e.Business Centre

Learning and Opportunity for all

Joining business and community

Tracey Pitt
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e.Business Centre
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e.Business Centre — About the centre

- Created as part of Northumbria University's e.Commerce Initiative
- Communication channel for harnessing Northumbria's e.Business expertise
- Continues to build knowledge through partnerships
- Partners play a key role in formulating the centre's future

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e.Business Centre — About the centre

The e. Business Centre aims to promote and support the uptake of e.Business amongst SMEs in the North East region and help bridge the gap between academia and business .

- Develop a network of organisations and academics with e.Business related expertise
- Develop a network of SMEs that will reap the benefits of e.Business
- Help SMEs access new markets through exhibitions
- Delivery of a series of e.Business related events
- Support of e.Learning initiatves
- Get the university networking at e.Business Centre Partner meetings
- Continue to build e.Business knowledge through partnerships

Linking more businesses to higher education

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e.Business Centre — Current Projects and Initiatives

- e.Business awareness
- 'Grow your Business'
- Learning and Opportunity for all
- Online Upskilling
- ETR2A – European Telecommunications Resilience and Recovery Association
- Regional ICT Strategy Board
- e.Learning sub-group
- e.Learning Foundation

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e.Business Centre — e.learning

- No commonly accepted definition of e.Learning
  - Generally taken to embrace web based learning, online training and distance learning
- More specifically or including
  - Learner centric tailored approach
  - Anytime/anywhere
  - Delivery dependant upon technologies
  - Spectrum of outcomes
- Research shows that e.Learning can accelerate executive learning

Cass Business School, City of London

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e.Business Centre — Defining e.Learning

	Same place	Different place
Same time	Traditional (Non-Electronic) Classroom	Chat Rooms
Different time	Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)	Electronic learning communities Distributed learning

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Williams and Webster (1996)

e.Business Centre — Barriers to e.Learning

- Time
  - Any time any place -PSD
- Money
  - Courses offered at affordable prices some free
- Access
  - Internet Café – fixed and portable
  - Hardware loan scheme

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e.Business Centre — e.Learning now

- Site including e.Courses to go live at the end of November
- Internet café up and running
- Hardware loan scheme to begin at the end of November
- Regional e.Learning Foundation being established
- Regional e.Learning Strategy

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