

Slide 1

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
Te Tākahu o te Mātauranga

## Ministry of Education – Rising to the Challenge in the Knowledge Society

Murray Leach

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

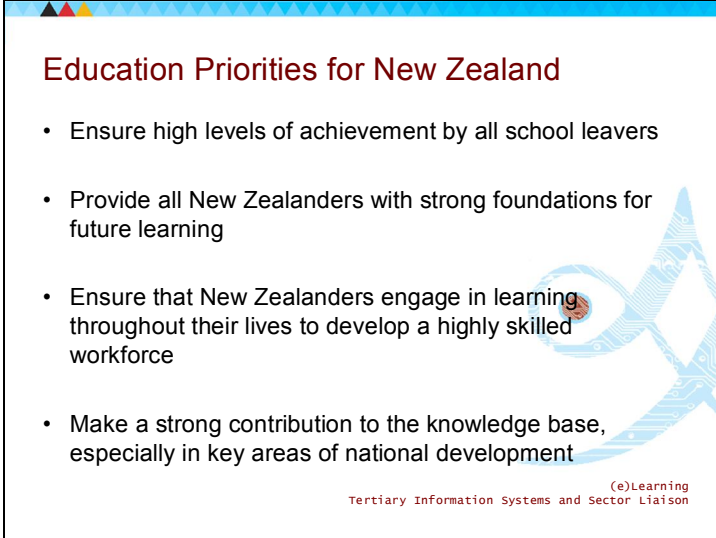
Slide 2

## Ministry of Education and eFest

- The Ministry of Education (MoE) are proud to be sponsoring eFest once again.
- eFest 2005 - 'Rising to the Challenge' is aimed at highlighting and informing the tertiary education sector of issues, trends and developments in (e)learning. With the MoE's strategic focus on developing New Zealand's (e)learning capabilities, it is pertinent for us to be sponsoring such an event.
- The MoE's Tertiary (e)Learning team, in collaboration with the Schools and Early Childhood Education teams and representatives of the tertiary sector, are contributing to this development with a vision of providing **accessible, relevant and high quality** learning opportunities to all New Zealanders within a networked, flexible education system.

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

## Slide 3



**Education Priorities for New Zealand**

- Ensure high levels of achievement by all school leavers
- Provide all New Zealanders with strong foundations for future learning
- Ensure that New Zealanders engage in learning throughout their lives to develop a highly skilled workforce
- Make a strong contribution to the knowledge base, especially in key areas of national development

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

### **Education Priorities for New Zealand**

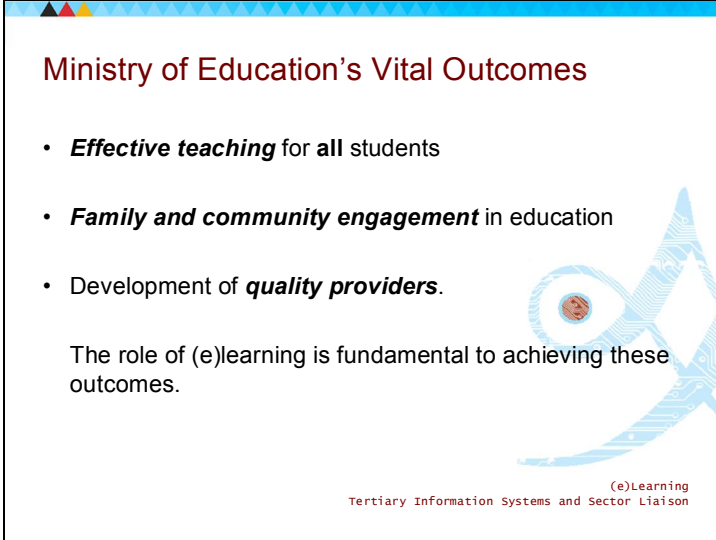
In 2003, government published a framework for the New Zealand education system which includes four areas where the education system needs to deliver results:

ensure high levels of achievement by all school leavers

provide all New Zealanders with strong foundations for future learning

ensure that New Zealanders engage in learning throughout their lives to develop a highly skilled workforce

make a strong contribution to the knowledge base, especially in key areas of national development.



