



David Porter, Executive Director, BCcampus

Outline

Using Technology to Address the Top 5 Teaching and Learning Challenges for 2009

Educause, the higher-education technology group, just has released its list of [top teaching and learning challenges of 2009](#):

1. Creating learning environments that promote active learning, critical thinking, collaborative learning, and knowledge creation.
2. Developing 21st-century literacies — information, digital, and visual — among students and faculty members.
3. Reaching and engaging today's learners.
4. Encouraging faculty members to adopt, and innovate with, new technology for teaching and learning.
5. Advancing innovation in teaching and learning with technology in an era of budget cuts.

While these challenges are a response from higher education practitioners, it is highly likely that similar issues confront K-12 teachers.

We'll examine some of the approaches that BC higher education administrators, designers and instructors are exploring in an effort to overcome these challenges.

Bio

As a long-time advocate for the benefits of adapting new technology to deliver educational opportunities, David is uniquely qualified to help BCcampus achieve its vision of connecting BC's educators with students across the province. His extensive experience in the education and training fields has included working with both public and private sector organizations. He has also been a project manager for industry-based projects in Canada and the US, and has worked as a project leader and consultant for international projects.

David arrived at BCcampus in 2003, with a mandate to create a web-based suite of services that BC's 25 post-secondary institutions could use to enhance their online learning capabilities. The potential of online learning for the post-

secondary world was something he recognized early in his career and championed through a series of projects with various groups, such as the *NewMedia Innovation Centre*, *YouAchieve Inc.*, and the *Open Learning Agency*. David is also a sought-after speaker at national and international conferences exploring the challenges and opportunities of creating an online learning environment.

After graduating from the University of Toronto, and time spent teaching at all levels, David earned a M.Ed., Curriculum and Instruction (Education and Technology) from Simon Fraser University. He is currently in an instructor and course author in the Masters of Education Technology (MET) program at the University of British Columbia. He was a founding member of the Knowledge Management Community of Practice (Vancouver) and has authored numerous articles and papers on online learning development.