

**Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance  
Program Memorandum of Agreement  
For the  
Gerontology Masters Program and Certificate**

The Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (hereinafter called the "Great Plains IDEA") is comprised of academic colleges offering baccalaureate and higher degree programs in the human sciences (hereinafter called the "Alliance Members").

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into by Oklahoma State University, College of Human Environmental Sciences, regarding the creation of the Great Plains IDEA inter-institutional postbaccalaureate distance education program in gerontology.

The Alliance Members initiating this memorandum and agreeing to these terms and conditions include:

Colorado State University  
Iowa State University  
Kansas State University  
Montana State University  
North Dakota State University  
Oklahoma State University  
Texas Tech University

It is understood that additional parties may be invited to join this cooperative effort either as Alliance Members or Program Affiliates as outlined in the Great Plains IDEA Policies and Procedures Manual.

Oklahoma State University will participate in this inter-institutional program by granting a MS Degree in Natural and Applied Sciences (Gerontology option) and a postbaccalaureate certificate in Gerontology to students who successfully complete the inter-institutional program.

Oklahoma State University agrees to provide distance education courses for students admitted to the program by other Alliance Members, to incorporate approved courses offered by other Alliance Members or Program Affiliates into its appropriate degree and certificate, to admit fully qualified program applicants and to advise graduate students in the inter-institutional program.

Oklahoma State University agrees to respect the academic standards and quality of the academic departments involved in this joint program. Faculty members of the Alliance Members who provide instruction in this program must meet qualifications for teaching graduate courses at their employing institution; further documentation or approval will not be required by the other Alliance Members.

Oklahoma State University retains the right to:

1. Uphold its established University admission processes and admission standards for students entering the inter-institutional program as Oklahoma State University students.

2. Monitor academic performance, enforce standards, including disciplinary policies and procedures, and adherence to all other graduate school policies for students admitted to study at the institution.
3. Conduct graduation audits to assure compliance with University requirements.
4. Follow its established University review processes for approval of and modification to the curriculum.
5. Implement its University processes for course and program assessment.
6. Assign to the student's graduate committee approval oversight for courses applied to the student's program of study.

Institutional Courses designated as "Alliance courses" will be:

1. Taught by faculty members approved by the Alliance Member that provides the instruction.
2. Taught according to the published schedule and at the enrollment capacity agreed upon by the inter-institutional program faculty.
3. Priced to all students enrolled in the Alliance section of the course at the current Alliance credit hour price for the program as recommended by the financial officers at each institution and approved by the Alliance Board of Directors.
4. Open to other qualified students on a space-available basis.

Each Alliance Member has the following responsibilities related to the Inter-institutional program:

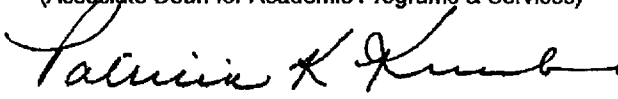
1. Support the development and delivery of courses taught by its faculty.
2. Provide student services and Internet based program information to support the Alliance program.
3. Provide web based information about the Alliance program and maintain links to the Alliance web site for purposes of marketing the program and providing information to students and the public.
4. Support faculty participation in inter-institutional program faculty meetings and faculty development workshops.
5. Offer the courses it is assigned to teach according to the published schedule and provide the agreed-upon enrollment capacity for each course.
6. Comply with the pricing and fee-sharing agreements negotiated for Great Plains IDEA inter-institutional programs.
7. Notify the Great Plains IDEA board if it wishes to withdraw from the program. Such intent must be announced to the Great Plains IDEA Board a full twelve months in advance of the date of withdrawal and provisions made to allow admitted students to complete program requirements.

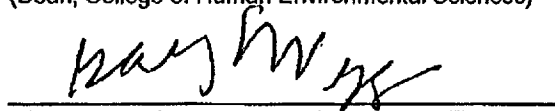
If the decision is made to discontinue the program every effort will be made, in accordance to the Alliance Member's policies, to allow Alliance students who are currently admitted to the program to complete the program within four years and no students will be allowed to take more than five years from the dissolution date to complete their program.

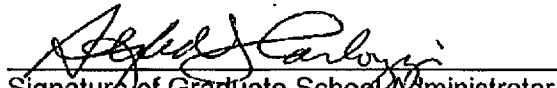
By affixing the appropriate signatures to this document, the College of Human Environmental Sciences at Oklahoma State University indicates its *intent or desire* to participate in the Gerontology Inter-Institutional Distance Education Program of the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance and to adhere to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Signed the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 2003.

  
Signature of Unit Chair  
(Associate Dean for Academic Programs & Services)

  
Signature of Human Sciences Administrator  
(Dean, College of Human Environmental Sciences)

  
Signature of Distance Education Officer  
(Vice President for Information Technology & Distance Education)

  
Signature of Graduate School Administrator  
(Interim Dean, Graduate College)

  
Signature of University Academic Officer  
(Provost and Senior Vice President)