**Ministry of Education's Vital Outcomes**

- **Effective teaching** for all students
- **Family and community engagement** in education
- Development of **quality providers**.

The role of (e)learning is fundamental to achieving these outcomes.

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

The Ministry of Education is focused on three vital outcomes:

**Effective teaching** for all students

Within the education system the quality of teaching is the key system influence on student achievement. Effective teaching can overcome the adverse influences in a learner's life and focuses on raising the achievement of all students.

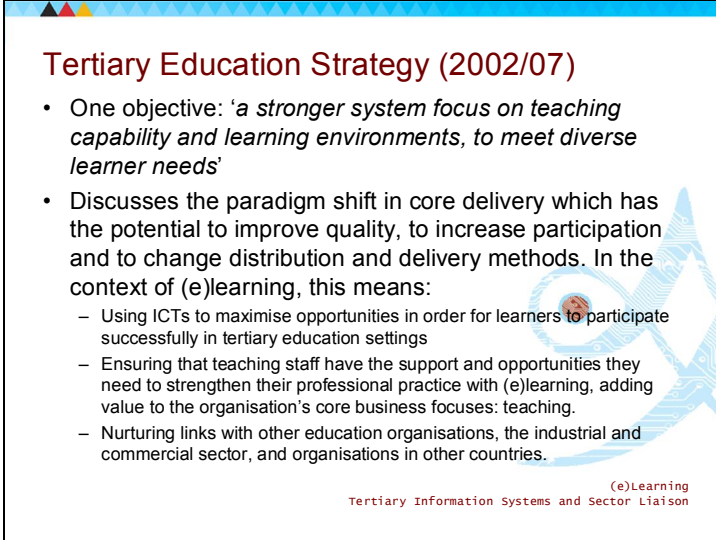
**Family and community engagement** in education

Families and Communities are other major contributors to student achievement. It is about high expectations, resources in the home to support learning, connecting home and community practices to the classroom, access to support and the importance of positive relationships with formal education providers.

Development of **quality providers**.

Education providers play a vital role in raising achievement through their governance, management and leadership.

## Slide 5



### Tertiary Education Strategy (2002/07)

- One objective: *'a stronger system focus on teaching capability and learning environments, to meet diverse learner needs'*
- Discusses the paradigm shift in core delivery which has the potential to improve quality, to increase participation and to change distribution and delivery methods. In the context of (e)learning, this means:
  - Using ICTs to maximise opportunities in order for learners to participate successfully in tertiary education settings
  - Ensuring that teaching staff have the support and opportunities they need to strengthen their professional practice with (e)learning, adding value to the organisation's core business focuses: teaching.
  - Nurturing links with other education organisations, the industrial and commercial sector, and organisations in other countries.

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

## Slide 6



### Strategies and Frameworks for (e)Learning

The Ministry of Education have been developing a range of strategies and frameworks in collaboration with sector representatives and stakeholders.

With strategies and frameworks in place, we are ensuring the cohesive and continued development of New Zealand's (e)learning capabilities in the tertiary sector, in a collaborative, connected and well supported tertiary sector.

- **ICT Strategic Framework Education**
- **New Zealand Education Sector (e)Learning Strategic Framework**
- **Taking the Next Step - the Interim Tertiary (e)Learning Framework**

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

## Development of an ICT Strategic Framework for New Zealand Education

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) supports the implementation and achievement of New Zealand's education goals, priorities and strategies. An ICT Strategic Framework for Education is being developed to provide the mechanism to guide and coordinate this investment. This framework aims to deliver across five key components:

- Connectivity
- Content
- Confidence and Capability
- Continuity
- Collaboration

Once this framework has been ratified across the education sector, a coordinated and cohesive approach can be taken regarding:

- a) the expansion of the current range of ICT projects and initiatives already taking place across the education sector, and
- b) the consideration of new ways in which the five components of the framework can be achieved.

