

“OTHER BUSINESS” – April 20, 2005. Will be on the May '05 Senate agenda.

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April 18, 2005

To: Vijay Nair, University Senate President

From: Russ Gladstone, Chair, Committee on Distance Education

Re: A Senate Agenda item: Hybrid or blended course requirement – face to face meeting between faculty and students at a minimum of 20% of the class schedule.

This issue has come to the Committee on Distance Education for review from two parties. A member of the teaching faculty currently teaching several hybrid courses, and from the Academic Affairs Retreat – January 12, 2005, Projects and Assignments updated Feb. 15, 2005), as follows:

“Develop guidelines for evaluating online and “blended” courses. (Note: Online courses need approval of CSU System. “Blended” courses less than 20% on-ground need approval of Acad. V.P.)”

The committee members have concerns regarding the impact of this requirement, most significantly the difficulty for many students to attend multiple class meetings, but our discussion has been hampered by the need for additional information. We believe that the details surrounding this issue need the attention of the University Senate in order to get the concerns of the teaching faculty, and administration, fully aired.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.