

Megatrends in e-learning provision project

Report on United Kingdom, France, Ireland, Belgium and Luxembourg

1. United Kingdom

The UK government Higher Education Authority provided this list of major providers of e-learning in the UK:

- The University of Leicester
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Staffordshire University
- London Metropolitan University
- University of Ulster
- University of Glamorgan
- University of Hertfordshire
- Edgehill University
- The Open University
- University of Wolverhampton
- Strathclyde University

There is also the UK government e-training agency called Learn Direct.

Research on this listing of major providers of e-learning resulted as follows:

1. *The University of Leicester*

The head of e-learning at the University of Leicester is the well-known e-learning expert Professor Gilly Salmon. Gilly.salmon@le.ac.uk. Phone 00441162522440.

The university has 1000 modules on its Blackboard Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). It also has commenced work on mobile learning. All 19000 students at the university have access to the VLE with 7000 of them counting as e-learning enrolments in the terms of the Megatrends project.

The University of Leicester is therefore a Megaprovider of e-learning.

2. *Manchester Metropolitan University*

Professor Fred Lockwood, the well-known distance education expert, has recently retired as head of e-learning at Manchester Metropolitan University and has been succeeded by Dr R Reddy. R.j.reddy@mmu.ac.uk. Phone 00441612472000.

The university has 1000 e-learning modules which are available to over 30000 students at the university, 15000 of whom would qualify under the terms of the Megatrends project.

Manchester Metropolitan University is therefore a Megaprovider of e-learning.

3. *Staffordshire University*

Phone 00441782295738. The university has 350 e-learning courses. It has 5000-6000 students who would meet the Megatrends criteria, and they are enrolled in 12000 e-learning courses.

Staffordshire University is therefore a mega-provider of e-learning.

4. *London Metropolitan University*

There seemed to be little knowledge of or interest in e-learning or online learning at London Metropolitan University. There seemed to be no online courses and no e-learning enrolments.

5. *University of Ulster*

The University of Ulster e-learning programme is run by Professor Clive Mulholland and Dr Alan Masson. Phone 048 90366064.

www.campusone.ac.uk.

The University of Ulster runs 222 e-learning courses. These are:

[PGDip/MSc Biomedical Science \(F991PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Coastal Zone Management \(F739PC/F740PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Contemporary Developments in Geography \(F615PC/F616PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Contemporary Developments in Geography and Education \(F613PC/F614PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Cultural Management \(B730PC/B831PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Dementia Studies \(G828PJ/G559PJ\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Education \(Information and Communications Technology\) \(G822PJ/G824PJ\)](#)

[MSc eLearning: Interactive Teaching Technologies \(E611PJ\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Environmental Management \(F541PC/F543PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Environmental Toxicology & Pollution Monitoring \(F813PC/F814PC\)](#)

[PGCert/PGDip/MSc European Food Regulatory Affairs \(F992PC/F993PC/\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Forensic Medicine \(F655PJ/F656PJ\)](#)

[PGDip Further & Higher Education DL \(G920PJ\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Geographical Information Systems \(F636PC/F637PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Health and Social Care \(Primary Care and General Practice and Medical Revalidation Framework - Primary and Secondary Care\) Pathways \(G953PJ/G954PJ\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc International Business by E-Learning \(B678PM/B679PM\)](#)

[PGDip/MA Irish Cultural Heritages \(D517PC/D518PC\)](#)

[PGCert/PGDip/MSc LifeLong Learning \(G732PJ/G733PJ/G734PJ\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Maritime Archaeology \(F817PC/F818PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MA Museum Practice and Management \(D710PC/D711PC\)](#)

[PGDip/MSc Renewable Energy and Energy Management \(C552PJ/C553PJ\)](#)

[PGCert/PGDip/MSc Social Research Skills with Specialism\(s\) DL \(/G891PM/\)](#)

[Graduate Certificate Biomedical Science \(F985UC\)](#)

[IT Related modules](#)

[Business and Management modules](#)

[Social Science modules](#)

[Healthcare modules](#)

[Engineering modules](#)

[Science modules](#)

[Medical Sciences modules](#)

[Education modules](#)

