

ALLIANCE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
Agricultural Interactive Distance Education Alliance (AG*IDEA)
Under the Auspices of the
Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance
(Great Plains IDEA)

The Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (hereinafter called the Great Plains IDEA) is comprised of academic colleges offering baccalaureate and higher degree programs. Any institution that meets membership eligibility requirements for the Agricultural Interactive Distance Education Alliance (AG*IDEA) is considered an Alliance Member once approved by the Great Plains IDEA Cabinet and will hereinafter be called an Alliance Member.

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into by Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas, acting for and on behalf of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville -- Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences, regarding the Great Plains IDEA and AG*IDEA (hereinafter referred to as Great Plains IDEA). It is understood that additional parties may be invited to join this cooperative effort as Alliance Members and shall be entitled to all rights and responsibilities as any member signatory of this Memorandum of Agreement. Program Affiliates shall include academic units that are not members of the Great Plains IDEA but that choose to be active participants in at least one academic initiative of the Great Plains IDEA. A separate Memorandum of Agreement shall be developed for each inter-institutional program and shall be executed by Alliance Members and Program Affiliates participating in the program.

To provide a method of operation by which the Alliance Members can conduct joint efforts, and in consideration of the mutual agreements in this Memorandum of Agreement, the Alliance Members agree as follows:

- I. **Description and Mission.** The Great Plains IDEA is a joint project of the Alliance Members. The Great Plains IDEA shall serve the faculty and administrators of Alliance Members by offering workshops, recommending standards, sharing practices, and disseminating policy issues and recommendations to allow Alliance Members to offer educational programs more easily and thereby give students and professionals more access to high quality education.
- II. **Alliance Governance.** The Great Plains IDEA shall be governed in accordance with the Alliance Bylaws by the Great Plains IDEA Cabinet.
- III. **Funding.** Each Alliance Member shall bear its own costs of any activity, project, or program undertaken by the Great Plains IDEA that is not funded by a contract, grant, or other support.
- IV. **Administration and Management.** Each Alliance Member shall provide administrative oversight and program management in accordance with the Great Plains IDEA Bylaws.
- V. **Responsibilities of Alliance Members.** The Alliance Members shall work together on the development of inter-institutional programs and shall:
 - A. Participate in the leadership of the Great Plains IDEA by attending board meetings, serving as board officers and/or committee members, and providing administrative support for inter-institutional Academic Programs.

- B. Support faculty participation in the planning and implementation of Program Initiatives sponsored by the Great Plains IDEA when such programs are a fit with the mission and goals of this unit.
- C. Appoint a representative to the appropriate Academic Board, maintain course and program information on the Great Plains IDEA course catalog, and support inter-institutional programs with faculty and technological resources as agreed upon in separate program memoranda.
- D. Commit to faculty development and course and program assessments that assure that distance programming promotes active learning, provides quality educational experiences, and is methodologically sound.
- VI. Property.** Supplies, facilities, equipment, or other property received or acquired by members of Great Plains IDEA solely as a result of participation in Great Plains IDEA activities shall remain dedicated for use on Great Plains IDEA activities and may be shared by other partner institutions, to the extent provided for in the terms of any pertinent grants or contracts.
- VII. Intellectual Property.** All discoveries, technology, trademarks, copyrights, patents and other intellectual property arising out of or in connection with an inter-institutional program shall be governed by the Great Plains IDEA institution authoring, creating or conceiving and reducing it to practice and shall be subject to such terms and conditions as may be contained in any agreement that the partnering institution may have with the sponsors, and shall be subject to the institutional intellectual property policies of the authoring, creating or conceiving institution. This Memorandum of Agreement does not transfer or license any participating institution's marks or logos.
- VIII. Termination.** Based on the Great Plains IDEA Bylaws, the Cabinet and the AG*IDEA Board of Directors shall determine involuntary termination of Alliance membership, based on nonpayment, nonparticipation, or other just cause, following notice and reasonable opportunity to cure. An institution may terminate its membership as a Great Plains IDEA Member by providing written notification to the Great Plains IDEA Cabinet and the appropriate Academic Board of Directors. Said notification must be given at least one (1) year in advance of termination of membership.
- IX. Independent Parties.** Notwithstanding any other term or condition of this Memorandum, each participating institution shall be an independent party. No party's personnel shall be deemed to be employees of another party. Furthermore, nothing contained in this Memorandum shall be deemed or construed as creating the relationship of principal and agent, partners, joint venturers, or any similar relationship between or among the parties.

