The charge of the Distance Education Task Force would be to:

**ACTION:** Present draft of recommendations with several options to be submitted to administrators, faculty and staff for open discussion at the April Academic Senate meeting and at other campus-wide discussion venues as these discussions need to be ongoing with final recommendations/strategic plan developed before the end of this academic year.

**IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL, THE DISTANCE EDUCATION TASK FORCE WILL:**

1) **Encourage and facilitate campus-wide discussions about strategies for distance education on our campus, raising awareness and making decisions about how we should respond as a campus at this time and in the future.**

   The task force should hold open forums with faculty, administrators and staff to discuss concerns about distance education issues and conduct meetings with various academic and non-academic units, and with students, to gather information and eventually submit informed recommendations to the campus community

   Some questions to ask:
   
   - What are faculty concerns about offering distance courses?
   - What issues prevent more widespread adoption of distance education on our campus?
   - What have been the benefits of teaching distance courses with departments that have offered online and hybrid/blended courses? (e.g., Nursing, Education)
   - Given budgetary cuts and decreased enrollment and retention, how can we add more revenue to our campus through distance education offerings – individual courses and degree programs?
   - What is the current trend nationwide in higher education regarding distance education, particularly from the students’ perspective?
   - How can we compete with other academic institutions including other IU campuses for students who are increasingly looking at online degree programs?
   - How can we support (budget, staff) a solid student support infrastructure for our online students to include advisers, coaches, etc. since the Center for Distance Education staff and budget are focused on faculty?

2) **Review data and gather additional information as follow-up to above discussions concerning distance education and its impact on our campus under current competitive conditions.**

   These data should include:
• specific revenue loss via IU Online Class Connect (IUOCC), including identification of courses that IU South Bend students are taking at another IU campus and how faculty can be encouraged to develop and teach those courses on our campus

• information to address concerns noted from campus-wide discussions above

Members:

• Raman Adaikkalavan (CDE/CLAS)
• Nancy Colborn (Library/Executive Committee)
• Terri Dobrzykowski (CHS)
• Hossein Hakimzadeh (CLAS)
• Beth Kern (BUSE)
• Doug McMillen (CLAS)
• Jorge Muniz (ARTS)
• Kristyn Quimby (CHS)
• Dennis Rodriguez (CLAS)
• P.N. Saksena (BUSE)
• Terry Shepherd (EDUC)
• Eric Souther (ARTS)
• James VanderVeen (CLAS)
• __________ (EDUC)

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• Linda Chen (Undergraduate Studies)
• Biniam Tesfamariam (Institutional Research)