MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY-BOZEMAN
COLLEGE OF NURSING

POLICY # B-21

TITLE: GRADUATE PROGRAM COURSE DELIVERY

POLICY: Graduate students are permitted to access regularly scheduled graduate-level nursing courses via teleconference (two-way telephone) while registered as graduate students and attending classes at one of the four established MSU College of Nursing resident campuses (Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls and Missoula). However, students must have face-to-face delivery of at least one-third of all classes.*

RATIONALE: The College of Nursing believes that this teleconference delivery of graduate courses is appropriate for the following reasons:

1) Students taking a course at all campus sites meet the same course objectives and are held to the same course requirements. A retrospective review of student grades comparing those who have taken courses via teleconference versus those taking the same courses "live" shows no pattern of grade differences.

2) Students are receiving course materials at an established MSU College of Nursing campus site. Each campus has resident faculty members with whom the student can consult regarding course materials, questions, etc. Every student has a resident academic advisor on her/his campus.

3) Library resources have been developed at each extended campus site and are comparable in terms of needed nursing literature.

4) A minimum of one third of every course is provided to students face-to-face with the course instructor. (3 x per qtr. or 5 x per sem.)

5) The College has a long history of successful implementation of interactive audio teaching and is exploring the implementation of interactive video as this approach becomes increasingly feasible.

PROCEDURE: Students taking courses in this fashion are required to have face-to-face delivery of at least one-third of all classes. This requirement is to be clearly stated in all graduate course syllabi. This occurs by means of either student travel to the campus where the faculty member is teaching or faculty travel during the quarter/semester to the campus(es) where students are attending classes. The time schedule for face-to-face class meetings is determined by the Associate Dean. Students taking courses via teleconference are required to meet all established course objectives. The evaluation process and all other aspects associated with the courses are the same for students whether on-site with the instructor or on teleconference at another campus site.
Students at telecommunication sites receive class handouts and overheads, slides, etc. These materials are sent prior to the scheduled class time and are accessed before or during the class, as appropriate.

* As required by MSU College of Graduate Studies.

Approved by:
Graduate Subcommittee: 1/11/91  T. Snyder, Chair
Academic Affairs: 2/8/91  Daryl T. Ries, Chair; Reaffirmed by GAAC 5/95
Faculty: 3/21/91  Sharon Hovey, President of College Council; Reaffirmed by College Council 9/95
Dean: 4/9/91, KAL; 10/10/95, LA