By affixing the appropriate signatures to this document, Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas, acting for and on behalf of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville -- Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food, and Life Science, indicates its desire to be a member of the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance and agrees to participate in the Great Plains IDEA according to the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement.

Signed the 16th day of July, 2010.



Signature of Academic Administrator



Signature of University Chancellor



*Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance
(Great Plains IDEA)*

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Agreement to Great Plains IDEA Graduate Deans Agreement

Date: July 16, 2010

Institution: The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

As a member of Great Plains IDEA and the Agricultural Interactive Distance Education Alliance (AG*IDEA), the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas, acting for and on behalf of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville does hereby agree to abide by the Great Plains IDEA Graduate Deans Agreement.


Chancellor


Graduate Dean

Graduate Deans Agreement

Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (Great Plains IDEA)

Adopted October 30, 2001, Updated March 18, 2003

The Graduate Deans of the Universities that are members of the Great Plains IDEA and that are participating in the Master's and graduate certificate programs offered through the Great Plains IDEA, on behalf of their respective Graduate Faculties, have agreed to the following principles and procedures in order to facilitate the development and delivery of inter-institutional graduate programs through their institutions.

Principle 1:

The participating Graduate Schools mutually respect the academic standards and quality of the academic departments involved in this joint program, therefore:

- 1.1 Courses approved for delivery by this program will be considered inter-institutional courses and will be exempt from transfer credit policies.
- 1.2 Faculty members who provide instruction in this program must carry graduate faculty status at their home institution; however, further documentation or approval will not be required by the other members of the Alliance.
- 1.3 Students admitted as degree-seeking students in Great Plains IDEA programs will be accepted automatically by all other members of the Alliance for enrollment in courses that are a part of the curricula of Great Plains IDEA programs. Admission to a Great Plains IDEA program will be based on the criteria established at each participating institution and program pre-requisites established for the Alliance Program to which admission is sought. Institutions are encouraged not to require the GRE.
- 1.4 The number of students that may be admitted to the program by each participating institution will be determined by agreement of the participating institutions.
- 1.5 The content of the curriculum will be determined by agreement of the participating institutions.

Principle 2:

The participating Graduate Schools recognize that the implementation of Great Plains IDEA programs at each institution may be best accomplished using procedures and practices that are inherent to those respective institutions, therefore:

- 2.1 The Great Plains IDEA programs may be stand-alone majors, emphases, options or some other designation as is appropriate to the respective Universities.
- 2.2 A student in a Great Plains IDEA program who is degree seeking will enroll in all cross-listed Alliance courses at the home institution. Elective courses within the program may or may not be cross listed.

- 2.3 The admissions procedures for students desiring to be degree seeking will be determined by their home institution within the standards and limitations on numbers agreed to by the participating institutions.
- 2.4 Each University is responsible for obtaining initial approval and approval of any changes in the program through the processes that are in-place and required by their respective institutions.
- 2.5 Each University, when serving as the home institution for a given student, will utilize the same deadlines and procedures as used for its other degree-seeking graduate students in areas not specifically addressed in this document. This would include, but not be limited to, the requirements for plans of study, approval of graduate committees and participation in graduation.
- 2.6 Each institution will transcript courses taught by faculty at partner institutions, as it deems appropriate, consistent with the guidelines indicated in Principle 1.