[Earth Sciences modules](#)

[Cultural Heritages modules](#)

[3D Studio Max 6 - 3D Animation](#)

[3D Studio Max 6 - 3D Environments](#)

[3D Studio Max 6 - 3D Modelling](#)

[Adobe After Effects 5.5 / 6.0 Foundation](#)

[Adobe After Effects 5.5 / 6.0 Intermediate](#)

[Adobe Photoshop CS: Foundation](#)

[Adobe Photoshop CS: Intermediate](#)

[Adobe Premiere 6.0 : Foundation](#)

[Adobe Premiere 6.0 : Intermediate](#)

[Campus One E-Tutor Training Course](#)

[Clinical governance](#)

[Developing Nursing Practice](#)

[Disability Services](#)

[Enhancing Communication with People who have a Learning Disability](#)

[Flow Cytometry](#)

[Foundations of Adult Urinary Continence Promotion - NUR 633](#)

[Fundamental issues in learning disabilities](#)

[Health Promotion in Professional Practice \(HEP307J1/2\)](#)

[Introduction to Research](#)

[Macromedia Director Foundation MX 2004](#)

[Macromedia Director Intermediate MX 2004](#)

[Macromedia Dreamweaver MX 2004: Foundation](#)

[Macromedia Dreamweaver MX 2004: Intermediate](#)

[Macromedia Fireworks MX : Foundation](#)

[Macromedia Fireworks MX : Intermediate](#)

[Macromedia Flash MX 2004 : Foundation Level](#)

[Macromedia Flash MX 2004 : Intermediate](#)

[Macromedia Flash MX : Advanced](#)

[New Styles of Community Based Services - For People with Learning Disabilities](#)

[Principles of clinical management](#)

[Refractive Surgery by E-Learning](#)

[Relationships and sexuality in learning disability services](#)

[Research design and methods](#)

[Social and health policy](#)

The University of Ulster has 1300 fulltime online students each enrolled in many courses.

The University of Ulster is therefore a mega-provider of e-learning.

6. *University of Glamorgan*

Careful research could find only a few-learning courses with few enrolments.

The University of Glamorgan cannot therefore be regarded as a Mega-provider.

7. *University of Hertfordshire*

Careful research could find only a few-learning courses with few enrolments.

The University of Hertfordshire cannot therefore be regarded as a Mega-provider.

8. *Edgehill University*

Careful research could find only a few-learning courses with few enrolments.

Edgehill University cannot therefore be regarded as a Mega-provider.

9. *The Open University of the United Kingdom*

Phone 00441908274066. www.open.ac.uk. All students are distance education students.

It is estimated that online versions have been produced for 375 OU courses. It is estimated that 11000 OU enrolments can be considered as e-learning enrolments.

The Open University of the United Kingdom is therefore a mega-provider of e-learning.

10. *University of Wolverhampton*

The University of Wolverhampton has an extensive blended learning programme in which e-learning plays a part. The system runs on the WebCT Virtual Learning Environment and provides local support for local people.

The University of Wolverhampton is not therefore regarded as a Mega-provider.

11. *Strathclyde University*

Phone 00441415524400. Strathclyde University is a major Scottish university. It has a Web CT office and an active e-learning programme. This has 50 online courses for an enrolment of 200 fully online students.

Strathclyde University is not therefore regarded as a Mega-provider.

12. *Learn Direct*

Learn Direct is presented thus by the UK government National Audit Office:

Seven million adults in the U K have no formal qualifications. And as recently as 2003, an estimated 26 million people of working age did not meet one or both standards of literacy and numeracy that the Department for Education and skills considers necessary for school leavers in today's economy. While many UK employers educate and train their workforce to the standards of their best competitors, others provide little training. Our workforce productivity lags behind that of countries where the workforce has higher levels of skills.

Awareness of learndirect among adult population (summer 2005) 74 %
Awareness of learndirect services for businesses among employers summer (2005) 37 %

learndirect e-learning

Total number of Learndirect learners (to end July 2005) 1.7 million
Total number of Learndirect course take-ups (to end July 2005) 4.0 million

Learners who have not done any learning in last three years 65%
Percentage of learners progressing on to other Learndirect courses 59%
Small and medium-sized enterprises that have used learndirect 0.2 million

0.5 million people are using UK online centres every year. Many had never used the internet before, almost two-thirds are from the 2,000 most deprived and geographically disadvantaged communities in England and 80 % are from key disadvantaged target groups.