### **New Zealand Education Sector (e)Learning Strategic Framework**

The development of a *New Zealand Education Sector (e)Learning Strategic Framework* weaves together the vital outcomes and the government priorities into a strategy that is specific to the (e)learning environment of New Zealand.

The strategic framework has three focus areas:

1. **Learning and Teaching** - developing learner and teacher capability
2. **Research** - developing systems and processes that support the research activity of institutions and individuals
3. **Administration and Support** - developing effective monitoring and reporting, organisational coordination, communication, appropriate resourcing and funding models

Three 'sub-sector' strategies specific to the early childhood, schools and tertiary ICT/(e)learning environments support and permeate through the Education Sector (e)Learning Strategic Framework.

### **Taking the Next Step - the Interim Tertiary (e)Learning Framework**

The *Interim Tertiary (e)Learning Framework*, released in October 2004, enables a more coordinated approach to (e)learning and encourages greater collaboration and connection between providers, learners and other stakeholders. With a vision that is aligned with the *New Zealand Education Sector (e)Learning Strategic Framework*, the *Interim Tertiary (e)Learning Framework* follows five principles:

- Take a learner-centred approach
- Follow and share good practice
- Exploit opportunities for collaboration
- Be innovative
- Develop models for financial affordability/sustainability

The *Interim Tertiary (e)Learning Framework* is to be reviewed every few years to ensure its relevance to the rapidly developing (e)learning environment in tertiary education.

**Implementation of Interim Tertiary (e)Learning Framework** - An Action Plan is being developed by the Tertiary (e)Learning team, in consultation with the Tertiary (e)Learning Reference group to establish a clear set of objectives, success measures, responsibilities and timeframes for each of the action areas of the Framework. Proving a clear path for implementation will help achieve the Framework's vision.

Slide 7

**Professional Development**

- **Effective Practice with (e)Learning Guidelines**  
The Tertiary (e)Learning team together with the Tertiary (e)Learning Reference Group, are developing *Effective Practice with (e)Learning* guidelines to support tertiary practitioners who are considering adopting or who have already adopted (e)learning as a means to enhance the quality of learning and teaching at their institutions
- **Teachers for Teachers for Tertiary (T4T4T)**  
T4T4T is an online professional development programme being developed for tertiary teachers, funded by the Ministry of Education.

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

### **Effective Practice with (e)Learning Guidelines**

The Tertiary (e)Learning team together with the Tertiary (e)Learning Reference Group, are developing *Effective Practice with (e)Learning*

guidelines to support tertiary practitioners who are considering adopting or who have already adopted (e)learning as a means to enhance the quality of learning and teaching at their institutions.

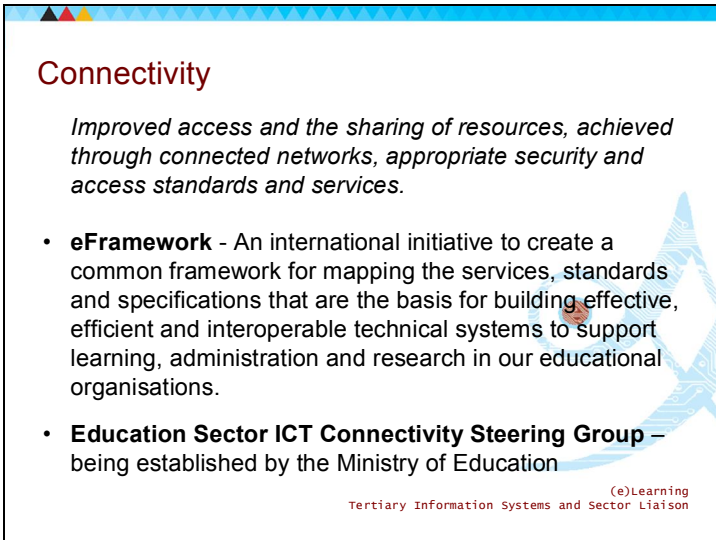
Discussions are also taking place about aligning our work with a similar project that Massey university are developing.

