

Help us Identify the European Mega Providers of E-learning

The MegaTrends project will identify, survey and analyze European mega providers of e-learning. The project focuses on distance learning situations with more than 5000 course enrolments per year or more than 100 courses on offer on any one time. So far, twenty institutions have been nominated as mega providers. The list is sorted by country:

1. University of Tartu (Estonia)
2. Virtuelle Hochschule Bayern (Germany)
3. Oncampus, Fachhochschule Lübeck (Germany)
4. Hungarian Telecom (Hungary)
5. Dennis Gabor College (Hungary)
6. Riga Technical University (Latvia)
7. Open Universiteit Nederland (The Netherlands)
8. NKI (Norway)
9. BI (Norway)
10. NKS (Norway)
11. Universitat de Barcelona Virtual (Spain)
12. Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (Spain)
13. Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (Spain)
14. Lund University (Sweden)
15. Learn Direct (United Kingdom)
16. Manchester Metropolitan University (United Kingdom)
17. Staffordshire University (United Kingdom)
18. The Open University (United Kingdom)
19. The University of Leicester (United Kingdom)
20. The University of Ulster (United Kingdom)

The project partners would like to get the list as complete and correct as possible. Therefore they request help to identify additional institutions that should be listed. They also appreciate feedback if you consider some of the nominated institution not qualify for the list.

The research methodology used is:

- Starting with the presentation of success in e-learning in Morten F Paulsen's book *Online education and Learning Management Systems* (www.studymentor.com)
- The project set out to identify the European Mega-Providers of e-learning. Strict criteria for qualification were drawn up.
- The project then analyses the successful institutions on the causes of their robustness, sustainability and achievement of critical mass.
- The results of the analyses will be written up and published for the benefit of e-learning institutions and other providers throughout Europe.

The criteria for qualification are:

- The project concentrates on e-learning situations with more than 5000 course enrolments per year
- or more than 100 courses on offer on any one time.
- The project focuses on distance education and does not include the use of e-learning for on-campus students. At least 51% of a programme must be online to qualify.
- The project does not include corporate e-learning from a base outside Europe.

An updated list with further information is available at:

www.nettskolen.com/in_english/megatrends/nominated.html

Help us identify important e-learning initiatives that did not reach their targeted goals.

The MegaTrends project will also study important e-learning initiatives that did not reach targeted goals. The project partners therefore request information about such initiatives. Relevant information about contact people, articles, powerpoint presentations etc. will be appreciated.

The Megatrends project is concerned about e-learning initiatives which collapsed and faded away when the initial project funding was withdrawn, and initiatives that were launched with much political hype but failed and were closed, often with the loss of much taxpayers' money.

The initial resource for this work was the article *Online Education Obituaries*, which is available at www.studymmentor.com/studymmentor/Obituaries.pdf

An updated list of resources and links to further information about e-learning initiatives that did not reach their targeted goals is available at:

www.nettskolen.com/in_english/megatrends/workpackage6.html

If you have information about potential Megaproviders in Europe or about important e-learning initiatives that did not reach their targeted goals, please contact:

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