1.7 million people have taken over 4 million courses through Learn Direct. Two-thirds of learners had not done any learning in the last three years. Learn Direct is attracting increasing numbers of learners with lower than level 2 qualifications: in 2004-05, 60 per cent of learners were pre-level 2. Currently, over 70 per cent of learners are completing courses and over 50 per cent are achieving their goals.

Learn Direct has provided e-learning training to 2.000.000 citizens. It has 500 online courses and enrolls 400.000 students annually.

Learn Direct is an e-learning Megaprovider.

2. France

The French government Ministry of Education, of Higher Education and of Research provided this list of major providers of e-learning in France with their websites:

- UMFV : université médicale virtuelle francophone (The French Medical Virtual University) <http://www.umvf.prd.fr>
- UNJF : université numérique juridique francophone (The French Digital Law programme) <http://www.unjf.fr>
- UNIT : université numérique ingénierie et technologie (The Digital Engineering and Technology University) <http://www.unit-c.fr>
- AUNEGE : association des universités pour l'enseignement numérique en Economie-Gestion (University Association for Digital Teaching in Economics and Management) <http://www.aunege.org/>.
- UVED: université virtuelle environnement et développement durable (The Environmental and Sustainable Development Digital University) <http://www.uved.fr>
- UOH : université ouverte des humanités (Humanities Open University). In the process of creation.
- UEL : université des sciences fondamentales (Basic Sciences University) In the process of creation.

Today e-learning in France is organised in *Campus virtuels* (Virtual campuses) and *Universités Numériques Thématiques* (UNT) (Thematic Digital Universities). The virtual campuses were created in the years 2000-2002 as projects funded by the Ministry of Education. More recently these virtual campuses were amalgamated into Thematic Digital Universities.

What are UNTs?

The digital thematic universities (UNTs) were founded by the French government for the sharing and development of French national digital resources in important areas of higher education. They are the products of all institutions and are grouped by themes: medicine, law, engineering, economics and management, human sciences, environmental sciences. In 2006 there are 5 UNTs established and 2 more are in development. They bring together most of the former virtual campuses which began as projects funded by the Ministry in 2000-2002.

15 – 50 Universities or institutions of higher education are involved in each UNT. The UNTs seek to establish the best synergy possible between institutions to develop their activities:

- Sharing of existing pedagogical resources in the thematic areas
- Development of the activities of the virtual campuses in the area
- Production of new, high-quality, digital pedagogical resources in the area
- Access to the maximum number of students possible to the resources on the internet
- Training for staff and students.

The digital thematic universities (UNTs) form part of the worldwide movement of access to digital resources. They are based on the decision of the Ministry of Education to support the development of digital content and its use.

The goal of the UNTs is to bring together all the institutions who work in the thematic area and to bring about the sharing of the production of resources. They offer access on the internet to pedagogical resources which will strengthen French achievements in the thematic area and make knowledge and know-how available to a maximum number of students and users.

Research at the different UNTs is as follows:

1. *Université médicale virtuelle francophone (The French Medical Virtual University)*

UMVF : The head of the UMVF is Albert-Claude BENHAMOU : albert-claude.benhamou@recherche.gouv.fr

The UMVF is a Public Interest Grouping (GIP) created jointly by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Economics, Finance and Industry on 13 August 2003.

The GIP is a Federation of higher education institutions whose mission is to put in place Information and Communications Technologies (TIC) for the initial

and continuing training of health professionals.

