

MEMORANDUM

TO: Faculty, Staff, and Students

FROM: Robert A. Altenkirch

RE: Interim Online/Distance Education Policy

DATE: July 23, 2015

We are currently writing the SACSCOC report that is due early in September. Included in the report are a number of SACSCOC standards that require the university to have an online/distance education policy.

An ad hoc committee composed of faculty and administrators in conjunction with the Council of Deans and Academic Technologies in the Office of Information Technology has developed a draft online/distance education policy. This policy has been reviewed and revised by the Council of Deans, Academic Affairs Directors, Vice Presidents, Provost, Director of State Authorization and Online Learning, and the Office of Counsel.

The Office of the Provost has recommended and I have accepted the recommendation that the policy as it currently stands be put in place on an interim basis as described in the Policy on Policies because of the SACSCOC report time constraint. The policy will be incorporated into all of the standards that require a policy on online/distance education. Moreover, the policy will be published at the policy website which has been available to you for review on *myUAH* and will be launched shortly on the UAH website, to comply with one of the SACSCOC requirements.

Shortly after publishing the policy, we will distribute the Online/Distance Education Policy to the Faculty Senate, Student Government Association, and Staff Senate for review and comment as outlined in the review and approval process in the Policy on Policies. Additionally the Online/Distance Education Policy will be posted on *myUAH* for review and comment as well. The time constraints of completing the SACSCOC Reaffirmation Report dictated that we put the policy in place on an interim basis prior to broad-based review by the various campus constituencies.

Thanks,

Bob