Northern Information Technology Consortium (NITC)
Joint Program Agreement
2024 - 2027

The following colleges agree to collaborate on the exchange and delivery of information technology (IT) courses and degrees: Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB), Lake Region State College (LRSC), Minot State University (MiSU), Turtle Mountain Community College (TMCC), Valley City State University (VCSU) and Williston State College (WSC). The purpose of this collaboration is to facilitate the delivery of IT courses among the six colleges in an effort to maintain IT program viability and increase efficiency of a historically high cost, low enrollment program. The collaboration will also provide students at NITC campuses access to bachelor's degree options at MiSU and VCSU. This Joint Program Agreement (agreement) outlines the conditions of this collaboration.

MiSU will develop articulation agreements with each NITC campus outlining the pathway for students to complete an associate degree at their home campus and smoothly transition into a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Management Information Systems through MiSU. MiSU will also have the opportunity to receive courses delivered by NITC campuses per this agreement.

VCSU will develop articulation agreements with each NITC campus outlining the pathway for students to complete an associate degree at their home campus and smoothly transition into a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Software Engineering or a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Computer Information Systems at VCSU. VCSU will also have the opportunity to receive courses delivered by NITC campuses per this agreement.

Structure
The collaborating campuses will be responsible for the exchange and delivery of core and elective IT courses according to the tentative schedule found in Appendix A.

Courses may be delivered via online or in a blended/hybrid format. Each partnering college will make classroom space available for receiving courses delivered in the blended/hybrid format.

Each college will be responsible for teaching its own section(s) of CSCI 101 - Introduction to Computers or related introductory course.

Admissions and Course Enrollment
1. The distinctive admission policies and procedures that pertain to each of the campuses will be honored; each campus's unique policies and procedures will apply to students who seek admission at the respective institutions in the collaboration.
2. Students must be admitted to one of the partnering campuses to enroll in courses offered under this agreement. An exception will be made for collaborative students.
3. All courses listed in the appendix to this agreement are available to any student admitted to one of the partnering campuses.

4. Any class that is part of this agreement may be cross-listed on each partnering campus's class schedule. Enrollment is subject to the class capacity set by the provider institution.
5. Upper division courses from MISU and VCSU cannot be cross-listed at NITC campuses unless the course is listed as 2XX/3XX on the common course numbering matrix. For courses that cannot be cross-listed, students will enroll utilizing the collaborative student procedure.

Tuition and Fees

1. Students enrolling in a course listed or cross-listed on their home campus class schedule will be charged and pay all tuition and fees to their home campus. Tuition and fees for cross-listed courses will not be exchanged between colleges listed in this agreement and each college will retain tuition and fees for courses listed on their course schedule.
2. NDUS Procedure 404 will be utilized for billing and payment of tuition to their provider campus when students enroll collaboratively.

Financial Aid

1. Students will receive financial aid from their home campus. Students at DCB, LRSC, TMCC, and WSC may not be eligible to receive financial aid for upper division courses from MISU or VCSU.

2. Each campus will be responsible for incurring expenses associated with IT infrastructure, hardware, software, internet access, and telephone charges on their own campus.

Classroom Logistics

1. IT faculty will share the syllabus for the course(s) they teach with the other colleges.
2. Each partnering campus will assure that technical support is available for blended/hybrid courses.
3. Each partnering campus will designate one faculty or staff member as the "IT facilitator" for their campus. The name and directory information for this person will be provided to all partnering campuses prior to the start of each semester.
4. Each faculty member will share assessment of student learning data for the course(s) they teach with all campuses participating in the course section. The assessment data will be due at the same time as course grades.

Textbooks and Course Materials

1. Students at each campus will be responsible for purchasing their own textbooks and other required courses materials. Textbooks and other course materials will be made available to students through the bookstore of their home campus.
2. Faculty will make textbook and other information available to the bookstore managers at all partnering campuses at least 60 days prior to the start of the semester in which those materials will be used. This information includes, but is not limited to, the following: title, edition, author, publisher, and ISBN.

