

# E-learning in Estonia: challenges and problems

Anne Villems

University of Tartu

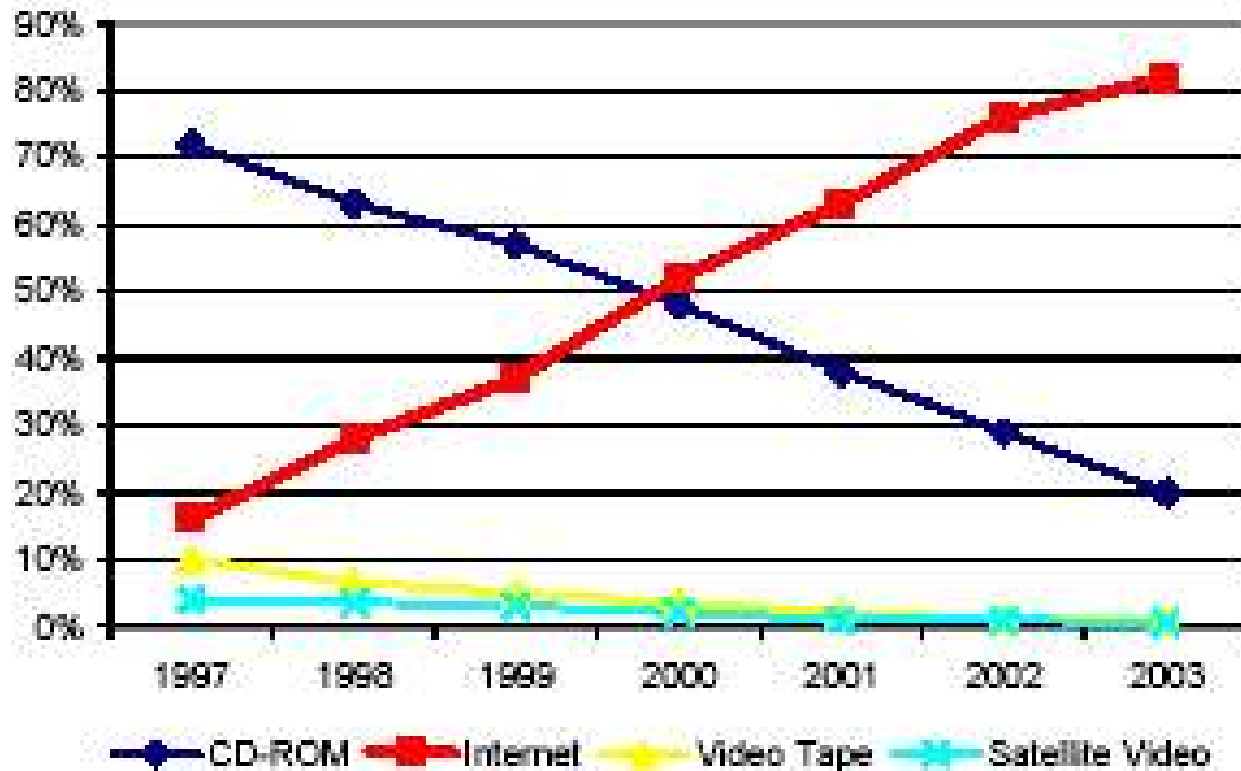
Computer Science Department

# Terms

- **E-learning** – usage of web etc ICT tools in higher and further learning community  
= ICT-based learning, Web-based learning etc.
- **Blended learning** – version of e-learning, where face-to-face elements are combined with on-line elements; Blended learning is the most common version of e-learning

# E-learning $\approx$ Web Based Learning?

## The "X" Factor: The Internet Will Dominate Technology-Based Training



Sources: IDC

# E-learning axioms

- Technology *per se* does not improve the learning – it's usage gives the possibility for improvement
- Technology should only be used where it adds value
- The use of technology may look very different in different courses
- Technology can be used for: delivery, collaboration, management, assessment etc – for one element only **or** in combination **or** for all elements

# Worldwide background I

- E-learners.com (USA) – learner-portal statistics:
  - 920 online degrees
  - 416 online programs
  - 8205 online courses
  - 113 online colleges
- e-learning is export article no three in Australia

# Worldwide background II

- One third of all European work forth has used e-learning in 2002
- In US in 2003 more people used Web for e-learning than for buying music CD-s

# Estonian e-University



- <http://www.e-uni.ee>
- created February 2003 by ME, EITS and 6 universities
- **Now roof for 8 universities**
  - University of Tartu
  - Tallinn Technical University
  - Tallinn Pedagogical University
  - IT College
  - Estonian Agricultural University
  - Estonian Business School
  - Academia Nord
  - Audentes

# Estonian e-University



- Promotes e-learning in member-universities
- Supports collaboration between member-universities
- Manages collaborative EU and other projects
  - Minerva: UNIVE
  - ESF project, EITS projects
- Runs staff training courses ( 3 levels)
- Has two learning management systems:  
WebCT and IVA (hosted by EENet)
- Is the member of EADTU



# Number of students, who have WebCT ID

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University	Total
University of Tartu	3078
Estonian Business School	78
Tallinn University of Technology	424
Estonian Agricultural University	252
IT College	215
Estonian e-University	178
Joint courses (TPU+TU)	38
Audentes	18
Tallinn Pedagogical University	9
University Nord	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4691</b>