Principle 3:

The participating Graduate Schools commit to minimize the unique challenges and barriers for students that might otherwise occur in an inter-institutional distance education program to the extent possible, therefore:

- 3.1 A student will apply and be admitted to one Alliance institution that will become that student's home institution. All student services will be provided by the student's home institution. Students will enroll in all Alliance courses through their home institution.
- 3.2 Each institution will facilitate the exchange of information relative to courses completed and grades earned consistent with Federal regulations for the release of information.
- 3.3 A common database of student and course information will be established by the Great Plains IDEA to facilitate the transfer of student and course information between the home institution and the teaching institution.

Updated 03-18-2003

***Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance
(Great Plains IDEA)***

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Agreement to Great Plains IDEA Common Price and Financial Principles

Date: 7/12/10

Institution: The University of Arkansas, Fayetteville

As a member of Great Plains IDEA and the Agricultural Interactive Distance Education Alliance (AG*IDEA), the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas, acting for and on behalf of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville does hereby agree to abide by the Great Plains IDEA Common Price and Financial Principles, subject to the approval of tuition and fee levels by the Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas.

D. O. Pederson

Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration

Appendix D.2

Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (Great Plains IDEA) Financial Agreements and Principles for Setting and Managing the Common Price

1. The common price is inclusive of all tuition and other fees normally assessed by institutions. Of this price, 75% will support the institution providing the course, 12.5% will support the institution at which the student enrolls in the course, and 12.5% will support the Great Plains Alliance central costs.
2. The Alliance shall annually review the common price. All courses applied to programs of study that are taught by faculty members as part of an Inter-Institutional program and that are defined as "Alliance courses" shall be priced at or above the Alliance common price to all students enrolled in the Alliance section (whether or not the students have been admitted to Alliance Programs).
3. The common price shall be approved by the institutional financial officers and the Great Plains IDEA Board of Directors. To facilitate this decision making process, the Great Plains Finance Committee shall:
 - a. Direct the Great Plains Lead Institution to conduct an analysis of prices of competitor programs and an analysis of current tuition/fee rates of partner institutions.
 - b. Conduct ongoing cost analyses to determine the cost basis for Alliance courses.
 - c. Meet in conference call with institutional finance officers at least 30 days prior to the Great Plains IDEA semi-annual meeting to develop a proposed price.
 - d. The Great Plains IDEA Board of Directors shall vote at the semi-annual meeting to set the price for the upcoming academic year.
4. Price decisions will be set according to the following agreements:
 - a. Prices will be set at a competitive level. We will not seek to be either the low cost or the high cost program provider.
 - b. Prices will generally support cost recovery within a 5-year period. Costs to be recovered include development costs, marginal costs, delivery costs, home administrative fees, continuing/revamping course costs, alliance costs.
 - c. Institutions are responsible for identifying scholarship support for students in programs for which the social need is great but the prospect of enhanced income is limited.
5. Following the semi-annual meeting and agreement on the common price for the next academic year, each institution will do the following:
 - a. Develop a plan for internal distribution of the income from Alliance courses.
 - b. Secure the approval of the Academic Dean, the Chief Academic Officer, and the Chief Financial Officer for the common price and submit to the Great Plains IDEA Board of Directors a commitment letter.
6. Fund transfers
 - a. The Lead institution will compile an annual report of financial transactions.
 - b. Current model of collection and remission to the teaching institution is decentralized but the finance officers are discussing simplified processes.

- c. If an institution grants a "tuition/Common Price" waiver, **IT IS STILL** required to remit 75% of the Common Price to the "teaching institution" and 12.5% of the Common Price to the Alliance. The institution granting the waiver will determine how the funds to be distributed are identified.
7. Managing institutional differences
 - a. Financial transfer dates shall be set at midterm or later.
 - b. The enrolling institution's refund dates apply.
8. Target date for setting the Alliance price is at the semi-annual meeting of the Great Plains IDEA Board of Directors for each academic year.