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Vandana Sharma* (vandanas@asu.edu). *Creating a Synchronous Learning environment through Advances in Technology*. Preliminary report.

Distance learning has been around for over 100 years, and it has been defined in many ways in modern literature. The most thorough definition is given by Desmond Keegan (1995), who says that distance education and training result from the technological separation of teacher and learner which frees the student from the necessity of traveling to “a fixed place, at a fixed time, to meet a fixed person, in order to be trained”. Based on this definition, we can see that distance education can take place when the student and teacher are separated by space, but not necessarily by time. In this session, I will explain how we can use technology to create synchronous learning environment to facilitate student - teacher interaction and learning in real time, but in different space. The following video gives a glimpse of this idea: https://math.1a.asu.edu/~sharma/Demo_Callnew.mp4 (Received September 20, 2016)