Trending Forces in Higher Education

Lawrence C Ragan, Co-Director for the Center for Online Innovations in Learning
Questions to Consider

• What is the precipitating factors to change in higher education?

• What are the trends in higher education institutions?

• What role does leadership and strategy play in forging the path forward.
Change Model

Disruptions + Vision + Affordances

Current State of HE

(R)esistance

Potential New State
Disruptions: External & Internal

Graduation Rates

Accountability

Workforce Preparedness

Education
Vision of HE Future

- Plastic
- Flexible
- Fluid
- Modularized
- Accessible
- Convenient
- Mobile
- Accommodating
- Affordable
- Transferable
- Innovative
- Engaging
- Entertaining
Affordances

- Microcredentialing
- Flipped Instruction
- Crowdsourcing
- Personalized Adaptive Learning
- Open Educational Resources
- Curricular Optimization
- Outsourcing Services
- Learning Analytics
- Competency-Based Education
- Massive and open courseware
Resistance

History

Systems

Financials

Fear of Future

Tradition

Processes

Culture of the Academy
Traditional Thinking vs. Progressive Thinking over Time (1998)

- Traditional Thinking peak in the 1990s
- Progressive Thinking emerging in the late 1990s

# OF FACULTY & STAFF
Traditional Thinking

Progressive Thinking

# OF FACULTY & STAFF

TIME

1998

2015

WC

What’s next?
Penn State Leadership Response

• **Strategic planning** includes stimulating innovation and online learning

• **Integration of innovations** (technology/pedagogy) into all modes of instruction

• **Experimentation** in trends and exploration of forces

• **Revenue models from World Campus** critical to college and campus infrastructure
Thank you

Lawrence C. Ragan
Co-Director of The Center for Online Innovations in Learning
LCR1@PSU.EDU