

Hot Topic Session: Distance Education, TABLE A

How are distance students assessed fees (that often are for campus services) at different institutions?

How should we monitor the identity of distance students? How can we know the person at a distance is the intended student?

How should the quality of distance classes and degree programs be measured?

What about integrating distance functions for students in on-campus graduate programs? For example, can qualifiers, preliminary oral exams, and/or final oral exams (thesis/dissertation defenses) be conducted sufficiently well from a distance?

What other question should you discuss at your table and bring up to the larger group?

Hot Topic Session: Distance Education, TABLE B

What are some examples of highly successful distance master's programs? On what basis do we deem them successful? Are there examples of highly successful distance doctoral programs?

What should graduate deans and or curriculum committees look for as keys for success as they review proposals for new distance degree programs?

Are unique modes of assessing learning outcomes needed for distance students? Do you know of any examples?

What technological barriers remain as roadblocks to distance education?

What other question should you discuss at your table and bring up to the larger group?

Hot Topic Session: Distance Education, TABLE C

Are the traits of an excellent instructor of a distance class different from the traits of an excellent face-to-face instructor?

What institutions can serve as models for how to make the distance-student experience entirely paperless (on-line)? Can all of the required forms at your graduate school be submitted electronically, with e-signatures?

How often, if ever, do distance students need to participate in on-campus activities?

Aside from what accreditation agencies may say, what should be the ideal balance between distance programs and non-distance programs on your campus? Why?

What other question should you discuss at your table and bring up to the larger group?

Hot Topic Session: Distance Education, TABLE D

What rules/regulations that apply to on-campus students are (or should be) waived or adjusted at your institution for distance students? One simple example is whether vaccinations (measles, etc.) should be required of students at a distance.

Are there categories of programs that are especially suited for distance delivery, and are there programs that cannot be done at a distance?

What rules exist pertaining to obtaining permission from states where our distance students are located?

Should faculty members who teach distance classes be given more, less, or the same credit per course taught compared to faculty members who teach classes face-to-face.

What other question should you discuss at your table and bring up to the larger group?