Resolution on Implementation of UCA Online Programs

WHEREAS on February 19, 2015, the UCA Online Committee met to discuss the implementation of new UCA online programs;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the University of Central Arkansas:

1. Offer, beginning in the fall of 2015, a maximum of three new online undergraduate programs in addition to the RN to BSN program already in place; and

2. Designate the initial offerings to cover the credit hours required for degree completion but not include requirements for the state minimum core or the UCA Core; and

3. Offer two to five courses in each semester for each online program; and

4. Allow departments to determine admission requirements for the new programs with minimum requirements of: a) completion of at least 30 credit hours, and b) 2.0 GPA; and

5. Will coordinate with two-year schools through our articulation agreements.

AND WHEREAS the UCA Online Committee met to discuss the academic programs that would be included as part of the UCA online program in the fall of 2015 which would include General Business, Health Studies, and Nursing (RN to BSN);

BE IT HERBY RESOLVED that the academic departments providing these initial programs:

1. Start with cohorts with a maximum of 30 students in each program; and

2. Be encouraged to offer courses, even if enrollments are low during the first two years; and

3. Be encouraged to create 8-week courses to mirror programs at other universities; and

4. Indicate on web pages and during the registration process whether visits to campus are required. A maximum of one to two visits per semester will be allowed with approval.

AND WHEREAS the UCA Online Committee met to discuss the tuition for the UCA online programs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Central Arkansas:

1. Will set online undergraduate tuition rates at the same rate of UCA’s undergraduate tuition rates for face-to-face courses; and

2. Will explore schedules for increasing tuition from $240 per credit hour to the graduate tuition rate for face-to-face graduate courses.

AND WHEREAS the UCA Online Committee met to discuss faculty incentives for implementing the UCA online programs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that faculty incentives will include:

1. $2,500 for new course development or conversion of a standard course to an online course paid as a stipend to the faculty member with partial payment occurring during the development of the course ($1000) and partial payment occurring after the course is taught online the first time ($1500); and

2. Faculty development grants available to all faculty teaching online courses awarded by the IDC, with $15,000 annually deposited into each of two IDC grant accounts as follows;

a. An account for new course offerings – available to faculty teaching courses in the new online programs; to qualify faculty must be teaching at least one course they have not previously taught online; grants will equal up to $1,500 each.

b. A account for continuing course offerings – available to all other faculty teaching online courses in any program, even if the faculty has previously taught the course online; grants will equal up to $1,500 each.