

DRAFT

West Virginia Virtual Learning Network

Vision:

West Virginia will be a global leader in the delivery of lifelong learning through the innovative and effective use of distance learning technologies.

Mission:

The West Virginia Virtual Learning Network (WVVLN) is the coordinating body for public higher education distance learning in West Virginia. Our mission is to coordinate and promote educational access to the citizens of West Virginia and the world.

Goals:

Access:

- ◆ Provide access to learners regardless of location or time
- ◆ Serve as West Virginia's preferred guide to programming and providers of distance education.

Programming:

- ◆ Be proactive in identifying learner needs and match those needs to appropriate providers
- ◆ Promote collaboration among West Virginia colleges and universities to develop and/or deliver programming that is aligned with institutional mission and addresses state needs through shared resources and delivery.
- ◆ Demonstrate educational excellence through instructional technologies
- ◆ Increase course and program participation through degree options for non-traditional adult learners, building from the Associate of Arts degree in General/Liberal Studies through the Regents Bachelor of Arts degree.
- ◆ Improve and expand upon the transfer/articulation agreement among WV HEPC institutions.

Central Coordination

- ◆ To be the repository of distance education statistics for West Virginia Higher Education. This includes management of the WVVLN database of courses and facilitation of all appropriate data or monitoring reports.
- ◆ Promote WVVLN courses and programs through the WVVLN web site with accurate and timely information on course listings, student services, partner institutions and all other appropriate information
- ◆ Facilitate communication among institutions, with the WVHEPC and external constituents

Recommendations for WVVLN actions:

- a) Provide centralized data tracking providing a centralized statistical profile of distance activity in West Virginia. This must begin with distinct definitions with aligned reporting fields from institutions.
- b) Establishment of a statewide distance education course catalog or database.

- c) Develop a business plan to identify funding for:
 - staffing - full-time centralized WVVLN staff that includes 1 FTE Director and 1 technical support person
 - shared programming or statewide course lease agreements
 - marketing and course promotion
 - grant dollars for collaborative programming; faculty development; awards for instruction
- d) Implement a statewide registration form for WVVLN courses. This registration process would also allow students to enroll up to 12 hours at the undergraduate level before formal degree admission is required. After 12 hours, the students must apply to a “home institution” and receive approval for any courses taken thereafter to transfer into their degree program (Guest or Visiting Student WVVLN form). Please note that admission to a degree program is required for financial aid.
- e) Recommend to the Vice Chancellor of Community Colleges an Associate of Arts in General Studies/Liberal Arts available entirely through distance education offerings of the WVVLN for presentation to WV Community Colleges and institutions with Associate Degrees for adoption.
- f) Develop coursework and Areas of Emphasis for the Regents Bachelor of Arts degree available through 11 colleges and universities in West Virginia.
- g) Confirm WVVLN website referenced in all WVHEPC college and university printed and/or web schedules.
- h) Develop a marketing plan to promote WVVLN courses and programs.
- i) Design a WVVLN template to be implemented at all three Vista host institutions for leased or collaborative course delivery. This hosting protects intellectual property, provides a “face” for WVVLN collaborations, and allows one instructor to enroll students from multiple institutions overriding BANNER authentication.