Introduction of E-learning into the Post RN Baccalaureate Program in a Developing Country

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Learning Objectives

1. Understand the factors that interplay in developing an online course.

2. Evaluate the process that is required for setting up an online course in a developing country with scarce resources.

Introduction

- AKDN is developing an E-learning strategy

- Blended learning approach

  - On-line learning &

  - face to face interaction

- No E-learning program at the national level

- Capstone project was pilot tested using

  - a trio model
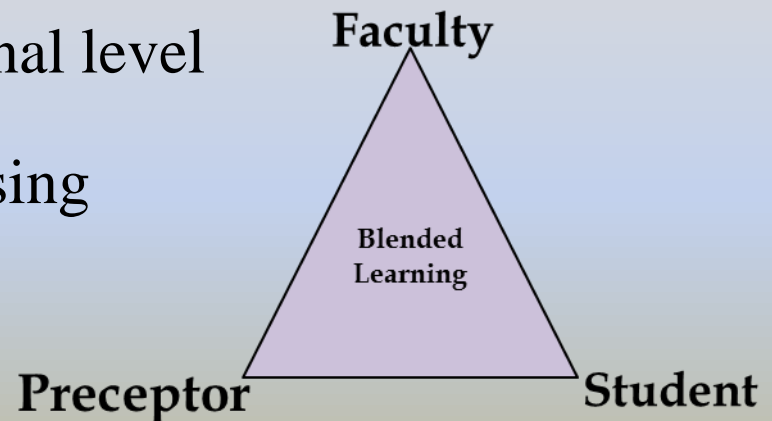
Methodology

- Meetings with content and technical experts

- Blended delivery approach by using Moodle.

- Students' on going feedback incorporated

- Faculty development sessions

- Final approval by curriculum committee.

- Training sessions on IT skills for students

Results

The pilot study concluded that

(1) Full-time IT personnel dedicated to this project are needed;

(2) Protected time for faculty required;

(3) Faculty development in e-learning; and

(4) Collaboration with partners universities.

Students

Strengths

- Cost effective

- Convenient

- Time friendly

- Online learning exposure

- Some of the international students were able to return to their homeland early

Students

Challenges

- Missing the traditional face to face interaction with the faculty

- Resources (computer availability on campus)

- Internet connections

- Power failure

Faculty

Strengths

- Novel and challenging experience

- Learning various e learning methodologies in terms of instructional designs and assessment

- Critical e-learning discussion forums with the student

Faculty

Challenges

- Teaching with a different modality

- Mixed Feelings

- 24 hour on-call

- Varied expectations from the administration and other faculty

- Time consume while checking/ reviewing forums

Conclusion

The lessons learnt from this pilot study

- Utilizing the planning for the E-learning program at the national level in Pakistan and wherever AKU is located on the map.

- A Blended learning faculty development program is being organized at the university level

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Thank You
Shukriya