WICHE ICE Update

Northwest Academic Forum Annual Meeting

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WICHE ICE Steering Board Chair
M i s s i o n o f W I C H E

WICHE ICE creates opportunities for students to access high quality internet delivered courses and programs offered by accredited four-year and two-year institutions throughout the WICHE region.
WICHE ICE member Institutions

- Arizona Universities Network
- Bismarck State College
- Boise State University (NWAF member)
- Central Washington University (NWAF member)
- Eastern Washington University (NWAF member)
- Idaho State University (NWAF member)
- Lewis-Clark State College (NWAF member)
- Montana State University Bozeman (NWAF member)
- Montana University System (NWAF member)
- North Dakota University System Online (NWAF member)
- University of Alaska Anchorage (NWAF member)
- University of Nevada Reno (NWAF member)
- University of Utah
- University of Wyoming (NWAF member)
Summary of ICE Objectives

- Organize institutional resources to create enhanced opportunities for students throughout the region.
- Respond more quickly to workforce demands through sharing online courses and programs.
- Support quality of courses, effective student learning, assessment, and continuous improvement.
- Abide by accreditation standards and best practices.
- Clearly designate essential student services, applicable policies, and institutional responsibilities.
- Serve as a resource for academic planning.
**Benefits for Students**

- Access to a wider range of courses, academic programs, and faculty expertise in a variety of disciplines.
- No issues concerning financial aid and credit transfer.
- Improved degree completion and retention.
- Access to advising and financial aid at their home institution.
- Overcome geographical, financial, and scheduling barriers to course enrollment.
- Benefit from the convenience and flexibility of online course delivery.
- Increased course and program offerings in rural areas.
Benefits for Higher Education Institutions

- Expanded course and program offerings for students.
- Expedite students’ time to degree.
- Achieve cost efficiencies by avoiding or sharing the cost of new course and program development.
- Share faculty in hard-to-staff disciplines.
- Keep low growth programs viable.
- Review courses from member institutions for requirements before students take them.
Benefits for states and impact on workforce development

- Utilize academic resources more effectively.
- Respond more effectively to workforce demands, especially those that arise quickly.
- Collaborate on workforce issues of immediate concern and address them through collaborative approaches.
  - Examples include nursing, allied health, secondary math and science teacher preparation and development, and rural social work education.
How WICHE ICE Works

- **Teaching Institution**
  - teaches an online or distance ed course
  - offers extra “seats” through WICHE ICE
  - establishes the price per seat
  - establishes academic policies for all students

- **Enrolling Institution**
  - reserves seats through WICHE ICE
  - creates a shadow course in catalog
  - registers students, collects tuition/fees, records grades and maintains transcript
  - sends $$ to teaching institution and WICHE
Summary of 2008-2009
ICE Work Plan

- Enhance existing business plan and increase marketing efforts.
- Improve the WICHE ICE database.
- Increase faculty and student participation in ICE.
- Support existing and new program exchanges.
- Assist members with implementation.
- Seek sources of external support.
Program Exchanges

- Supply Chain Management
- Nursing Education Exchange (NEXus)
- Math and Science Secondary Teacher Education
- Public Health in the Rocky Mountain West
- Western Consortium for Rural Social Work Education
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Roy “Butch” Rodenhisser, Director, School of Social Work, Boise State University royrodenhisser@boisestate.edu
Five schools of social work are involved, represented by directors and faculty:

- University of Wyoming
- Boise State University
- University of Utah
- University of Alaska Anchorage
- University of Nevada Reno
Initial goal to offer collaborative certificate in rural social work education
- Progress at University of Wyoming
- Also sharing electives for distance education students
- Faculty Seminar, October 2007
Rural Mental Health Social Work Certificate

- Post-graduate certificate as well as a second concentration for students who are currently in our program
- Extends the learning in social work to a more specialized area – rural behavioral/mental health
- Addresses workforce needs for the state as well as providing continuing education opportunities
- Courses will address a range of areas from current mental health policies to practice
● Example of collaborative program sharing
● Challenges and Benefits
● Role of the WICHE Internet Course Exchange
Questions or Comments?

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