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University of Alaska
Statewide System of Higher Education

June 14, 1995

TO: Jim Lynch
Carol Griffin
Janet Hillyer
Mike Rice
Randy Weaver

FROM: *MB* Marylou Burton

SUBJECT: Allocation of Tuition/Fees for Inter-MAU Instruction

April Crosby asked that I bring the issue of allocating inter-MAU instruction tuition/fee revenues to the Business Council. This is an issue that the UALC has discussed in some detail, but which has yet to be resolved satisfactorily. I think what April is asking the Business Council to do is to give the issue our "business" perspective, and then to make a recommendation to the UALC accordingly.

Attached is information I pulled together about inter-MAU instruction tuition/fee revenues. Please note that my overview has not been reviewed by April (who is on vacation until June 21st) and may well contain some inaccuracies. The basic questions I propose for discussion are relevant, though, and I think get to the heart of our involvement in this issue. Ideally, we can use these (and other questions you will raise) to come up with some sort of consensus on how WE think inter-MAU tuition/fee revenues ought to be allocated.

cc: April Crosby

Allocation of Tuition/Fees for Inter-MAU Instruction

Tuition/fee structures for inter-MAU instruction currently vary by campus, course and delivery mode. For example, all MAU's charge a "distance fee" in addition to tuition, but those fees range from \$29 at UAA to \$40 at UAS and up to \$50 at UAF. And while all MAU's credit headcount and credit hours to the campus providing the instruction ("originating site"), tuition/fees are sometimes credited to the originating site, sometimes to the "receiving site", and sometimes split between the two sites. There is, in fact, no system-wide procedure for either setting or distributing tuition and fees for inter-MAU instruction.

As part of its ongoing effort to better coordinate inter-MAU instruction, the University of Alaska Learning Cooperative (UALC) is also interested in redefining related tuition and fee structures. In FY95, for example, UALC proposed that tuition for UALC sponsored courses be split evenly between the originating and receiving sites. This was not in fact done because UALC tuition revenues were too immaterial (approximately \$2,000) for reallocation to be cost effective. UALC expects to generate more revenue in FY96, however, and is once again considering options for pricing. Moreover, UALC representatives would like to see all inter-MAU instruction tuition and fees standardized so that similar courses are handled the same throughout the University system.

To this end, UALC is seeking advice and support from the Business Council to arrive at a tuition/fee structure for inter-MAU instruction that is (to the extent possible) standardized, simple and fair. At the most basic level, this means that course fees should be standardized for a given delivery mode, and tuition/fee revenues should be allocated consistently among MAU's. Fairness may also mean that both the originating and receiving sites are allocated revenues by way of reimbursement or incentive, though practicality and ease of administration may be a more important consideration. In any event, UALC is asking the Business Council for its suggestions for allocation of inter-MAU instruction tuition/fee revenues.

Included on the attached pages is more information on the types of delivery modes and related fees currently charged at the three academic MAU's, as well as a description (not complete) of the kinds of costs incurred by both originating and receiving sites.. At this time, the originating MAU keeps both tuition and fee revenues, though the College of Rural Alaska (CRA) has an internal policy that tuition is credited to the receiving CRA campus. UALC's tentative plan for the Fall of 1995 is that these policies will continue for UALC sponsored courses, except that tuition for audio conference courses will be collected by the originating site and then transferred to UALC, who will also coordinate ATN billings for additional audio conference sites. UALC recognizes that this does not provide any incentive to receiving sites, however (except for CRA campuses), nor does it standardize course fees among MAU's or extend to inter-MAU courses that are not part of the UALC menu. UALC is seeking a longer term policy that addresses all of these concerns.

As a starting point for discussion, the following questions are brought before the Business Council:

Should course ("distance") fees be standardized for all inter-MAU instruction?

If so, at what level?

How should tuition and fees be allocated between originating and receiving sites:

All revenues to originating site?

Tuition to originating site and fees to receiving site?

Separate fee for receiving site as incentive and reimbursement for local costs (registration, advising, equipment, etc.)?

Should the true costs of distance delivery be determined and a fee structure defined that more accurately reflects those costs?

What part should UALC (as opposed to MAU business offices) play in reallocating revenues or paying bills?

