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Incorporation of Online Distance Education in a University with Face-to-face Tradition

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Key concepts

Trend historical inertia

Lived history

Academic modalities

Critical factors

Ruptures and continuities



The relevance of this study

The relevance of this issue is that the inquiry into these factors, analyzed as trend historical inertia, provides information about how they affect the attempts at changes in higher education institutions; as well as looking for a historical explanation to the current situations. Knowledge that could have value for academic transformation efforts.

5 steps in a course of political-academic negotiations.

1. Open and Distance University System. (1989-1992)
 2. Division of Open and Distance Education. (1999-1994)
 3. Coordination of Continuing, Open and Distance Education. (1994-1999)
 4. General Coordination of Educational Innovation. (1999-2004)
 5. Virtual University System. (2005 to the present)
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Dimensions of convictions, agreements and decisions

Acceptance and assimilation of the idea of distance education in the mentality of university officials and staff.

Convince of new university policies.

Incorporation of new standards, academic and administrative practices.

Incorporation of new technologies for learning.

Social positioning of new academic modalities

Some key discussion topics and agreements

- ✓ Academic programs
- ✓ Time
- ✓ Places
- ✓ Students
- ✓ Teachers

Previous Conclusions

- A. Between the educational ideal with its philosophical principles, its scientific argumentation and the desired social orientation and its institutionalized reality in an academic entity, there is usually a lot of distance.
 - B. More than in the academic and technological agreements, difficulties were found in the regulatory and administrative areas of school control, human resources and finance. Each with its logic and inertia.
 - C. It is necessary to investigate to know more and more in depth about how the relations of power, the economy and the culture of people and their organizations affect the possibilities of innovation and regeneration of educational institutions.
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We learn

- A. Learn a little more about how to negotiate innovation.
 - B. There are great distances between the educational ideal and its academic institutionalization.
 - C. The factors that affect academics are beyond academics.
 - D. Give in the circumstantial to achieve the essential.
 - E. A mixture of academic innovations with bureaucratic maintenance was reached.
 - F. First you fight so that your proposal is institutionalized and then so that bureaucratic institutionalization does not catch you.
 - G. Those who hold power limit changes according to their understanding and ability to control.
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During the whole process, the most important thing was to reach agreements regarding the meaning and importance of online distance education for a better fulfillment of university functions and for society.



Knowing key factors, develop strategies that promote the incorporation of new academic modalities that refresh educational institutions and always keep them open to innovation and up-to-date, in order to respond timely and meaningfully to the society to which they are due.

