

**Report to the Faculty Senate  
From the  
Distance Learning Committee  
For the Academic Year 2023-2024**

The Distance Learning Committee (DLC) consists of the following members:

George Williamson, Chair, Arts and Sciences  
Stacy Sirmans, Business  
Larry Dennis, Communication and Information

**Other members:**

Lynne Hinnant, Communication and Information  
Kathleen Burnett, Communication and Information  
Ulla Bunz, Communication and Information, GPC Chair  
Dan Mears, Criminology and Criminal Justice, UPC Chair  
Gregg Stanwood, UCC Co-Chair

**Ex officio members:**

Vice President for Academic Affairs or designee  
Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement or designee;  
Director, Office of Distance Learning

The Distance Learning Committee (DLC) shall provide policy development, oversight, and academic advice specific to the design and implementation of Distance Learning courses and degree programs. In particular, the committee will have the following responsibilities.

1. To propose to the Senate procedures and standards for authorization to offer courses and programs by delivery methods other than standard classroom delivery, and for enduring quality control of such course and program offerings.
2. To monitor the effectiveness with which the procedures and standards and standards adopted are being implemented.
3. To propose to the Senate modifications to existing standards and procedures as appropriate. This committee will supplement, not supplant, the functions of other existing committees.

The committee shall consist of the following members: The Chairs of the Undergraduate Policy, Graduate Policy and University Curriculum Committees; four additional faculty members appointed by the Steering Committee, with the advice and consent of the Senate for staggered three-year terms. The Vice President for Faculty Development and Advancement, or their designee, shall be a non-voting ex-officio member. The Director of the Office of Distance Learning and the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs or their designee shall be non-voting ex-officio members. The Faculty Senate Steering Committee shall appoint its chairperson annually from the faculty representatives. The Committee will make its recommendations to the Steering Committee, which will transmit the recommendations to the Senate for action.

The Distance Learning Committee did not meet formally over the academic year 2023-2024. The members did correspond for several weeks in Spring 2024 over email concerning several proposed revisions to the Distance Learning Handbook from Robert Fuselier, Director of Distance Learning. In the end, it was decided to postpone a full decision and vote on these proposed changes, since Robert Fuselier was already working on a further round of proposed changes to the handbook. We plan to take up all of these proposed changes in the academic year 2024-2025.