# Number of courses, WebCT



University	Total
University of Tartu	63
Tallinn University of Technology	60
Business School	36
Estonian Agricultural University	35
Audentes	23
IT College	16
Estonian e-University	8
Template	8
Tallinn Pedagogical University	5
Joint courses (TPU+TU)	4
University Nord	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>459</b>

# WebCT users %



University	Total	% usage WebCT
IT College	306	70%
Estonian Business School	1480	32%
University of Tartu	13486	23%
Estonian Agricultural University	3901	6%
Tallinn University of Technology	9481	4%
Audentes	2142	1%
Tallinn Pedagogical University	5481	0%
University Nord	700	0%

# E-learning problems in Estonia

- Infrastructure:
  - No simple problems left
  - example with Narva
    - Staff training through multipoint videoconferencing
    - This year first time UT Narva college joined
    - Equipment used lowers bandwidth to the level of weakest participant
    - 128K bps to Narva – commercial lines only
    - No good solution exist

# Estonian e-learning problems II

- Interoperability of Information systems
  - Who manages what?
  - Who develops what?
  - Who hosts what?

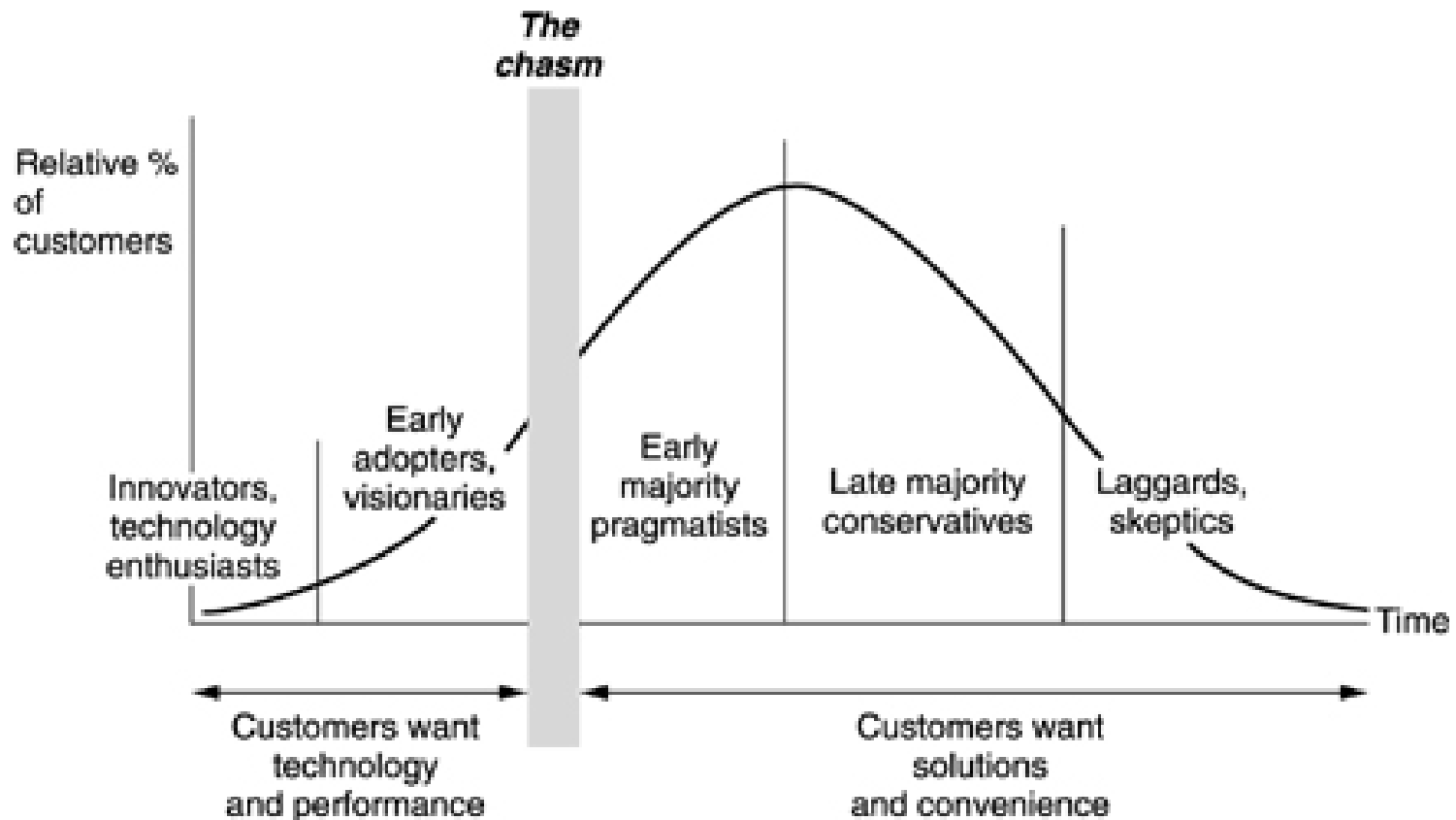
- Example:

WebCT – hosted by EENet,  
managed by EITS

This solution solved many problems

# ...problems II continues

- Interoperability of Study IS and LMS
- SAIS Common admission system for Estonian universities
- E-university authentication
- Course exchange system
- WebCT new version runs on Oracle



E-learning community is just now crossing the Moor's innovation chasm and additional problems can push the process pack seriously

Thank you!