The Distance Education Committee, as a sub-committee of the Academic Senate, reviews and recommends to the Senate the following:

1. Develop quality standards for online education as is outlined below:

   **55207. Course Quality Standards.** (adopted July 2002 – replaces 55372)
   
   The same standards of course quality shall be applied to DE as are applied to traditional classroom courses, in regard to the course quality judgments made pursuant to the requirements of section 55009 of this part, and in regard to any local course quality determination or review process.


   **55209. Course Quality Determinations.** (adopted July 2002 – replaces 55374)
   
   Determinations and judgments about the quality of Distance Education under the course quality standards referred to in section 55207, shall be made with the full involvement of faculty in accordance with the provisions of subchapter 2 (commencing with section 53200) of chapter 2 of division 4 of this part.


2. Develop policies to ensure online instructors are in line with the requirements of the following area of Title V:

   **55211. Instructor Contact.** (adopted July 2002 – replaces 55376)
   
   In addition to the requirements of section 55209 and any locally established requirements applicable to all courses, district-governing boards shall ensure that:
   
   (a) All approved courses offered as distance education include regular effective contact between instructor and students, through group or individual meetings, orientation and review sessions, supplemental seminar or study sessions, field trips, library workshops, telephone contact, correspondence, voice mail, e-mail, or other activities.
   
   (b) All distance education courses are delivered consistent with guidelines issued by the Chancellor pursuant to section 409 of the Procedures and Standing Orders of the Board of Governors. Regular effective contact is an academic and professional matter pursuant to title 5, section 53200.


3. Ensure instructor compliance with Section 508 of the American Disabilities Act. Section 508 requires that electronic and information technology developed, procured, maintained
or used by the Federal government be accessible to people with disabilities. States which were recipients of Federal funds under the State Tech Act Grant must also comply with the Access Board standards for Electronic and Information Technology. California was a recipient of such funds.

4. Recommend training standards to the Academic Senate for both experienced faculty and those new to teaching online.

5. Provide input regarding the selection of the course management system. This also includes advice on the timing and implementation of both the new course management system and subsequent upgrades to the system.

6. Develop, study, and analyze best practices and technological innovations for distance education, in order to make recommendations to the Academic Senate.

7. Provide instruction and advice for the use of academic technology for distance education.
Membership:

A) The voting membership of the Distance Education Committee shall be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th># of REPS</th>
<th>MEMBERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2 Academic Deans appointed by the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Director of IT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classified</td>
<td>2**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance Education Coordinator</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>This position will be eliminated once the term of the current DE Coordinator is over (in 2015). A committee chair, selected by the committee members, will serve in this role.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* One of the positions may be filled by a Virtual College Instructional Assistant

** One of the DSPS representative positions may be filled by the Instructional Hi-Tech Access Microcomputer Lab Technician

B) Each member shall be selected by the Academic Senate for a period of two years. The term of each member begins in the Fall semester.

C) Only Full-time faculty members with online teaching experience through Blackboard or the current Course Management System, may be selected.

D) Each member may be re-elected to an indefinite number of terms.

E) The term of each member shall begin at the start of the Fall semester.

F) The two administrative representatives shall be appointed by the V.P. of Academic Affairs in consultation with the Academic Senate President.

G) The chairperson shall be a faculty member elected to a two year term. Elections shall take place during the first April meeting of the Spring semester and the term will run concurrent with the following academic year.

PROCEDURES

1. The meeting shall be called to order and action items addressed when a quorum exists. A quorum is 50% of the membership, plus one.

2. The Committee may, by majority vote, accept or reject proposals.
3. Any amendment to the bylaws can be made with a motion that passes by 2/3 vote of the membership.

4. The committee shall meet at regular intervals with a minimum of one (1) meeting a month during the Fall and Spring semesters of the academic year. The committee will meet up to twice a month on the first and third Mondays.