

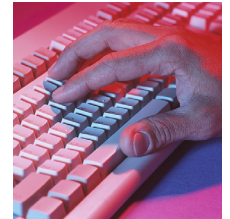
# University of Alaska Distance Education Audit Response Plan



UNIVERSITY  
of ALASKA

*Many Traditions One Alaska*

UA President Mark Hamilton has instructed UA Vice President (VP) of Academic Affairs Dan Julius and the UAA, UAF, and UAS Provosts to implement specific action steps to address the recommendations of the Legislative Audit of UA distance education, released in October 2009.



## LEGISLATIVE AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The President of UA should ensure distance education recommendations are implemented.
2. The President should develop incentives for MAUs [UAA, UAF and UAS] to collaborate on distance education initiatives.
3. The VP of Academic Affairs should ensure faculty receive distance education technology training and support.
4. The VP of Academic Affairs should develop, implement and enforce use of standard distance education course parameters and uniform course description information.



## ACTION PLAN

- 1 UA President ensures implementation (Recommendation #1)**  
Beginning in Fall 2009, UAA, UAF and UAS Chancellors are required to report distance education program progress and productivity to the UA President as part of the twice-yearly performance reviews.  
**Outcome:** *The UA President has regular reports of distance education program status. UA-wide recommendations and/or changes can be addressed proactively and biannually.*
- 2 Collaboration incentives (Recommendation #2)**  
Vice President Julius appoints a UA-wide team to identify and analyze successful incentive systems and to design incentives appropriate for UA.  
Team appointed: January 8, 2010  
Expected evaluation completion date: June 30, 2010  
UA incentive model design: Begin July 1, 2010  
UA incentive implementation: Dec. 31, 2010  
**Outcome:** *Students will see an increase in distance education offerings available to them regardless of their location or the offering campus.*
- 3 Training and support for faculty (Recommendation #3)**  
UAA, UAF, and UAS Provosts are evaluating distance education training and support programs for faculty at each of their universities and reviewing effective faculty training and support models at other universities. Requests for support to enhance and expand the most effective models will be made to VP Julius.  
Request for enhancement to VP Julius: May 1, 2010  
Expanded services available: Beginning September 1, 2010  
**Outcome:** *Faculty will see significant increases in effective and university mission-appropriate faculty development and support. Students and faculty will experience more effective use of distance education technology.*
- 4 Parameters and description of distance education courses (Recommendation #4)**  
VP Julius appoints a UA-wide team of faculty and staff members to design and implement a standard system for describing the distance education courses that are available through UA's Distance Education Gateway. Provosts will ensure consistent training and use at each university.  
Team appointed: January 8, 2010  
System design completed: May 1, 2010  
New system launch: July 1, 2010  
**Outcome:** *Students will have an easily-accessible list of all UA distance education courses, including information on technology needed, time commitment, and other factors needed to successfully complete each course.*