SUBJECT: **Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (GPIDEA)**

DATE: July 2018

PURPOSE: Explain the intent and operation of GPIDEA in relation to academic programs at Texas Tech University

REVIEW: Participation parameters for participation in GPIDEA will be reviewed when major changes in GPIDEA operations are made or when there are changes in academic membership.

OVERVIEW

The College of Human Sciences at Texas Tech is one of the founding members of GPIDEA. This group is a consortium of several regionally accredited and typically land-grant universities in the Midwest. The purpose of the alliance is to offer degree programs that the member universities could not offer independently because of enrollment and/or faculty availability issues. The Consortium offers a variety of faculty-designed and university-approved degree programs taught exclusively online. Consortium members may select which academic programs in which they wish to participate. Participation involves actively recruiting students into the degree plan, teaching courses on a prescribed rotation, and contributing to program development, assessment, and enhancement. Participating institutions offer a degree to their own students; no transfer work is involved because every course on the degree plan is available as a Texas Tech course, though it might be taught by a faculty member at another university.

Detailed information can be found at the GPIDEA website and at the COHS GPIDEA website and the COHS GPIDEA website for information specific to Texas Tech. Note: The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources participates in a closely related program, AG*IDEA. Please see the CASNR GPIDEA website for more information.

PROCESS

1. Participation in a particular degree program offered by GPIDEA requires an application and acceptance process. The GPIDEA website provides information on joining an academic program
2. The applicant academic program must establish the ability to provide the degree at Texas Tech.
    - The degree may be currently offered on campus; if so, then submitting the degree for online delivery is all that is needed. If the degree is new to Texas Tech, a request for a new degree program must be submitted and approved through the usual mechanisms.
    - All courses in the degree plan (not just the ones that TTU faculty will teach) must be available as a Texas Tech course. For those courses currently offered Texas Tech, a request to offer online will be needed. If there are courses that are not on the TTU course inventory, then a new course request should be submitted.
3. As a part of participation in an academic program, each school is expected to recruit "home" students, those who have chosen to earn their degree from Texas Tech. A student matriculates at Texas Tech in the same way any TTU student does and must meet all admission and graduation requirements.
4. Funding for this program is based on students paying a common price (the same at every institution) with no additional fees or expenses. This funding model negates any issues with out of

state tuition – all pay the same regardless of where they live or which institution they select. Of the funding generated through the common price:
   a. 75% to the teaching institution
   b. 12.5% to the student's home school, regardless of whether the home school is teaching the class
   c. 12.5% to the Alliance main office.

5. Course offerings, enrollment, and grade submission are handled through a centralized student management system.
6. The GPIDEA campus coordinator (also served in this role for AG*IDEA) is the main point of contact and handles much of the interaction between TTU and the Consortium, including scheduling and grade posting. Students are advised by a designated faculty member in the academic program.
7. A percentage of faculty salary (based on percent of workload taught of taught to consortium students) should be paid from GPIDEA revenue.

DOCUMENTS INCLUDED

GPIDEA website

COHS GPIDEA website

CASNR GPIDEA website

Course and Program Approvals