TO: Marylou Burton
 FROM: April Crosby
 DATE: June 6, 1995
 RE: Allocation of Tuition/Fees for Inter-MAU Instruction

To get us started, here is a list of potential "inter-MAU" delivery modes and people to contact to request cost information. When I return from vacation June 21, I will gather sample policies and practices from other schools.

<u>Delivery Mode</u>	<u>Cost/Charges</u>	<u>Contact Name</u>
Correspondence (print & video)	tuition, materials fee and "service fee" vary with course	UAF - Jim Stricks 474-5353
"Distance Education" (mainly video)	tuition and \$40 "distance fee"	UAS - Sitka Denise Blankenship 747-6653
	tuition and \$29 "distance fee"	UAA - Distance Ed. Judy Michael 786-1626
Audioconference courses	tuition only	UAF - Jim Stricks
	tuition and \$40 "distance fee"	UAS - Blankenship
"LIVENet" by satellite/cable	tuition and \$29 "distance fee"	UAA - Distance Ed. Office
Interactive TV	used in several inter-MAU courses so far; no additional fees were charged. Subsidized by UALC.	

The originating site" refers to the site from which the course is taught. The "receiving site" refers to where the student sits - the site at which the student uses the course if different than the originating site.

Costs to originating sites for courses of all kinds:

1. Course production (from correspondence packets of written material to making video tapes to graphics for instructors to use during live air time).
2. Instructor salary for course preparation time and delivery time. Distance education courses tend to be labor intensive at the front-end, i.e., instructors need release time the semester before teaching a course. (University of Wisconsin's rule of thumb is 100/hrs prep. time per credit, so 300 hrs/course. They estimate faculty (and some materials) cost at \$100/hour, so one course costs \$30,000. They also point out that PBS telecourses can be purchased for \$5,000. Many administrators anticipate that most universities will purchase or "import" distance courses; most places will only produce their areas of expertise, i.e., Arctic science.

3. Distribution costs (from mailing out print correspondence material [Jim Stricks would have an estimate on this, per course] to circulation of video tapes (some US distance programs send them only to libraries or central repositories. Others send sets of tapes to individual students.) to audio conference telephone line charges per site [Jim knows average charge] to Aurora Satellite band space time (now negotiated with UAA-Alascom at \$100/hour. This is very reasonable and may go up. Distribution costs should include the overhead and staff time for people who I work, for instance, in the UAA Distance Education program or in UAF's Independent Learning shop.

Costs to receiving sites regardless of delivery mode:

1. Registration, advising, etc. if the student registers locally (as opposed to through the originating site. We want students to be able to register locally for their convenience.)

To be continued.....

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

TO: Phill Harrington
FROM: ~~APU~~ Crosby
DATE: May 3, 1995
SUBJECT: Distance Education Fees

Special Student Fees

UAA Distance Education Program charges a uniform \$29 fee for distance courses, I believe. Contact Judy Michael at 786-1512 or ANJAM. Ask her if there are other units at UAA that offer some kind of distance programs to make sure you get it all.

UAS has a standard distance fee too, which I believe is less than UAA. The Sitka campus is in charge of the UAS distance program, contact Denise Blankenship at TNDMB or 747-6721.

UAF has Center for Distance Education, Jim Stricks heads it up. I believe their distance fees vary with the course and would be in the Independent Learning catalog, which, most recently, was in the UALC Bulletin. (Sandy can get you one from my office.) Jim Stricks out of town until May 11 but someone in his office at 474-5353 may know distance fees.

To be 100% thorough, you should contact the name associated with every program listed in the UALC Bulletin, as each of these programs is offered at a distance, and they all may have fees. The main distance offices are listed above but other programs are available by distance. You might also check with Larry Bennet at UAF engineering. They teach courses for National Technological University with certain fees; but there would be for outside students, not UA students, I think.

Who Gets Tuition?

