

To: Fort Wayne Senate

From: Educational Policy Committee

Barbara J. Bulmahn, Chair

Date: March 27, 1997

**Subj: Transmittal of the report of the Distance Education
Subcommittee**

The Educational Policy Committee submits the following report of the Distance Education Subcommittee for information only at this time. It is likely that in the future, Senate approval will be sought for implementation of some or all of the recommendations.

At that time, the Educational Policy Committee will indicate its level of support for the proposals.

Recommendations of the Distance Education Subcommittee

The Distance Education Subcommittee unanimously adopted the following recommendations. In addition, the committee members directed

the chair to ask the administration to "include distance education as an important part of the IPFW's mission (as reflected in the IPFW Strategic Plan)."

"But, all of us, as academics, also have the responsibility to make courses as accessible as possible to students of all ages, and at any location. Employing audio, video and interactive whiteboard broadcasting technologies to attain this goal should only be perceived as a normal evolution of this, our most sacred, responsibility."

--Abstracted from *The Virtual Classroom at UMR: Broadcasting "Live" Audio, Notes and Images as a Multi-media Lecture over the World Wide Web in Real-Time* by Scott Grenquist and John Petrikovitsch.

Proposed Recommendations:

1. IPFW should conduct a multi-faceted marketing study of the need for distance education courses within its service area.

Based upon market study results, IPFW should develop, implement and promote a distance education plan both internally and externally.

(Short-term need)

2. To be competitive and technologically current, IPFW should provide distance education in its several forms (Internet, live TV, videocassette) throughout its market area. (Short-term need)

3. IPFW should provide assistance to faculty in all aspects

of presentation related to their distance education courses.

(Short to Intermediate-term need)

4. IPFW should assign the oversight for delivery of distance education in all its forms to the Office of Continuing Education.

(Short-term need)

5. IPFW should have three two-way audio-video rooms for interactive television. More may very well be needed as the DE offerings expand. (1 additional studio: short-term need, 2nd studio: intermediate-term need)

6. The university should acknowledge the need for funding of equipment upgrades, both hardware and software. Requests for funding through grants and other sources should be supported to purchase state-of-art equipment beyond the normal 3 year replacement need. (Short -term need)

7. IPFW should provide toll free phone access to Holmes and CVAX computers. (Short-term need)

8. IPFW should provide all its students and staff with dial-in access to the INTERNET. (Intermediate-term need)