Online Learning Task Force

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Maintaining Excellence in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education

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Online Learning Task Force

Background

- Established in June 2009
- Maintaining and developing position of world leading in online learning
- How can UKHE grow its market share between now and 2015?

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Online learning: the current picture

- What is meant by online learning?
- Limited undergraduate offerings
- Discoverability is poor
- We know very little about markets and competition

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Progress to date

- Investigating institutional models
  - public/private partnerships
  - validation of private providers
  - niche specialist providers
  - individual distance providers.
- Demands and expectations of students
- Pedagogy and content

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Lessons learned

- Clarify the purpose, and include a robust business model
- Build on existing success, expertise and profile
- Lead and own at a strategic level: do not make it peripheral

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Challenges for higher education

- What do students think? What are you doing to find out? How are you changing your provision to meet their needs?
- How will online learning help your institution increase its market share of students in the UK and internationally?
- What culture changes need to occur in your institution to ensure students benefit from online learning?
- Internationally, how do you see your institution contributing to promoting brand UKHE?
- Content, quality, pedagogy: will delivering online learning mean doing anything different in these areas?
- What can the private sector and other bodies, e.g. British Council, UKTI, JISC do better for / with you?

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We will consider recommendations that:

- Take advantage of new and expanding markets
- Encourage new students ,and new types of students, into higher education
- Create opportunities for collaboration between private and public organisations
- Identify opportunities for targeted investment to support both excellence and provision at significant scale.

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Online learning: where next?

- Friday 25 June, Seminar to discuss our work and hear from interested parties
- to be held at the BL in London
- Email oltf@hefce.ac.uk

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