



## **Growth in Distance Education Programs**

**Tinatin Mshvidobadze**

Georgia

[tinikomshvidobadze@gmail.com](mailto:tinikomshvidobadze@gmail.com)

These paper reviews effective in distance education. Distance education is not a new concept, but in recent years, it has assumed markedly new forms and greater prominence. Distance education's older form was the correspondence course—a home study course generally completed by mail. More recently, distance education has increasingly been delivered in electronic forms, such as videoconferencing and the Internet. Some of these newer forms share more features of traditional classroom instruction. For example, students taking a course by videoconference generally participate in an actual class in which they can interact directly with the instructor. Many postsecondary schools have added or expanded electronically-based programs, so that distance education is now relatively common across the entire postsecondary landscape. We estimate that in the 2009-2010 school year, about 1.5 million of the 19 million students involved in postsecondary education took at least one electronically transmitted distance education course. Education reports that an estimated 84 percent of four-year institutions will offer distance education courses in 2010. The Internet is the most common mode of delivery for providing distance education.