

Agile Learning, New Media, and Technological Infusement at a New University: Serving Underrepresented Students

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ABSTRACT

The author suggests how one academic institution, California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) is planning for a distributed learning and distance education program, utilizing the latest technologies and innovative pedagogy to meet the needs of all underrepresented and underserved students. This need is especially high for the Latino/a population of the Salinas Valley, where some of the poorest Latino populations in the nation can be found. The university's students, faculty, and staff represent a geographically and culturally diverse group of people, whose richness is mirrored in CSUMB's commitment to the establishment of a multilingual, multicultural, and intellectual community.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Armando Arias is the Associate Vice President for Academic Planning, Instruction, and Assessment, as well as a tenured professor and Dean of the Center of Social and Behavioral Sciences, at California State University, Monterey Bay. He earned his Ph.D. in Sociology, with emphasis in Communication, at the University of California at San Diego, La Jolla; he also earned his Master's and Bachelor's degrees there. Dr. Arias is the founding director of Binational English and Spanish Telecommunications Network (BESTNET), an international consortium that promotes the use of worldwide electronic communication tools to enhance teaching, learning, scholarship, research, and community service.