





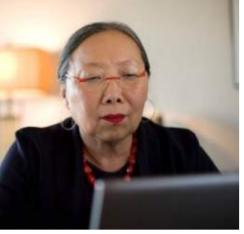


FCC Workshop: Broadband, Online Learning & Job Creation

Tim Hill
President, Professional
Education Division

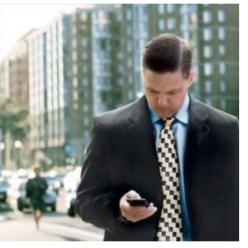
August 26, 2009











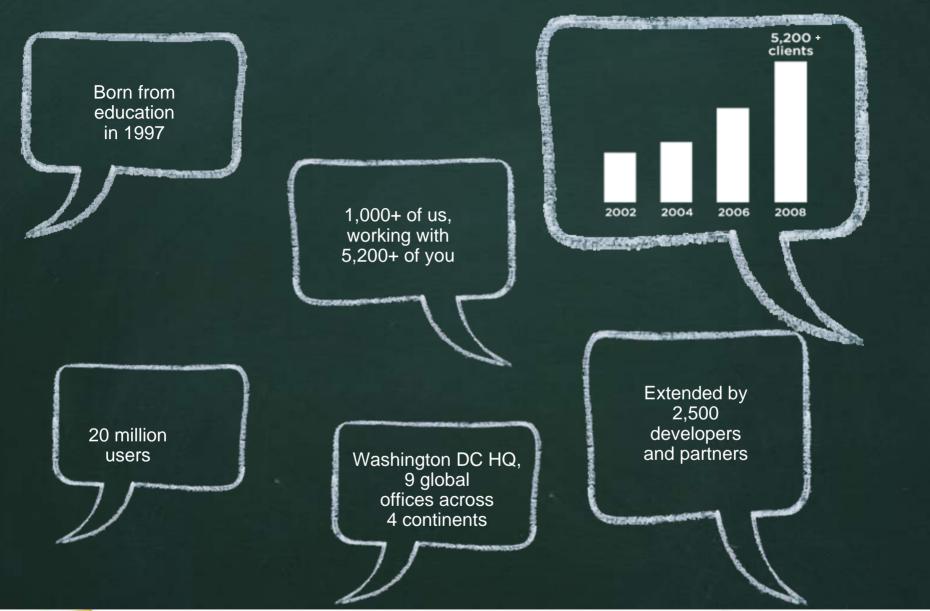
Who is Blackboard?

Each day, over 5,200 institutions and 20 million people use Blackboard to enrich the education experience.







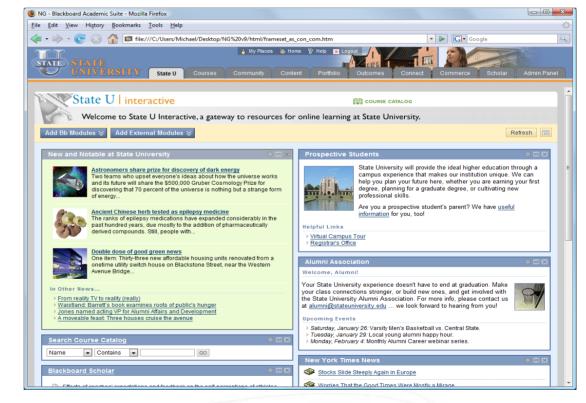




Blackboard, learn



 An online continuous teaching and learning platform allows any institution to put their content, courses and communities online.

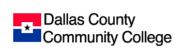






Over 5,200 Clients Worldwide & 20 Million Users









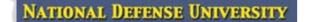






















































What is Professional Education?

- ProEd is the Blackboard Line of Business focused on educating adults and professionals.
 - Military DoD
 - Government
 - Career & Votech Colleges
 - Associations
 - Corporations





Broadband, Online Learning & Job Creation

- Broadband and high-speed internet access are critical elements in making online education accessible and affordable for learners
- Online education, training, certification and reskilling is more affordable than traditional education and impacts income
- Improving the skills and education of a workforce drives economic growth and stability
- Improving one's lot in life . . . Some real life examples



Broadband, Online Learning & Job Creation

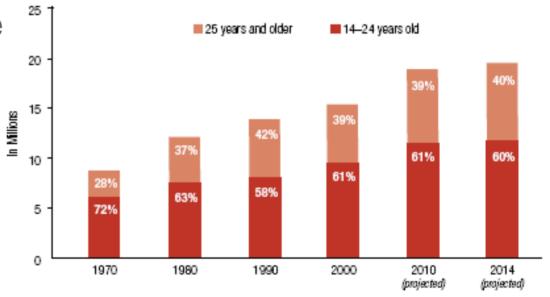
- Reskilling, workforce development and job creation require affordable access to technology
- Improving the skills and education of a workforce drives economic growth and stability
- Technological devices are becoming more affordable, versatile and ubiquitous
- Most importantly, technology is no longer cited as a barrier to adoption of online learning



The Trend Towards Adult Learners

- Adult learners returning to college have steadily increased over the past two decades
- 39% or 6.5 million college students are over the age of 25

Fall Enrollment in Degree-Granting Institutions, by Student Age: 1970–2014



Source: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 2004 Digest of Education Statistics, Table 173, cited in Adult Learners in the United States: A National Profile.



Education Critical to Adult Learners & Jobs

• "As people retool to make themselves more competitive, they are turning to online education in record numbers for the flexibility, and seeking business degrees for the fundamentals, and psychology and nursing degrees to fill or advance in industries with great demand,"

Terrence Thomas, Education Dynamics

• To make themselves more marketable, 26% of workers plan to go back to school to obtain a degree, certification or other training, according to Career Builder's Industry Trends Survey in September 2008.

CNN Money



"Non-Traditional" Adult Education Growing

- Career & Votech Colleges: 2,700 Institutions and growing rapidly
- Over 2.4 million students attended accredited career colleges in 2007, which represents ~10% of the total market of 25 million students
- Six of the ten fastest growing US occupational categories between 2004 and 2014 require less than a four-year degree
- Over 20% Enrollment growth at 100% Online schools



Online Learning At a Tipping Point

- A recent 93-page report on online education, conducted by SRI International for the Department of Education, has a starchy academic title, but a most intriguing conclusion: "On average, students in online learning conditions performed better than those receiving face-to-face instruction."
 - New York Times, August 20th
- The real promise of online education, experts say, is providing learning experiences that are more *tailored to individual students than is possible in classrooms.* That enables more "learning by doing," which many students find more engaging and useful.

