Interview with Robert Beasey 27 April 2017

Restraints on the ability of Online Education to make a difference (Please excuse the rough and unformatted nature of this brief report -- just writing down the thoughts Robert is expressing as he expresses them -- thanks! -- Sharon)

1. Time constraints have prevented Robert from taking certain classes that he needed for his program of study not because of the test, but because of transportation.
2. Can online classes help alleviate the issue by avoiding the need for transportation and simply delivering the class at home?
   A. NO Because it costs extra money
   B. For those who want face-to-face rather than looking at a module or a pre-recorded lecture, because if you have a question, you can't ask it to the computer, so there fore students who want timely interaction want face-to-face classes.   The other issue is that some professors give office hours and tell the students when the.

 3. Teleconference courses would alleviate some of the issues described above. Especially, Robert likes the fact that messages can be sent and saved to the teleconference terminal and that the student can have that message available to him when he opens up the teleconference.

Note that we had explored the use of Firefox Hello at the outset of the development of the USFSP Online Student Support Portal, but this technology is no longer supported by Firefox.

[Support for Hello discontinued in Firefox 49](#) Hello will be removed from Firefox when version 49 is released on September 20, 2016. Here are some alternatives to Hello.

https://support.mozilla.org/en-US/products/firefox/chat-and-share/firefox-hello-webrtc

To that end, he still wishes for a video conferencing ability in the portal. Dr. Frechette had actually addressed most of the concerns through his development of the custom chat platform, to allow real-time communications.   The "video" component is something Robert desires yet, but specifically, not as a pre-recorded video, but a real-time video-conferencing ability as we had with Firefox Hello earlier.   We'll do some looking into webrtc if time permits before we wrap up the final version of the portal prototype.