

Diana G. Oblinger, Ph.D.

Abstract

Resilience

More than ever, tertiary education needs resilience—the ability to sense and respond to changes—whether in operations, finance, learning or expectations. Beyond “getting back to normal,” digital transformation affords us the opportunity to think differently. We can ask what we can stop doing as well as how to reach people wherever they are. We can reduce duplication, extend our capabilities with AI, learn in 3D, help students cope with stress and develop unique skills. Other approaches can preserve continuity and optimize operations and finance. Digital transformation and strategic thinking can lead to resilience, which is an institutional attribute as well as important life skill.

Bio

Dr. Diana Oblinger, President Emeritus of EDUCAUSE, led the non-profit association from 2008 – 2015, in its mission to advance higher education through the use of information technology. Its membership includes 2,300 colleges, universities, and education organizations in more than 40 countries. Previously, Oblinger held positions in academia and business, including the University of North Carolina system, IBM, and Microsoft. She is known for her leadership in information technology, particularly its impact on enhancing learning and improving student success. Oblinger has received outstanding teaching and research awards and holds three honorary degrees. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of Ellucian and Signal Vine.