

Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs  
Motion to the College-wide Senate

**Motion: The approval to pursue a change of status with the Higher Learning Commission to include offering on-line associate degrees starting Fall 2011 semester.**

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**Background:**

Currently, students can be take online courses and receive an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts or an Associate in General Studies.

Please see the HLC web site: <http://www.ncahlc.org/>;  
In the section “Minimum Expectations within the Criteria for Accreditation,”  
Click on  
Criteria for Accreditation. Then see Distance Education

The committee comprised of Dean Lloyd Crews, Eric Abbey, Judy Matteson and Dr. Holcomb reviewed the list of approved online classes against several degree and certificate programs. Under the new definition from HLC, additional certificate programs and degrees qualify.

Please note that my discussions with the HLC and MCCVLC have been fruitful. OCC needs to be compliant. To be compliant for now, the deans will be requesting every online class offered to be listed on the MCCVLC website.

Since online education has been discussed, this new definition states that 50% of the course work can be taken online in fact is an online program. While the College Academic Senate debates the issue, The OAE and IR will initiate, conduct and complete a needs assessment by the end of the academic year. This document will also consist of a survey of our students’ use of the online mode of delivery. These documents will be needed for OCC’s application for change of status. Also the report from the TMC dated April 2010 will be reviewed, services evaluated, improvements designed and implemented as OCC endeavors to create a virtual learning presence.