These guidelines should be of benefit practitioners who wish to understand what is achievable with (e)learning or how to move to the 'next step' in learning and teaching with the help of (e)learning. Following on from the guidelines for practitioners will be guidelines for tertiary education organisations and students.

## T4T4T

A pilot ran through 2004, and was a collaborative initiative between several tertiary education organisations in New Zealand. A review of the project has been undertaken and will culminate in a set of recommendations to guide future work around professional development in the shape of possible implementation of T4T4T. Development of T4T4T or an equivalent virtual professional development centre will be undertaken in 2006.

Slide 8



**Connectivity**

*Improved access and the sharing of resources, achieved through connected networks, appropriate security and access standards and services.*

- **eFramework** - An international initiative to create a common framework for mapping the services, standards and specifications that are the basis for building effective, efficient and interoperable technical systems to support learning, administration and research in our educational organisations.
- **Education Sector ICT Connectivity Steering Group** – being established by the Ministry of Education

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

## 4. Connectivity

The ICT Strategic Framework for Education (mentioned earlier) is currently being developed to support and connect an innovative education sector through the smart use of ICT. A key dimension of this Strategic Framework is connectivity - a national standards-driven ICT infrastructure for education. In this context, connectivity is about improved access and the sharing of resources, achieved through connected networks, appropriate security and access standards and services.

Connectivity is also paramount across the three components of the education sector outlined in the draft Education Sector (e)Learning Strategic Framework - *Learning and Teaching, Research and Administration and Support*.

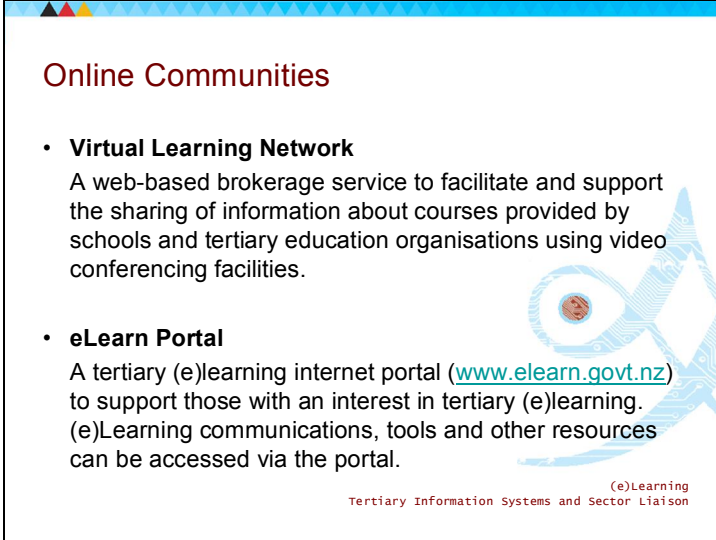
### **e-Framework**

In July 2005, the Ministry of Education reached an agreement with the Joint Information Systems Committee of the UK and the Department of Education, Science and Training of Australia to enter into a formal partnership around the e-Framework. The e-Framework (formerly the ELF) is an international initiative (involving agencies from UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Holland) to create a common framework for mapping the services, standards and specifications that are the basis for building effective, efficient and interoperable technical systems to support learning, administration and research in our educational organisations.

The significance of the e-Framework initiative lies in the fact that it represents an international collaborative effort to map existing interoperable tools and specifications as well as creating a roadmap for future developments.

### **Establishment of an Education Sector ICT Connectivity Steering Group/Committee**

The Ministry of Education are currently establishing an Education Sector ICT Connectivity Steering Group/Committee - a collective group, comprised of representatives from key government agencies and other members reflective of the three sub-sectors of education whose work would be about how to go about improving access and the sharing of resources.

