

## ***“The University of Wisconsin Online”***

**Vision:** The University of Wisconsin System will develop a coordinated and collaborative approach to online learning with the goals of extending its educational reach, enhancing program quality, enriching on-campus education, and preparing all students, faculty and staff for learning in the future.

**Mission Statement:** In the 21st century, Wisconsin residents and students will increasingly expect the University to provide online opportunities as part of its core mission. In order to meet these expectations, UW institutions will work collaboratively to leverage their faculty expertise and other elements of online leadership to provide broadened access to world class education in a seamless fashion.

### **Principles:**

- The UW System’s approach to online learning will be consistent with the mission of the University of Wisconsin System, including our overall plans for academic program development, EM21, meeting the economic development needs of the State of Wisconsin, the international focus of the UW System and the State of Wisconsin, and the Board of Regents principles on program array and duplication.
- The universities and colleges of the University of Wisconsin System will present their online learning offerings as a comprehensive, integrated and unified set of online course offerings to meet the needs of our students and other clientele. These course offerings will include both collaborative online course offerings and degree programs, and those offered by single institutions.
- In order to prepare students for learning in the future, all students shall understand and use the technology skills characteristic of online learning courses during their collegiate career.
- The UW System will continue to develop quality standards, in line with the Board of Regents Policy on *Standards for Academic and Student Support Services in Distance Education Credit Courses, Degree and*

*Certificate Programs and Guidelines for Distance Education Credit Program Array and Approval* (approved in June of 2000) and provide necessary systemwide support for an online learning infrastructure, typified by the following components:

- Instructional Design and Courseware Development Support (both systemwide at the University of Wisconsin Learning Innovations and at campus Learning Technology Development Centers)
- Support for Course Management Tools (Learning Utilities)
- University of Wisconsin Learning Innovations Learner Relationship Management System
- Systemwide Study of Potential Markets
- Marketing of UW Programs
- Online Library Access
- Help Desk Support

Funding for this online learning infrastructure may be shared between campus and systemwide funds. UW System institutions should utilize this online learning infrastructure for the development and ongoing support of online learning programs to the extent resources are available.

- The University of Wisconsin System will need to rely on a partnership of State resources and student tuition to support online learning and the associated online learning infrastructure. The pricing of online programs should be consistent with the UW Board of Regents *Principles for Pricing Distance Education Credit Courses, Degree and Certificate Programs* approved in June of 1999.

### **Action Plan:**

- A UW System Online Learning Policy Council will be established during academic year 2001-2002 to assist the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs in reviewing all campus plans for new online programs. The Senior Vice President, with the support of the Online Learning Policy Council, will look to:

- Enhance curricular collaboration between UW institutions, when appropriate, to reach target audiences
  - Establish standards and review online programs to insure that appropriate instructional and learner support is available, including library resources, student services, etc.
  - Minimize program duplication and focus resources upon serving emerging student needs
  - Recommend new policies relating to online learning
- In the next two years, the UW System institutions will develop at least three pilot collaborative online degree or certificate programs (e.g. a certificate program for teachers, a package of systemwide core courses, degree programs in high demand disciplines). This development will enable the UW System to assess systemwide online instruction, support services, and financial arrangements, and assist in further developing principles.
- In order to provide all UW students with exposure to online learning during their collegiate career, each UW System institution shall insure that faculty build these skills into every major offered at all UW institutions.
- The UW System shall develop a University of Wisconsin Online Portal through which students can access all UW online programs and courses.
- For the 2003-05 Biennial Budget, the UW System will develop a request to support the development of a coordinated and collaborative approach to online learning. Federal and private funds will also be sought to support this venture.