Montana University System
Online Education Summary 2014
September 5, 2014

• 111 online programs were delivered by MUS institutions in FY14.

• New programs include:
  o UM-Missoula
    ▪ Media Design, BA
    ▪ Network and Information Security Certificate
  o MSU-Bozeman
    ▪ Nursing Education Certificate
  o MSU-Billings
    ▪ Online Instructional Technologies, MA
    ▪ Teaching and Learning Online Certificate
  o MSU-Northern
    ▪ General Education, AA
    ▪ Business, AS
  o Flathead Valley Community College
    ▪ Health Information Technology Certificate
    ▪ Pre-Health Certificate

• 3,297 online courses were delivered by MUS institutions to online students in Montana, nationally and internationally in FY14.

• In spite of robust online course offerings and programs, there is growing competition among peer universities in the delivery of online programs and degrees. To compete effectively in out-of-state and international markets, MUS needs a more favorable rate of tuition for students admitted to fully online programs who reside outside of the state of Montana. Charging full non-resident tuition, or even 200% of non-resident tuition is not competitive in the current marketplace.

• The ongoing development of new online degrees, certificates and courses depends on the ability to price competitively for out-of-state distance only students, or specific populations such as teachers seeking re-certification and/or new certifications. These programs and courses allow learners to engage in a rigorous course of study and graduate with a degree from a unit of the MUS. More than that, they allow Montana to reach out to a much larger marketplace and in turn reach a critical mass that allows us to offer programs to Montanans that we would not be able to sustain financially without reaching larger numbers beyond our borders.