

Senate Continuing Education Distance Education and Outreach Committee  
Minutes from the October 21, 2003 Meeting

Committee Members in attendance:

Mike Briggs  
Sukhvarsh Jerath  
Stephen Johnson  
Katrina Meyer  
Richard Ferraro  
James Shaeffer

1) Call to order and Introductions

Stephen called the meeting to order and committee members introduced themselves.

2) FY 03 SCEDEOC Report

The committee reviewed and approved the committee's FY 03 report. Jim will submit the report to University Senate on behalf of the committee.

3) Election of Chair

Stephen agreed to serve again as chair of the committee. He was then elected as chair for FY 04.

4) Discussion Items

a) Evaluations –

The committee asked how course evaluations were distributed to students and Jim responded that it depended on how the course is delivered. IVN courses have course evaluations handed out at the site while online and correspondence study courses must submit their evaluations through the mail. It was suggested that the Division of Continuing Education look at the possibility of giving students the opportunity to respond by email. Jim will discuss this with the staff and report back to the committee.

b) Perceptions of courses and degrees delivered at a distance –

They had a wide-ranging discussion about the perceptions faculty and students may have about courses and programs offered at a distance. The committee has asked the Division to survey faculty about their perceptions of courses offered at a distance. Jim suggested that we include some of the staff in a discussion at our next meeting at which we will discuss what sorts of information we want to collect in relation to perceptions.

c) Research on courses offered at a distance -

The committee discussed the on-going perception that courses offered at a distance are not of the same academic quality. While the committee does not agree with this perception, it was suggested that a one-page document with web sites dedicated to this research can be found. Jim and Katrina will work on this and report back to the committee.