1. For the UALC pilot courses this spring semester, there were at least two arrangements. The UALC committee agreed that tuition would be split between the "originating" and "receiving" campuses; 50% - 50%. This was for the four inter-MAU courses that the UALC sponsored. See attached memo. After registration, the UALC committee decided that the tuition to be JV'd was so little that we would not bother with the transfer. The UALC is planning additional inter-MAU registrations for some courses for next fall, most of these appear to be between UAS and UAF's CRA Cross-regional schedule (the audio courses among the rural campuses which UAS students may want to tap into.) Jim Stricks at UAF and Elaine Sunde at UAS figured out that subsidy money for this inter-MAU effort would go farther if the originating campus kept all the tuition, so that is the plan for fall. There is no policy on this, to date. The UALC has just been doing whatever works and that the originating and the sending campuses agree to. This issue was on a Business Council agenda some weeks ago but further analysis for policy

development was tabled because MaryLou was swamped with legislative work. When she is free we need to go back with them with analysis and options.

2. On other courses this spring, i.e., CS601 Software Engineering which was taught from UAF by video also to UAA students, each MAU kept the tuition of the registering students. This was not planned, it just happened that way. The UAF instructor did most of the work and had the content expertise, but a UAA professor was on site and helping.

In general, it is thought that each site needs incentive (revenue) since there are costs at both the originating and the receiving sites. This seems to be the wisdom of other universities who do "joint" programs among their units or among collaborating institutions.

Fee at Receiving site for Student Support?

To date, this has not been done, that I know of; although it was the intent of the UALC for its spring, '95 courses to split the tuition because of student support expenses at the receiving site. That I know of, all "distance education" fees are charged by the originating site. This causes problems because sometimes students at Kodiak

(to take a real example) are registered in UAS Elementary Education program at a distance, and the Kodiak campus is asked (by the students) to supply some support such as a room or test proctor) and the Kodiak staff knows nothing of the program and has little invested in helping the students.

AEC:sah



UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

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Memorandum

February 22, 1995

To: April Crosby, Assistant to the President
 President's Office

From: Jim Stricks, ^{JS} Director
 Center for Distance Education and Independent Learning

Subject: Tuition distribution for UALC courses, Spring 95

As you requested, I have calculated the tuition owed to each MAU by the other MAUs. The details are included in the chart below. To summarize:

- UAA does not owe anyone anything since there were no UAA students enrolled in non-UAA UALC courses; however, it receives \$603 from UAF and \$804 from UAS for a total income of \$1407
- UAF owes UAA \$603 and receives \$503 from UAS for a net payout of \$100
- UAS owes UAA \$804 and UAF \$503 and receives nothing since there were no UAS courses offered via UALC; for a total payout of \$1307

UALC TUITION DISTRIBUTION SPRING 95

COURSE	SPONSOR	LEVEL	TUITION	ENROLLMENTS		
				UAA	UAF	UAS
ED 616/693	UAF	Grad	\$402	0	na	2
ED 626/693	UAA	Grad	\$402	na	3	2
PSY 345/393	UAA	Undergrad	\$201	na	0	4
SWK/SOC 393	UAF	Undergrad	\$201	0	na	1

payouts

half of tuition goes:

to UAA	na	\$603	\$804
to UAF	\$0	na	\$503
to UAS	\$0	\$0	na
Total from:	\$0	\$603	\$1,307

Total to:
\$1,407
\$503
\$0

University of Alaska Learning Cooperative

Mission Statement

The mission of the University of Alaska Learning Cooperative (UALC) is to make University of Alaska academic programs more accessible to students, to provide greater flexibility in the design and delivery of instruction, and to make more effective use of instructional resources on a system-wide basis. Toward this end, the UALC develops recommendations for action by the President.

While the UALC is concerned with broadening the educational options available to all students, it directs special attention to those students who do not pursue their educational goals through a traditional, campus-based program.

The UALC serves the University by:

- recommending changes to policies and practices that inhibit the broadest possible program delivery;
- facilitating collaboration among University units to strengthen programs available to off-campus students;
- developing instructional models that do not rely solely on a classroom-based model; and
- enhancing use of distance delivery options, including instructional technology.

The University of Alaska Learning Cooperative was started to ensure that Alaska students, regardless of location, are able to realize their academic goals by selecting from a wide variety of courses and programs from their local campus or other UA sites. The UALC vision is that these offerings complement and articulate with each other so that students can build the programs they need to fulfill their purposes.