

Oregon Community College Distance Learning Association

Mission

The OCCDLA is an association that to strengthens the professional practice and continuous improvement of distance education in Oregon through facilitation of an open exchange of knowledge and sharing of experiences.

The Association advocates:

- A student-centered approach that increases educational access for all Oregonians;
- Shared learning through the participation and contribution of its members;
- Exploration and investigation of technologies to enhance teaching and learning;
- Creation of new knowledge and professional development of its members;
- Building community within the organization; and
- Pursuit of collaborative relationships to create vision and meet shared goals.

Values

The organization values:

- diversity of ideas;
- respect for the experiences and talents of its members;
- ethical use of public resources;
- the effective use of technology in teaching and learning;
- personal accountability;
- respectful and open communication;
- creativity;
- the uniqueness of individuals; and
- trust.

Membership

The Association recognizes and respects the diverse size and organizational structures of its member colleges. Membership in the Association is open to all community college personnel interested in distance learning. Each college will designate one OCCDLA member as its primary contact. The primary contact is responsible for maintaining an effective communication link between the Association and the college that they represent. The Association invites liaison membership from other Oregon educational organizations with an interest in distance learning.

Leadership

The Association steering committee shall be comprised of a representative group of volunteers, not to exceed seven members. Although a member does not need to be a college “primary contact” to serve on the steering committee, membership is limited to one steering committee member per college.

The steering committee will select Co-chairs who will serve a two-year term beginning and ending on July 1.

The duties of the steering committee include attendance at a summer planning meeting at which a theme and series of agendas will be developed for the following year.

The duties of the Co-chairs will be to schedule and facilitate Association meetings, serve as liaisons between members and State distance learning operations (OCCDL), and provide input to the designated OCCWFD liaison. One designated Co-chair will act as official Treasurer for the Association.

Process

The Association will use a consensus process as it reaches decisions, considers and develops position statements on issues, proposes amendments to its charter, and approves steering committee membership and the selection of co-chairs.

In some cases, particularly those involving the expenditure or commitment of remaining OCCDEC funds, the Association may determine that a vote is required. In all decisions requiring a vote, information will be provided to OCCDLA primary contacts prior to the meeting at which the vote will take place. Each college represented at a meeting in which a vote takes place, will have one vote. A two-thirds majority of those voting members will be required.

Meetings

The Association will hold at least three general membership meetings a year. Meeting schedules will be set at the summer steering committee planning meeting. Times and locations will be published on a yearly basis, prior to the beginning of fall term.