

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**  
**Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (Great Plains IDEA)**

The Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (hereinafter called the Great Plains IDEA) is comprised of academic colleges offering baccalaureate and higher degree programs in the human sciences.

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into by Michigan State University University, College of Human Ecology regarding the creation of the Great Plains IDEA. It is understood that additional parties may be invited to join this cooperative effort as Alliance Members and shall be entitled to all rights and responsibilities as any member signatory of this Memorandum of Agreement. Program Affiliates shall include academic units that are not members of the Great Plains IDEA but that choose to be active participants in at least one academic initiative of the Great Plains IDEA. A separate Memorandum of Agreement shall be developed for each inter-institutional program and shall be executed by Alliance Members and Program Affiliates participating in the program.

To provide a method of operation by which the Alliance Members can conduct joint efforts, and in consideration of the mutual agreements in this Memorandum of Agreement, the Alliance Members agree as follows:

- I. **Description and Mission.** The Great Plains IDEA is a joint project of the Alliance Members. The Great Plains IDEA shall serve the faculty and administrators of Alliance Members by offering workshops, recommending standards, sharing practices, and disseminating policy issues and recommendations to allow Alliance Members to offer educational programs more easily and thereby give students and professionals more access to high quality education.
- II. **Alliance Governance.** The Great Plains IDEA shall be governed in accordance with the Alliance By-Laws.
- III. **Funding.** Each Alliance Member shall bear its own costs of any activity, project, or program undertaken by the Great Plains IDEA that is not funded by a contract, grant, or other support.
- IV. **Administration and Management.** Each Alliance Member shall provide administrative oversight and program management in accordance with the Alliance By-Laws.
- V. **Joint Responsibilities.** The Alliance Members shall be jointly responsible for inter-institutional programs and shall:
  - A. Participate in the leadership of the Alliance by attending board meetings, serving as board officers and/or committee members, and providing administrative support for inter-institutional academic programs.
  - B. Support faculty participation in the planning and implementation of academic

programs sponsored by the Alliance when such programs are a fit with the mission and goals of this unit.

- C. Appoint a representative to the Great Plains IDEA Board of Directors, maintain course and program information on the Alliance course catalog, and support inter-institutional programs with faculty and technological resources as agreed upon in separate program memoranda.
- D. Commit to faculty development and course and program assessments that assure that distance programming promotes active learning, provides quality educational experiences, and is methodologically sound.

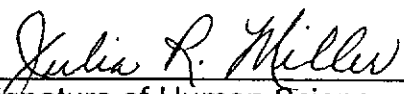
**VI. Property.** Supplies, facilities, equipment, or other property received or acquired by Alliance members solely as a result of participation in Alliance activities shall remain dedicated for use on Alliance activities and may be shared by other Alliance members.

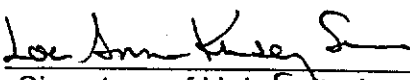
**VII. Intellectual Property.** All discoveries, technology, know-how, trademarks, copyrights, patents and intellectual property arising out of or in connection with an inter-institutional program shall be governed by the Alliance Member institution authoring, creating or conceiving and reducing it to practice and shall be subject to such terms and conditions as may be contained in any agreement that the Alliance Member institution may have with the sponsors, and shall be subject to the institutional intellectual property policies of the Alliance Member institution.

**VIII. Termination.** Based on the Great Plains IDEA Bylaws, the Board of Directors shall determine involuntary termination of alliance membership, based on nonpayment, nonparticipation, or other just cause. An institution may terminate its membership in the Alliance by providing written notification to the Great Plains IDEA Board of Directors. Said notification must be given at least one (1) year in advance of termination of membership.

By affixing the appropriate signatures to this document, the College of Human Ecology at Michigan State University indicates its desire to be a member of the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance and agrees to participate in the Great Plains IDEA according to the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement.

Signed the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2002.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Human Sciences Administrator  
Julia R. Miller, Dean

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of University Academic Officer  
Lou Anna K. Simon, Provost

Dated April 30, 2002

Members of the Alliance are:

- Colorado State University,
- Iowa State University,
- Kansas State University,
- Michigan State University,
- Montana State University,
- North Dakota State University,
- Oklahoma State University,
- South Dakota State University,
- Texas Tech University, and
- University of Nebraska.