

The University of Tennessee
 Strategic Planning Implementation Champions Update
 GOAL ONE: Enhancing Education Excellence

Action Item Charge: **Analyze, assess and increase online and distance education activities to provide comprehensive degree programs, reduce duplication and foster program development, expand delivery structures and ease of access**

Steps Taken:

1. December 2012: Inventory of online programs, courses achieved; shared with Exec. Committee of BOT
2. January 2013 President's Leadership Workshop—Chancellor's `opinions toward opportunities for increased online learning:
 - UTK: primarily focus on graduate programs
 - UTC: seeking to increase the number of Executive MBA students
 - UTM: Already doing UT online

General Comments from Workshop: Technology, including An online delivery system, is a tool. With online delivery Come both opportunities and challenges.

Opportunities: increased access, growth, collaboration Between UT and TBR. Could help meet state's goals for More college degrees

Challenges: need to maintain quality and our brand. Requires faculty input and buy-in.

2. February 2013 Met with Randy Boyd, THEC Staff, TBR staff to hear presentation from Daphne Koller, co-founder of Coursera—planned meeting of UT and TBR academic officers to discuss possibilities of using Coursera platform

UT System and UT Knoxville academic officers attended presentation by edX to learn about possibilities of using edX platform
3. March 2013 Implementation Champions Meeting
 - WGU was discussed
 - Possible Partnership with TBR discussed
 - Possibilities with Coursera/edX discussed

Chancellors participated in a teleconference with Bob Mendenhall of WGU

4. April 2013

Randy Boyd/THEC explored agreement with Coursera

UT and TBR academic officers met to discuss Possibilities with Coursera, edX and partnership Between UT and TBR to deliver additional online Courses/programs

DiPietro and Morgan joined other higher education System representatives to discuss MOOCs. Tentative Agreement to form a consortium was reached. UT and TBR lawyers working on an agreement with Coursera To do the following pilot:

2-4 courses would be developed by UT or TBR faculty Using the Coursera platform

Courses would be offered to registered students At the institution at which they were developed

Student outcomes of the Coursera delivery would Be compared with student outcomes of the Institution's "traditional" delivery

Study would be for a two year (or four semester) Period. At that time, institutions would determine If there were significant differences in the student Outcomes in the two groups.

5. May 2013

Campus provost offices are currently identifying faculty Who might wish to participate in the pilot project.

- Obstacles:
1. There is still much confusion about what problem online education can solve.
 2. There is pushback when decisions seem to be made at the state level.
 3. Although this was the action the Implementation Champions Team was asked to Address, it does not seem to be a priority on any of the campuses.