28 universities are today members of the federation :

| Ville | Université | Faculté |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Amiens | Université de Picardie Jules-Verne | Pôle Santé Saint Charles |
| Angers | Université d'Angers | Faculté de Médecine d'Angers |
| Antilles - Guyane | Université des Antilles et de la Guyane | UFR des Sciences Médicales |
| Besançon | Université de Franche-Comté | UFR Sciences Médicales et Pharmaceutiques |
| Bordeaux | Université Victor Segalen - Bordeaux 2 | UFR Médicales |
| Bourgogne | Université de Bourgogne | Faculté de Médecine de Dijon |
| Brest | Université de Bretagne occidentale | Faculté de Médecine de Brest |
| Grenoble | Université Joseph Fourier - Grenoble-I | UFR de Médecine |
| Lille | Université du Droit et de la Santé - Lille 2 | Faculté de Médecine de Lille |
| Limoges | Université de Limoges | Faculté de Médecine de Limoges |
| Marseille | Université de la Méditerranée Aix-Marseille-II | Faculté de Médecine de Marseille |
| Montpellier | Université Montpellier-I | Faculté de Médecine de Montpellier |
| Nancy | Université Henri Poincaré - Nancy-I | Faculté de Médecine de Nancy |
| Nantes | Université de Nantes | UFR de Médecine et techniques médicales |
| Nice | Université de Nice-Sophia Antipolis | Faculté de Médecine de Nice |
| Paris 5 | Université René Descartes - Paris-V | Faculté de Médecine René Descartes Paris 5 |
| Paris 6 | Université Pierre et Marie Curie - Paris-VI | Faculté de Médecine Pierre et Marie Curie |
| Paris 11 | Université Paris-Sud - Paris 11 | Faculté de Médecine Paris-Sud |
| Paris 12 | Université Paris XII Val-de-Marne | Faculté de Médecine de Créteil |
| Paris 13 | Université de Paris-Nord - Paris 13 | UFR Léonard de Vinci |

| | | |
|------------|--|---|
| Poitiers | Université de Poitiers | Faculté de Médecine de Poitiers |
| Reims | Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne | UFR de Médecine |
| Rennes | Université de Rennes-I | Faculté de Médecine de Rennes |
| Rouen | Université de Rouen | Faculté de Médecine de Rouen |
| Strasbourg | Université Louis Pasteur de Strasbourg | Faculté de Médecine de Strasbourg |
| Toulouse | Université de Toulouse Paul Sabatier | Faculté de Médecine (Purpan et Rangueil) |
| Tours | Université François Rabelais de Tours | Faculté de Médecine de Tours |
| Versailles | Université de Versailles - Saint Quentin en Yvelines | Faculté de Médecine Paris-Ile-de-France-Ouest |

The headquarters of the UMVF is at the University of Lille 2 and the management of the Federation is:

Président : M. le Pr. José SAVOYE
Tél : 03.20.62.77.51

Directeur : M. le Pr. Albert-Claude BENHAMOU
Tél :00333.20.62.77.52

Secrétaire Général
:
Mlle Anne de LAMOTTE
Tél : 03.20.62.77.53

2. *Université numérique juridique francophone (The French Digital University Law programme)*

The head of the UNJF UNT is Yann Tanguy at the University of Nantes.
Phone 00332 40 14 15 50. Yann.Tanguy@droit.univ-nantes.fr.

The UNJF is a voluntary grouping of universities and associated partners who wish to put together the means and resources for the development of distance education.

Today the membership is

[http://www.unjf.fr/P_Tlse/0/fiche_defaultstructureksup/Université Toulouse 1 Sciences Sociales à Toulouse : Faculté de Droit](http://www.unjf.fr/P_Tlse/0/fiche_defaultstructureksup/Université_Toulouse_1_Sciences_Sociales_à_Toulouse_Faculté_de_Droit)

http://www.unjf.fr/P_Rennes/0/fiche_defaultstructureksup/Université
Rennes I : Faculté de Droit et de Science Politique

http://www.unjf.fr/S_Limoge/0/fiche_defaultstructureksup/Université de
Limoges : Faculté de Droit et des Sciences Economiques

http://www.unjf.fr/P_Versai/0/fiche_defaultstructureksup/Université de
Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines : Faculté de Droit et de Science politique

Université Montpellier 1 : Faculté de Droit

Université Paul-Cézanne - Aix-Marseille III : Faculté de Droit

Centre universitaire de formation et de recherche Jean-François Champollion
à Albi : Faculté de Droit

