

Council of Chairs Comments On the Proposed Distance Learning Policy

The Council of Chairs (COC) supports, in principle, the proposed Distance Learning Policy (DLP). The potential positive effects of on-line education on undergraduate, graduate, continuing education, and summer school programs justifies evaluating the appropriateness and benefit of online education in all of these programs.

However, the COC believes the college's focus on academic excellence must extend to online education also. It is the opinion of the COC that the proposed DLP does not adequately recognize important issues related to online education particularly in the areas of transferability of online courses and degrees and the resources needed to support high-quality online education.

Specifically, the COC feels the following questions need to be addressed.

Transferability

1. What should be done to help ensure Oneonta's on-line courses and degrees are transferable to other institutions?
2. How will on-line courses and degrees from other institutions be evaluated for transfer to Oneonta?

Pedagogical Support

1. What type of technical and pedagogical support will be available to departments offering online education?
2. How will workload related to online teaching (development and delivery) be recognized in a faculty member's teaching load?

Respectfully,

The Council of Chairs