Three Keys to Successful Online Degree Programs

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This poster/demo session examines the three primary developmental areas that were required to ensure a successful distance education startup: 1) faculty development, 2) new student orientations, and 3) course/program assessment.

**Faculty Development:** In order to ensure the distance student receives opportunities for communication, collaboration, and the building of a learning communities it was necessary to provide significant faculty development prior to beginning work on the major programs. Demonstration of a 10-week online course developed to meet this need.

**New Student Orientation:** In addition to the use of technology, issues of communication, collaboration, and independent learning become apparent with students new to the online learning environment. Demonstration of a 7-week online course developed to meet these needs.

**Assessment Tools:** Tools for evaluating the courses, the instructors, the major curriculum series, and the entire distance education program are under development. Evaluation instruments and progress to date will be shared.