Université Lyon 3 Jean Moulin Faculté de droit

Université de Nantes : Faculté de Droit et de Sciences politiques

http://www.unjf.fr/S_Clermt/0/fiche_defaultstructureksup/Université
Clermont Ferrand 1 : Faculté de Droit et de Science Politique

Université d'Avignon et Pays du Vaucluse

Université Montesquieu Bordeaux IV : Faculté de droit

Université Pierre Mendès-France - Grenoble II : Faculté de Droit

Université Robert Schuman à Strasbourg : Faculté de droit

Université de Lille 2 : Faculté des sciences juridiques, politiques et sociales

Université de Paris Val de Marne : Faculté de droit

Université de la Réunion : Faculté de droit et d'économie de la Réunion

Université de Nancy 2

Université de Panthéon-Sorbonne (Paris 1)

Université d'Orléans

Université de Panthéon-Assas (Paris 2)

http://www.unjf.fr/cned/0/fiche_defaultstructureksup/Centre_national_d'enseignement_a_distance

France has 173000 law students and these elearning courses are available to 80000 of them. The UNJF has 54 online courses including the full programme for Bachelor of Laws III and the full programme for Master of Law I. The courses are designed with up to date pedagogical techniques including interactive modules and computer corrected assignments This is in great contrast to the traditional teaching of Law in French universities which tends to be face-to-face in large lecture theatres.

It is not known how many students are enrolled in the e-learning programme nor is this a statistic that is of importance to the UNJF authorities. What is important for them is that every student of Law in France has the right to enrol.

3. *Université numérique ingénierie et technologie (The Digital Engineering and Technology University)*

UNIT : The head of UNIT is Gilbert TOUZOT : touzot.gilbert@insa.rouen.fr

The consortium UNIT brings together all the public and private higher education bodies in the sciences of Engineering and Technology who wish to share digital resources, tools, experiences, and to co-pilot projects in Information and Communications Technologies for Education. It proposes a large diffusion on the Internet of digital resources capable of reinforcing the quality and the visibility of the educational courses offered by the partners of UNIT.

4. *Association des universités pour l'enseignement numérique en Economie-Gestion (University Association for Digital Teaching in Economics and Management)*

AUNEGE : The head of AUNEGE is Michel Armatte : Michel.ARMATTE@dauphine.fr

The UNT AUNEGE brings together the digital programmes of 15 universities (about 150000 potential students and is in existence for one year, being founded in 2005. Its goal is the sharing of micro- and macro-resources

between the universities in the field of Economics/Management, both in association with face-to-face and with distance education. At the moment 80% of the resources of AUNEGE come from the virtual campus CANEGE, while it waits for the contributions from the other universities. A catalogue of available courses is being developed at www.aunege.org .

5. *Université virtuelle environnement et développement durable (The Environmental and Sustainable Development Digital University programme)*

The head of UVED is Carole Nocera-Picand of the University of Rennes I
Phone 00332 23 23 39 60 carole.nocera-picand@univ-rennes1.fr and
Delthine Pommeray delthine.pommeray@uned.rennes1.fr .

UVED is still in its first year and research is under way on the pedagogical characteristics of e-learning materials. There are as yet no online courses and no e-learning enrolments. The first online courses are scheduled for December 2006.

6. *Université ouverte des humanités (Humanities Open University)*

UOH : The head of UOH is Gérard Toninato :
gerard.toninato@education.gouv.fr

This UNT is in the process of creation.

The UOH focuses on the Faculties of Human and Social Sciences, Institutes of Psychology and IUTs (Departments of ~Social Careers, Departments of Information-Communication).

The statute foreseen for this UNT is that of an inter-academic service. The first courseware will be in the field of the 'essentials' and 'great lessons' of the Humanities together with indexes to already existing resources. The target for the first courses is the Licence degree especially L1. The UNT will also be used in the fight against failure in L1 and L2 and will also be used to provide a common basis for the universities by identifying 'key concepts' online for beginning students. This is the first stage addressed to all universities teaching in the social sciences, languages and literature.

7. *Université des sciences fondamentales (Basic Sciences University)*

This UNT is in the process of creation.