The slide features a decorative border at the top with a blue triangle pattern and a small graphic of three triangles (red, yellow, blue). On the right side, there is a stylized graphic of a blue circuit board with a central circular element. The text is arranged in a list format with two main bullet points. At the bottom right, there is a small logo for '(e)Learning Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison'.

**Online Communities**

- **Virtual Learning Network**  
A web-based brokerage service to facilitate and support the sharing of information about courses provided by schools and tertiary education organisations using video conferencing facilities.
- **eLearn Portal**  
A tertiary (e)learning internet portal ([www.elearn.govt.nz](http://www.elearn.govt.nz)) to support those with an interest in tertiary (e)learning. (e)Learning communications, tools and other resources can be accessed via the portal.

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

## **Online Communities**

### **Virtual Learning Network**


Since 2002, the Ministry of Education has supported the establishment of a 'Virtual Learning Network (VLN)' - a web-based brokerage service to facilitate the sharing of information about courses provided by schools using video conferencing facilities.

Many schools, often smaller, rural secondary schools, have not had the resources to provide a sufficiently broad range of curriculum options for their students. Since 1994, an increasing number of these schools across the country have worked together to establish clusters linked by audio or video conference networks, allowing a teacher in one school to teach a 'class' comprising students in one or several of the other schools in the cluster. Now, in 2005, the VLN is extending its service to support tertiary organisations who wish to offer courses via video conferencing to students in secondary schools and other tertiary education organisations. We hope to continue to provide a service which allows students and teachers to access courses that are of high quality and relevant to their needs and circumstances.

### **eLearn Portal**

The tertiary (e)learning internet portal ([www.elearn.govt.nz](http://www.elearn.govt.nz)) was developed as a resource and tool to support those with an interest in tertiary (e)learning. (e)Learning communications, content and links to other resources and tools are continually being added to the portal.

The portal will be undergoing a redevelopment process in 2006 following consultation with users and stakeholders across the sector. The portal's redevelopments will ensure the continued relevancy and useability of the portal to the tertiary (e)learning sector.



**Research**

- **Tertiary (e)Learning Research Fund (TeLRF)**  
A contestable fund for sector-based research to advance our knowledge of (e)learning in the tertiary sector. The Ministry of Education funds research that establishes the current context and future impact of (e)learning for New Zealand's tertiary organisations, learners and teachers.
- **(e)Learning Collaborative Development Fund (eCDF)**  
A fund of \$28 million over four years from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2007. The eCDF is designed to improve the tertiary education system's capability to deliver (e)learning that improves education access and/or quality for learners.

(e)Learning  
Tertiary Information Systems and Sector Liaison

### **Tertiary (e)Learning Research Fund (TeLRF)**

The Tertiary (e)Learning Research Fund is a contestable fund for sector-based research to advance our knowledge of (e)learning in the tertiary sector. It is the Ministry's intention to fund (e)learning research which will establish the current context and future impact of (e)learning for New Zealand's tertiary organisations, learners and teachers. Such research will identify the current situation of tertiary (e)learning in New Zealand, such as the significant trends impacting on (e)learning in the last three years, and analyse the broader contextual factors which might have an impact on tertiary (e)learning in New Zealand.

The projects funded will both satisfy the need for some research on the areas the sector have identified as priorities, and will also provide a framework for a scenario-planning exercise planned for 2005/2006 for the development of (e)learning in the New Zealand tertiary sector. This is an initiative which will be of great benefit to the tertiary sector for assessing both their current and desired situation in respect of (e)learning.

### **(e)Learning Collaborative Development Fund (eCDF)**

The eCDF is a fund of \$28 million over four years from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2007. The eCDF is designed to improve the tertiary education system's capability to deliver (e)learning that improves education access and/or quality for learners.

The eCDF aims to help achieve co-operative and strategic implementation of (e)learning in tertiary education organisations.

The fund is administered by the Tertiary Education Commission, with founding policy developed at the Ministry of Education. The Ministry continues to actively liaise and work with both the TEC and sector-level eCDF project leaders.