Academic Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines

1. Home campus academic guidelines, policies, and procedures for the students enrolled in courses through this agreement will apply in regard to the following:
   - Academic probation/suspension
   - Graduation honors
   - Academic honors
   - Official withdrawal
   - Course load limitations
   - Add/drop dates for individual classes
   - Course repetition

2. Provider campus academic guidelines, policies, and procedures for the students enrolled in courses through this agreement will apply in regard to the following:
   - Incomplete work
   - Attendance
   - Grade Appeals

Marketing

1. This agreement shall be recognized by all parties as a consortium between DCB, LRSC, MiSU, TMCC, VCSU and WSC and, as such, all parties will market this program.

2. This joint program agreement shall be described as the Northern Information Technology Consortium or NITC.

3. DCB, LRSC, MiSU, TMCC, VCSU and WSC will use the official logo of all partner institutions in program brochures and other marketing or promotional materials related to this consortium.

Monitoring and Review

1. Any aspect of this agreement is subject to revision. All partners of this agreement must agree in writing before any changes may be implemented. An annual review of this Joint Program Agreement will occur at the end of each spring semester.

2. This Agreement shall commence as of the date of the signatures below and continue until any party terminates the agreement. Any party may terminate this agreement by written notice to the other parties at least thirty days prior to the start of the next term.

General Provisions

1. This Agreement supersedes any and all other agreements, either oral or written, between the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement and contains all covenants and agreements between the parties. Each party acknowledges that no representations, inducements, promises, or agreements, oral or otherwise, have been made by any party, or by anyone acting on behalf of any party, which is not contained in this agreement; and that no other agreement, statement, or promise shall be valid or binding. Any modification shall be effective only if it is in writing and signed by the party to be charged in the form of an amendment to this Agreement. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the State of North Dakota.

This agreement is entered into as of the date written below and on behalf of DCB, LRSC, TMCC, MISU, VCSU, and WSC by the authorized agent thereof.

Carmen M Simone
_____
Dr. Carmen Simone, Campus Dean
Dakota College at Bottineau

9/4/2024
_____
Date

Dr. Doug Darling
_____
Dr. Doug Darling, President
Lake Region State College

9/12/2024
_____
Date

Dr. Donna Brown
_____
Dr. Donna Brown, President
Turtle Mountain Community College

9/4/2024
_____
Date

Dr. Steve Shirley
_____
Dr. Steven Shirley, President
Minot State University

9/4/2024
_____
Date

Dr. Alan LaFave
_____
Dr. Alan LaFave, President
Valley City State University

9/3/2024
_____
Date

Dr. Bernell Hirning
_____
Dr. Bernell Hirning, President
Williston State College

9/3/2024
_____
Date

Appendix A.   Tentative course schedule for 2024-2027

Dakota College at Bottineau

Fall Semester

    CIS 104 - Microcomputer Database
    CIS 141 - Introduction to Cyber Security
    CIS 180 - Creating Web Pages I
    CIS 188 - Application Design
    CIS 211 - Website Plan and Design
    CIS 232 - Graphics Design
    CIS 235 - Digital Video Basics

Spring Semester

    CIS 147 - Principles of Information Security
    CIS 181 - Creating Web Pages II
    CIS 233 - Vector Graphics/Web Animation
    CIS 248 - Digital Media I
    CSCI 289 - Social Implications of Computer Technology

Lake Region State College

Fall Semester

    CIS 128 - Microcomputer Hardware I
    CSCI 122 - Beginning Basic/Visual Basic

Spring Semester

    CIS 129- Microcomputer Hardware II
    CSCI 124 - Beginning C++Visual C++
    CSCI 172 - Intermediate Basic/Visual Basic

Turtle Mountain Community College

Fall Semester

    CIS 212 - Operating Systems - Windows
    CIS 217 - Virtualization

Spring Semester

    CIS 216- Implementing MS Windows Network Infra.
    CIS 218 - Planning a Network Infrastructure

Williston State College

<u>Fall Semester</u>

CIS 164 - Networking Fundamentals I

CIS 215 - Microsoft Windows Server (2nd 8 weeks)

CIS 267 - Intermediate Networking I

<u>Spring Semester</u>

CIS 165 - Networking Fundamentals II

Minot State University

<u>Fall Semester</u>

BIT 220- Management Information Systems

<u>Spring Semester</u>

BIT 220- Management Information Systems

BIT 123/CIS 123 -Technology for Personal Development

Valley City State University

<u>Fall Semester</u>

CSCI 161 - Introduction to Structured Programming II

<u>Spring Semester</u>

CIS 147 -Principles of Information Security

CIS 160 - Introduction to Structured Programming