8. *CANEGE*

CANEGE (www.canege.org) is a digital campus in Economics and Management which has existed since 2000 and brings together 5 universities:

- Université Paris Dauphine
- Université Pierre Mendès France Grenoble 2
- Université Nancy 2
- Université of Nice Sophia Antipolis
- Université de Paris Sud

and the CNED

- Centre National d'Enseignement à Distance (French National Distance Education Centre).

It is totally in the field of distance education and offers a complete programme of 70 modules by e-learning. These modules are accredited degree courses (100 hours study each) for programmes from levels Bac+1 to Bac+5. The degrees offered are the DEUG, Licence, Maîtrise(=M1) , Masters (M1 and soon M2). There are about 400 students per year.

The role of CANEGE is to become the distance education development centre for AUNEGE.

3. Belgium

Research has identified the following major providers of e-learning in Belgium:

1. Belgacom

Belgacom is the Belgian national telecommunications agency. It runs the Belgacom Corporate University (BCU) which provides e-learning training for company staff and to a limited extent to the general public.

The BCU has over 100 courses which are available for company training and to a certain extent to the general public. Over the course of a year several thousands of students would take these courses.

Flemish community

2. U and I Learning

UNI-Learning is a large Belgian e-learning provider. The CEO is Francis de Clerc. They present themselves thus:

We are passionate about developing and delivering effective e-learning and content solutions that help people to perform better. Our best practices and

proven instructional designs ensure that your employees, customers and partners get the skills and knowledge they need, to move your business forward.

U&I Learning is passionate about developing and delivering compelling, results-oriented and custom e-learning solutions that enable people to perform better. Our solutions have a direct impact on job performance by teaching the precise skills and knowledge that your employees need on the job. U&I Learning's experience goes beyond the need for training. We offer services for various industries, including banking and insurance, pharmaceutical and health care, manufacturing and distribution, and the public sector.

Our e-learning technology is based on the *Learning Service 5 architecture*. This architecture is designed to create, deliver, coach, monitor and administer learning activities via the Internet. Learning Service 5 accelerates knowledge development and management. It offers coaching facilities and assessment tools, improving corporate processes and operational flows. Its open technology allows you to create your own courses or plug in external content.

3. *VDAB*

VDAB is the Flemish Vocational Training Authority. Besides its extensive face-to-face training courses it also has a large role in e-learning training.

VDAB has a large e-learning operation, providing courses for the unemployed and job seekers. Because the e-learning courses are free of charge they are very popular.

VDAB has 430 online courses and in 2005 had an enrolment of 30000.

4. *KU Leuven*

E-learning at the KU Leuven is run by the AV Net. The head of the AV Net is Wim van Pettegem. Phone 003216327813.
wim.vanpetegem@avnet.kuleuven.ac.be.

All 25000 students at the university do digital learning. The university is a mixed mode institution which provides e-learning for all students on campus.

5. *Instruxion*

Instruxion is a major e-learning provider. Its CEO is Geert Coppens. Phone 003223005656.

Instruxion is a developer of e-learning courseware. They focus on advanced courseware development, using advanced formats, multimedia and voice over support. They believe that the market considers text based courses and reading based courses are unsatisfactory. All their courses, therefore, are

animated and have voice over. Much of their courseware is tailor made for customers.

Instruxion is a young company but its course profile is growing rapidly and they are working with international partners in the development of e-learning solutions. For the delivery of their courses they work with the 3 largest web providers in Belgium: MSN, Telenet, Skynet. These companies run the web content and consumers can subscribe to the courses and view the content. Instruxion also have a range of courses focused on the home user: courses on software, Word and Excel; on home related subjects like First Aid and Spanish for Travellers.

They present themselves thus:

Instruxion is a fast growing Belgian e-learning company and as a real trend setter offers cutting edge e-learning based on the unique “high impact” concept, without doubt the best e-learning concept available on the market today. Instruxion specializes in the creation of online multimedia e-learning content, using a powerful combination of strong pedagogical and graphical design.

