

16.6.2026

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**Title**

The Virtual University of the Monterrey Technical Institute

**Publication year**

2001

**Source/Footnote**

In: Higher education in Europe. - 26 (2001) 4, S. 541 - 545

**Inventory number**

15747

**Keywords**

Ausland : Mexiko : einzelne Hochschulen ; Hochschule : Virtuelle Hochschule ; Multimedia / Internet ; Informationsgesellschaft / Wissensgesellschaft ; Fernstudium : allgemein

**Abstract**

The creation and the achievements of the Virtual University of Monterrey Tech (Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey) in Mexico are briefly described. Monterrey Tech itself, which was founded in 1943, has had a vocation going back a number of years to offer distance education on a number of satellite campuses. The Virtual University was founded in 1996 to carry on the distance education vocation of the institution as a whole in Mexico and in other Latin American countries with the use of the new information and communications technologies (ICTs). The Virtual University is particularly active in the domain of community education, teacher retraining, in-company training programmes, and in the offer of training for Mexican state and local officials. Although a private entity, the Virtual University and its parent organization, Monterrey Tech, are firmly committed to the public development of Mexico. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)