



## **Components of Formal Cooperative Degree Programs**

- A. A vision for the cooperative program that speaks to the rationale for seeking designation as a cooperative program, including benefits to the state, campus, students, and faculty of the program.
  
- B. A memorandum of understanding (MOU), signed by the chief academic officer of each cooperating campus, outlining the following areas:
  - 1. Cooperative program goals.
  - 2. The program's organizational structure providing for decision-making relative to the program characteristics, including academic issues, dispute resolution, etc.
  - 3. A formal set of by-laws, a governing plan (e.g. agenda, committees,), and regular face-to-face meetings and conference calls (i.e., at least quarterly recommended).
  - 4. A common set of requirements for admission, progression and graduation of students, including the criteria for students to identify their "home campus" (i.e., campus granting the degree).
  - 5. Assignment of program faculty and faculty reporting lines.
  - 6. A plan for use of distance technologies for instruction, advising, and meetings.
  - 7. Delineation of intellectual property issues relative to curriculum and scholarship.
  - 8. Portability of student assistantships, stipends and financial aid.
  - 9. Residency, fees, credit, and curriculum issues.
    - a. How all shared courses from the campuses are going to be considered.