This online learning content is offered in a new, different and very attractive format: animated, interactive, and guided by a professional voice-over. This “high impact” format ensures that a company’s investment in training for employees or marketing communication towards a specific target audience is very effective and reaches its business goals. The combination of the attractive format with carefully designed didactical content is a strong differentiator in the e-learning industry. Instruxion develops content for both national (Belgian) as international customers, and for all kinds of target audiences, regardless of their education level: technical, sales & marketing, employees or end users, and even the general public.

A new way of learning. More than just online text reading. Instruxion helps organisations reach their business objectives with a new approach to e-learning and market education. We develop attractive and effective content, aligned with business goals and customised to your needs. We provide new learning experiences, which engage the online user and achieve real and measurable learning. We create online learning and marketing solutions that impact knowledge, skills and behaviour.

French community

6. Université de Liège

E-learning at the University of Liège is led by Marianne Pomeroy. Phone 003222024111. She heads an e-learning department of 35 staff.

The University of Liège, Belgium, has more than 145 online courses and 14.000 FTE enrolments on a WebCT campus licence. The virtual campus at

the university is administered by LabSET, a unit of IFRES. Every student who enrolls at the university is given a WebCT address and they do varying numbers of courses by e-learning: some 1 or more; some 5 to 10. There is an on-going debate on whether they should stay with WebCT.

The University of Liège is therefore a Mega-provider of e-Learning.

7. *Université Libre de Bruxelles*

The head of e-learning at the Université Libre de Bruxelles is Eric Uyttebrouck. <mailto:euyttebrouck@admin.ulb.ac.be>.

The Université Libre de Bruxelles has more than 100 online courses and a large enrolment from a university with about 20000 students. He heads a department with less than 10 staff. The department is very active internally in the university.

8. *Forem*

Forem is the vocational training authority for the French-speaking community in Belgium. It corresponds to VDAB on the Flemish side. The head of e-learning is Odile du Pont.

Forem is a large organisation which runs vocational training courses all the way from face-to-face to fully online. Students can study totally online or face-to-face with 1-2 hours of e-learning. Forem have recently adopted a new Learning Management System and have set out to make their products more uniform and change the e-learning landscape.

Forem, like its counterpart VDAB, provides courses for the unemployed and job seekers.

4. **Ireland**

The leading providers of e-learning in Ireland are:

1. *Dublin City University*

Dublin City University was the first major university in the world to adopt the Open Source Learning Management System (LMS)/Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) Moodle.

The Irish National Distance Education Centre (Oscail) is run as a faculty of Dublin City University.

The head of e-learning at the University is Dr Jean Hughes. Phone 003531-7005606.

All 3400 of DCU's academic modules are set up online on the Moodle system. 800 of these are actively used for e-learning. There are also 70 active courses

used for on credit purposes (courses to support students at the programme level, course used as staff communications areas.)

The following programmes are available completely online:

Through Oscail:

MSc in Information Systems for Managers
MSc in Internet Systems
MSc in Management of Operations

Through the School of Physical Sciences:

Undergraduate Certificate in Fundamentals of Plasma and Vacuum Studies

Through the Remote Access to Continuing Engineering (RACeE) programme

Masters in Telecommunications Engineering
Masters in Electronic Systems
Masters in Electronic Systems (major in nanoelectronics/photonics)
Graduate Diploma in Telecommunications Engineering
Graduate Diploma in Electronic Systems
Graduate Diploma in Electronic Systems (major in nanoelectronics/photonics)
Graduate Certificate in Telecommunications Engineering
Graduate Certificate in Electronic Systems
Graduate Certificate in Electronic Systems

Programmes offered partly online:

Through Oscail

BA/Diploma in Arts – Mostly online with some face-to-face tutorials

BSc/Diploma in Information Technology – Mostly online with some face-to-face tutorials

Bachelor of Nursing Studies - Part online

There are 18476 users registered on the Moodle VLE system. 3000-4000 of these log on each week. 3500 students and 460 staff members are actively using the system.

2. *Oscail. The National Distance Education Centre*

Please see under Dublin City University.

3. *Trinity College, Dublin. Dublin University.*

E-learning at Trinity College started in 1998. The head today is Dr Vincent Wade. Vincent.wade@cs.tcd.ie. Phone 0035318962091.

