Memorandum of Understanding
between
Valley City State University
and
North Dakota State University
For Delivery of NDSU Course
AGEC/BUSN 474—Cooperatives
As
AGEC/BUSN 474 —Cooperatives
At Valley City State University

Purpose: This Memorandum of Understanding between Valley City State University (VCSU) and North Dakota State University (NDSU) describes the plan for NDSU to deliver a 3 credit course, AGEC/BUSN 474 Cooperatives, to students at VCSU utilizing Interactive Video Network (IVN) sites at VCSU (receiving) and NDSU (providing) as part of a proposed Agriculture Business concentration in VCSU’s Business Administration program. An online alternative may be possible in semesters out of the set rotation.

Authority: NDUS Procedures 404.0 Collaborative Student Procedure, 404.1.1 ND IVN Approval Procedures, 404.2 Guidelines for Establishing Collaborative Courses and Programs, and SBHE policy 404.1 Delivery Format Approval for Credit Activities.

Need: The instructor of the course, Dr. Greg McKee, approached the VCSU President, Dr. Steven W. Shirley, to deliver a course on cooperatives that would be accessible to individuals in the Valley City region. A cooperative is an important business structure that is not well understood by most individuals, yet it has great potential as a mechanism to establish and sustain a business for the benefit of local members. Many cooperatives such as Dakota Plains, CHS and Land-O-Lakes have been highly successful. The decade of the 1990s had the greatest number of cooperative start-ups in history, and the current decade is on track to exceed that record. This course examines the workings of cooperatives so that students will be able to make reasoned decisions in considering, advocating, or participating in cooperative ventures.

Relationship to the Institution: NDSU is the state’s 1862 Land Grant Institution with substantial expertise in agriculture. This course fits within the missions of NDSU and VCSU as well as the missions of the respective colleges.

NDSU Mission: *With energy and momentum, North Dakota State University addresses the needs and aspirations of people in a changing world by building on our land-grant foundation.*

College Mission: *The College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources (CAFSNR) is an administrative unit that supports technical, scientific and disciplinary pedagogies, advising, and student/faculty pursuits of excellence in the agricultural and related subjects. Education is...*
provided through more than 170 didactic courses and numerous experiential learning opportunities offered by 138 faculty serving the needs of nearly 1200 students. The college has responsibilities for scholarships, faculty, staff, and student recognition including the Dean’s List, local and regional training activities as well as cooperation in governance and operation of the University.

VCSU Mission: Valley City State University prepares people for life through visionary leadership and exemplary practices in teaching, learning, and service.

The overall objective of the VCSU Division of Business and Information Technology Division is to prepare students for gainful employment and further education through continually improving programs in the various areas of business, education, and information systems.

Duplication: This course is the only one of its type including subject matter and scope offered by any school in the NDUS and the region.

Roundtable applications: This course supports the NDUS Roundtable objectives, especially Economic Connection.

Course Description: AGEC/BUSN 474--Theory, practice, and evaluation of cooperatives including principles, management, marketing, finance, taxes, legal issues, and adjusting to change.

Instructor: Dr. Gregory McKee

Academic Program: Agricultural Economics administered by the Department of Agribusiness and Applied Economics in the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources at NDSU.

Frequency of offering: Alternate years (odd numbered) utilizing IVN. An online option may be available in other semesters.

Prerequisites: ECON 201.

Course Details: Academic Term—Spring 2015

Other details such as room, time, section number, etc. will be assigned by NDSU and VCSU following appropriate communication and agreement.

Quality: This course has been successfully offered several times to students at Dickinson State University as a component of DSU’s baccalaureate degree in agricultural studies, one time to students at Lake Region State College, and one time to students at Minot State University. The course content, learning objectives, and outcomes are equivalent to those of the on-campus offering.

Articulation: This is an upper-level course and consequently not covered by the Common Course Numbering Matrix for agricultural courses.

Student Status, Tuition, and Fees: This offering is in compliance with NDUS Procedure 404.0. Both VCSU and NDSU have personnel, procedures, and agreements in place to coordinate collaborative student participation. This understanding is in accord with current collaborative student agreements.

VCSU will provide counseling and support services if needed to VCSU students. NDSU will provide supplemental assistance specifically related to this course. NDSU and VCSU will negotiate and collaborate to provide needed assistance for students with disabilities.
Instructor Compensation: The instructor will teach the IVN course as a separate, numbered section and will be entitled to overload compensation. Compensation will be negotiated prior to the offering of the course and will be paid to the instructor by NDSU.

IVN Coordination: The NDSU instructor will discuss IVN requirements and scheduling with the NDSU IVN coordinator (Steve Beckerman, 231-8486) prior to initiation of the course. The instructor and/or IVN coordinator will negotiate appropriate times, locations, and approvals with the IVN coordinator at VCSU.

Other support: VCSU will provide a proctor for exams who will receive, duplicate, distribute, proctor, gather and return exams to the instructor for grading. Preferably, exams may be offered through a Learning Management System such as Blackboard, and VCSU and NDSU will insure that students have access to the system.

Registration and Records: The NDSU instructor will provide IVN course information to NDSU Registration and Records (Kim Miller) so information can be included in Campus. The same information will be provided to VCSU Registrar (Registrar@vcsu.edu) for inclusion in VCSU catalog or other student information.

Effective Date: The terms of this Memorandum of Understanding between VCSU and NDSU are effective as of the date of final signature. The program described by this agreement will be implemented by the Spring 2015 academic term.

Approval, Annual Review, and Termination: This Memorandum of Understanding will be reviewed annually and may be modified directly or by addendum following agreement by both parties, VCSU and NDSU. Either party may terminate this agreement effective at the end of an academic term with written notice to the other party.
Signatures:
For NDSU:

Gregory McKee
Associate Professor, AB&AE (NDSU Instructor)

William Nganga
Chair, Dept. of Agribusiness and Applied Economics (NDSU)

Ken Grafton
Dean, College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources (NDSU)

Bruce Raftert
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (NDSU)

Date
1/22/14
1/27/14
1/28/14

For VCSU:

Margaret Dahlberg
Vice President for Academic Affairs (VCSU)

Steven Shirley
President (VCSU)

Date
1-14-2014
1-17-14