



IMMERSIVE TELEPRESENCE A New Revolution

Sanjay Bansal

In today's rapidly evolving world where technology drives growth; the education sector cannot be left far behind. Given the top-notch institutes proliferating network that spans global locations, institutes need to upgrade to the latest relevant technology for a well connected learning ecosystem. However, the reality is that this sector is still at a nascent stage when it comes to embracing new technological advancements. This is especially true when it comes to distance teaching which has till now been considered as a poor choice to in-person classroom teaching.

Premium educational institutes which enjoy a brilliant reputation when it comes to the education imparted on their campuses, often see a drop in the quality when it comes to the same in their other campuses. One of the major challenges faced by such institutes is ensuring the provision of premium faculty across multiple centers.

Students on the other hand lose out on a truly engaging and immersive learning experience possible in a direct face-to-face interaction learning session with faculty and peers. Remote students separated by thousands of miles from premium faculty are deprived of equal opportunities. In such a scenario, Immersive Telepresence distance teaching provides the answer to address the challenges faced by the sector. Immersive Telepresence distance teaching holds the promise of helping both students and institutes when it comes to attaining and imparting

distance education respectively without compromising on the quality of the learning. It can radically revolutionize the manner in which educational institutes conduct distance teaching. It provides an experience for remote students and teachers as "realistic" as being in the same classroom, becoming the definitive solution to cultivate a truly connected learning ecosystem that is independent of distances. Distant students can access a lecture session at the same time, participating in it in real time as they would if they were present at the location.

Immersive Telepresence enables professors to teach classes of up to 16-75 in strength across five multiple locations

Immersive Telepresence distance teaching is the answer to the huge shortage of faculty worldwide

at the same time, on demand, without compromising on the quality of teaching. Thus, allowing educators to train 5 times more students in five different locations or may be even in the same campus at the same time which was never possible before. The solution offers highly optimized seating layouts for distance and local teaching with specially designed furniture to aid the cause of learning, high definition video, auto image sweeping of remote students, auto trainer tracking, life-size images and natural eye contact to both students and faculty in concert with unique media-rich capabilities and

extreme ease of usage for most lifelike and interactive learning experience. Assessments, whether on comprehension or performance levels of both remote and local students, can be easily done by professors in real-time, keeping all students especially the distant learning ones attentive all throughout. The professor is also able to get the regular sweeping views of every student as he gets locally from every distance class to further increase the level of attention of all the students from across locations. Student asking questions from a distant location provides the trainer the same experience as provided by a student and vice-versa.

Lectures can be recorded with a touch of a button (professor, interaction of local and distance students and professor's content synchronously) in a fully automated manner which encourages on-demand learning. This will help in creating of a knowledge bank which in turn becomes the content for "Learning on demand". This encourages high level of interactions among lecturer and students; empowering students to actively engage and participate proactively regardless of location.

Immersive telepresence distance teaching seems like the link that has been missing so far when it comes to addressing the challenges faced by institutes in delivering superlative education across multiple campuses without compromising on the effectiveness of learning. With a huge shortage of quality faculty worldwide and the premium institutes trying to maintain their standards of teaching across the globe, and their underdog competitors aspiring to use the distance faculty of the premier institutes to improve the quality of the education imparted, Immersive telepresence distance teaching is the answer to improve the quality of education across the globe. ■

*The author is Founder, Chairman & Managing Director, Business Octane
sbansal@businessoctane.com*