Trinity College had 400 modules or courses online. It has 9000 students enrolled on its WebCT system. This represents 60% of Dublin University's 15000 FTES (full time equivalent students).

Trinity College uses a blended approach to e-learning. E-learning is centered in the University's Centre for Academic Practice and Student Learning (CAPSIL) and incorporates the University's Centre for Learning Technologies. These centres are responsible for all academic staff development in TCD and for learning initiatives for the University.

The development of the University's 400 online courses or course modules has aimed at high quality and high innovation, but has not put a huge emphasis on multi media. A major effort has been made to train academic staff in e-learning skills.

The 9.000 students enrolled in the WebCt system would nearly all have used e-learning for their studies during the course of the year.

The Trinity e-learning philosophy has been to use a blended learning approach and to reduce contact hours and to put resources on the web. Their aim is to keep the virtual and the traditional together and they would not support a structure in which the student does not come in to the University at all.

4. *National University of Ireland, Galway*

The head of e-learning at NUI, Galway is Dr Ian McLaren. Phone; 0035391492822. He is the head of the university's Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching from which e-learning is run.

The university uses the Blackboard Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Blackboard is used for everything. All the university's 15000 students use it. It is used for class based courses, distance learning courses and courses run by the university with the USA.

There are very few courses at the university that do not use the Blackboard system. It is used for distance learning and for blended learning. They also use other technologies like Question Mark for assignments and videoconferencing for which they have 8 locations using IP at 1 to 3 Mb per second.

Almost every department in the university uses e-learning in all their courses. There has been a steep growth rate of e-learning in recent years. It is difficult to calculate the number of modules in use as there is great variety of use including professional development for staff and discussion groups for students.

All 15000 students at the university use the system, but here again there are many variants: blended courses/intensive courses, courses with a small amount of e-learning/courses offered fully online. 10 post graduate courses

are offered fully online and there are some undergraduate courses that are available fully online too. Up to 1000 students would be using e-learning in a pure distance learning setting.

5. *University College Cork*

At UCC each department runs its own e-learning offering. The university's Learning Technologies Unit, led by Grace O'Leary Phone 00353214903965 Has an advisory role for the whole university, runs the Virtual Learning Environment , and assists the departments in materials development and other activities. There is said to be a lot going on in pockets with no large, overall structures.

The Virtual Learning Environment used is Blackboard which was chosen by the university because, after trials, it was found to be the easiest to use.

E-learning is used very much to enhance classroom activity. The university has 1000 modules online.

9000 students at the university use the VLE regularly. There is no faculty and no department that does not use it. There are some distance learning courses but mainly it is used by on campus students. Pure distance learning courses are on Blackboard. These are structured in different ways: some might use e-learning plus 4 meetings per year, others have other structures.

A supervisory role is played by the university's Teaching and Learning Group, which is led by Professor Aine Hyland.

6. *University College Dublin*

E-learning at University College Dublin has been an evolutionary process. It started at what is now the Teaching and Learning Centre using the Learning Management System TopClass. Today the head of the Teaching and Learning Centre is David Jennings. <mailto:David.Jennings@ucd.ie>.

Then the Business School of UCD commenced e-learning using the Learning Management System Blackboard which was run from the Computer Laboratory. The head of the Computer Laboratory today is Brendan Murphy. <mailto:Brendan.Murphy@ucd.ie>.

A third aspect of e-learning at UCD is the Audio Visual Media Centre which develops e-learning content for the departments. The head here is Helen Guerin. Helen.guerin@ucd.ie.

Thus Ireland's largest university has three centres for e-learning today.

The Blackboard environment is described thus:

The Blackboard Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) is used to provide elearning services to staff and students. It allows lecturers to share course

materials, post announcements for students, and run quizzes and surveys. Blackboard also includes a Virtual Classroom facility, discussion forums and various other course tools.

7. *Kilroy's College*. Kilroy's College is the commercial Irish distance education institution. It has 10 e-learning courses. These courses have 400 students.

5. Luxembourg

There are no Megaproviders of e-learning in Luxembourg.

There are no major providers of e-learning in Luxembourg.