community College Education ~ UCF	Health Services Administration ~ FGCU	Professional Writing ~ UCF
ESOL Teaching Endorsement ~ FGCU, USF	Instructional/Educational Technology ~ UCF	Biomedical Engineering ~ UF
Forensic Science ~ FIU	Gifted Education ~ USF	Environmental Policy ~ UF
Gerontology ~ FAU, FIU, FGCU	Drug Chemistry ~ UF	Paralegal ~ FIU
Materials Science & Engineering ~ UF	Forensic Toxicology ~ UF	Therapeutic Recreation ~ FGCU
Forensic DNA & Serology ~ UF	Nonprofit Management ~ UCF	
Instructional Technology ~ USF	Open and Distance Learning ~ FSU	

PROGRAMS UNDER DEVELOPMENT		
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering ~ UF	M.S. Industrial Engineering, Eng. Mgmt. ~ UCF	Certificate in Careers in Technical Education ~ UWF
BSN Nursing (RN to BSN) ~ FIU	Master of Instructional Technology ~ USF	Certificate in Environmental Health ~ FIU
BS Health Information Management ~ UCF	Master of Library & Information Sciences ~ USF	Certificate in Health Promotion ~ FIU
BS Maritime Studies ~ UWF	MS Non-Profit Management ~ UCF	Certificate in Geriatric Care Management ~ UF
AS to BS Radiologic Science ~ UCF	MS Nursing ~ USF	Graduate Certificate in Special Education ~ UCF
M.S. Criminology ~ FIU	MBA Risk Management and Insurance ~ FSU	Graduate Certificate in Web Design ~ USF
MFA Creative Writing ~ UCF	M.S. Science Education ~ FSU	Graduate Certificate in Instructional Design ~ USF
M.S. Educational Leadership/Admin ~ FSU	MS Social Work ~ FSU	Graduate Certificate in School Networks ~ USF
MS Forensic Science ~ UCF	Alternative Teacher Certification ~ UWF	Graduate Certificate in Multi Media ~ USF