

7. Regional Access

Goal 7A. Establish a distance education branch facility in Bend, Oregon with a classroom, faculty offices, and a program director office. This facility will serve both credit and non-credit programs and will provide a laboratory setting for determining the best facility and staff composition and organization for distance learners in satellite campus locations.

Goal 7B. Establish face-to-face program advisors in Central Oregon, Salem, and the Southern Coast.

Summary

Goal 7A. Establish a Distance Education Branch Facility in Bend, Oregon

With an established distance education program and continuing development of distance courses and degree programs for the OSU branch campus (Cascades Campus) located in Bend, Oregon, the project has been focusing on further developing Ecampus' access to other areas of the state through involvement in K-12 programs and cooperation with Oregon community colleges.

Community colleges throughout the state are Ecampus' important partners in extending its services throughout Oregon. The Oregon Community Colleges provide prospective students for OSU distance delivered programs. Over this past project year, Ecampus has provided a solid and important linkage with students, administrators, and staff to increase the OSU student population.

Portland is the population center for the state and provides Ecampus with a large recruitment base. The Portland community colleges serve large numbers of students hoping to further their careers through four-year academic study. OSU Ecampus offers programs unique to OSU and different from those offered in the metropolitan area. Ecampus students are of nontraditional age and are most often involved in a fulltime life experience including families and work. Ecampus offers these students an important option for completing their degrees and yet remaining in Portland, where their current job, family, and community commitments are centered.

In the more rural and remote areas of the state, the community college campuses are often the only place for students to begin their academic study. The OSU Extended Campus offers the degree completion programs for these students to complete bachelor's degrees and expand their career opportunities.

Ecampus provides academic and other learning opportunities to thousands of students across the state. Ecampus need to have a consistent and growing presence on each of the Oregon community college campuses statewide.

Ecampus ran a variety of non-credit outreach programs in the state of Oregon. These programs included a professional certificate program in Web Design, which was offered in both Corvallis and Bend. Also, a supervisory and organizational leadership program in Bend, Salem, and Corvallis. Ecampus, with collaboration from the Oregon State University Alumni Association, also created a new educational program for retirees. This successful program is called the Academy for Lifelong Learning (ALL).

Ecampus participated in a variety of outreach events around the state. Some examples include: exhibitor and sponsor at the Information Technology Exposition & Conference (ITEC) in Portland, established Outreach office and staff in Bend prior to Cascade Campus opening, participated with Cascades Campus in displays at various county fairs throughout state, Capital Center open house, and University Day display.

Ecampus staff spoke and made presentations at many events. Some examples include: ITEC in Portland, Summer Institute for Online Learning in Clackamas, Corvallis School District 509J's Back to School Night, OSU Classes without Quizzes, and OSU Academy for Lifelong Learning (ALL).

Goal 7B. Establish Face-To-Face (F2F) Program Advisors in Central Oregon, Salem, and the Southern Coast.

The advising functions for Cascades Campus students have moved entirely to the on-site faculty and advising system established for the Cascades Campus (OSU Branch Campus). The Extended Campus continues to provide advising to students completing degrees primarily by distance education through the establishment of new regional advisors. These are a 1.0 FTE Statewide Enrollment Coordinator who is located in the Portland Metropolitan area.

Historically, advising staff support for the Extended Campus on-site in the Central Oregon region included an on-site distance education advisor. Advising personnel focused heavily upon student services that coordinated efforts for joint enrollments with Central Oregon Community College. The efforts were largely directed toward support for academic credit courses and degree program completion programs (i.e., lower division completed at the community college and upper division courses completed through Ecampus distance delivery).

To meet and address the goals and objectives for effective processes and working relationships as well as facilitating students' progress, an implementation manual has been written to provide structure to the operation of the Extended Campus' Advising Center (Now the Student Services Center), and includes budgetary, management goals and objectives, training information and policies and procedures.

Regional advising staffing has been restructured in supervision and responsibilities to cover three major regions of Oregon: Eastern Oregon, Southern Oregon (including the Southern Coast) and the Portland/Willamette Valley area. All personnel will be part of the Extended Campus' Student Services Center team, directed by the Director of Academic Programs, and will be charged with assisting students in selecting both credit and non-credit course opportunities, creating partnerships and alignment between the colleges/department advisors and Ecampus, support for joint relationships with regional community colleges, and the nurturing and development of relationships with new markets.