Western Governors University
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The principal mission of Western Governors University is to improve quality and expand access to post-secondary academic opportunity by providing a means for individuals to learn independent of time or place and to earn competency-based degrees and other credentials that are credible to both academic institutions and employers.
The WGU Timeline

1995: Western Governors Association Meeting in Park City

1997: Incorporated as independent, not-for-profit university

1999: Enrolled first WGU student

2001: Accredited by DETC

2002: Earned candidacy for regional accreditation

2003: Accredited by I-RAC (4 regional commissions)
The WGU Timeline

2006: Teachers College accredited by NCATE
2007: Surpassed 10,000 students (1,500 grads)
2008: Regional accreditation by NWCCU
2009: College of Health Professions
      (Nursing accredited by CCNE)
2010: Launched WGU Indiana
2011: Accreditation by CAHIM (Bachelors in Health Informatics)
      Launched WGU Washington and WGU Texas
      Surpassed 27,000 students (over 11,000 graduates)
Founded by the 19 Governors in the Western Governors Association – independent, not-for-profit
Competency-based (no seat time/credit hours)
Grounded in technology
Business model and Academic model
No grades
Six-month terms, student
Entry first of every month
Only full-time students
Disaggregated faculty role – at will
Designed for adult students
Student Population Map

Western Governors University

Student Population Map, March 31, 2012

Connecticut: 149
Delaware: 46
Maryland: 385
Massachusetts: 206
New Hampshire: 91
New Jersey: 414
Rhode Island: 49
Vermont: 39
Washington D.C.: 25

Armed Forces: 213
Guam: 7
Puerto Rico: 10
Virgin Islands: 12
International: 41

Total Student Population: 32,218
Students paying high fees for textbooks is contrary to our model of making education affordable and accessible.

WGU wants to deliver all digital learning resources at no extra cost to students.
Digital Content Delivery - Solutions

March 2011
- 103 textbooks purchased by WGU students
- Some eBooks delivered at no extra cost to WGU students

March 2012
- 4 textbooks purchased by WGU students
- 98% eBook delivery for no extra cost to WGU students
Digital Content Delivery - Process

We partnered with new and existing Educational Resource Providers to facilitate our transition to digital content:

- CourseSmart
- Flatworld Knowledge
- VitalSource
- Pearson
- Soomo
Digital Content Delivery - Results

- Correlation to pass rates
- Savings to student
- Evidenced based decisions
- Engagement data

Digital Content Integration
Digital Content Delivery – Next Steps

- Deeper Engagement Data
- Preferred Vendors
- Common Platform
- Excellent Student Experience
Questions?