

The Experiences and Lessons of E-Learning in Chinese Higher Education

Zhu Zhiting

Educational Information Center,
East China Normal University,
3663 N. Zhongshan Road
Shanghai, China 200062
ztzhu@dec.ecnu.edu.cn

Abstract

This paper first makes a review of the development of e-learning in Chinese higher education. In September of 1998, the MOE started to grant special licenses to four universities for pioneering modern distance education through e-learning. Encouraged by favorable policies, more universities invested in e-learning since then. Till the end of 2002, up to 67 universities in China have received cyber-education licenses, involving 140 specialties from 10 academic disciplines. It is estimated that the total

enrollment reaches 1.6 millions of students in 2003 and 2.2 millions of students in 2004. This paper will introduce the background and status of e-learning development in Chinese higher education. Furthermore, this paper will emphasize on summarizing the experiences got and lessons learned from the process of developing e-learning based distance education, including various aspects such as infrastructure building, curriculum development, staff preparation, learning service, quality control, and so on.