



Minnesota
STATE COLLEGES
& UNIVERSITIES

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR


WELLS FARGO PLACE
30 7TH ST. E., SUITE 350
ST. PAUL, MN 55101-7804

ph 651.201.1800
fx 651.297.5550
www.mnscu.edu

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 19, 2012

TO: Quality Matters Institutional Representatives
Minnesota Online Contacts (Distance Learning)

FROM: Manuel M. López, Ph.D. 
Executive Director, Minnesota Online, System Office

SUBJECT: **Quality Matters System Level Designations**

A number of years ago, the Minnesota Online Council endorsed Quality Matters as a voluntary “benchmark for online course design” within the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. The quality of the experience spoke for itself and, this year, we have had over thirty colleges and universities affiliate with the Quality Matters program. We have also had dozens of faculty enroll and complete both courses on the basics and additional courses moving them toward peer reviewer status over the last few years.

The chancellor’s Strategic Framework proposes as its first plank, ensuring “access to an extraordinary education for all Minnesotans.” A significant piece of that endeavor will likely be dedicated to e-learning.

In an effort to bring improved coordination, communication, efficiencies in training and to guarantee a smooth transition resulting from personnel changes, Minnesota Online has designated Minnesota State University, Mankato and Northland Community and Technical College as the co-coordinating institutions for Quality Matters-related efforts in the system. In cooperation with Quality Matters™, Minnesota Online has designated

Linda Jacoby
Coordinator of Online Learning
Minnesota State University, Mankato
507-389-5758 phone
linda.jacoby@mnsu.edu

and

Elizabeth McMahan
Online Health Instructor
Northland Community and Technical College, East Grand Forks
218-234-2384 phone
Elizabeth.McMahan@northlandcollege.edu

as system (MnSCU) level Institutional Representatives along with

Shelly Heller
Minnesota Online/QM Administrative Lead Support
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, System Office
651-201-1675 phone -- 651-632-5008 fax
shelly.heller@so.mnscu.edu

Quality Matters™ uses a communications protocol that Minnesota Online has asked Minnesota State University, Mankato and Northland Community and Technical College to follow.

- Quality Matters™ communicates with the system-level Institutional Representatives (Linda Jacoby, Elizabeth McMahon and Shelly Heller) who, in turn
- Communicate to you as your college or university Institutional Representative.
- Using your knowledge of the college/university, you then communicate with the appropriate stakeholders for the message/inquiry that has been transmitted.

We trust that the process that has worked so well for Quality Matters™ will work for us as well.

When Quality Matters™-related training is offered within the system, we anticipate that the same process will be followed in communicating the opportunity: system-level Institutional Representatives to Institutional Representatives to appropriate college/university audiences.

Beth, Linda and I have spoken and they have some interesting ideas about moving Quality Matters™ forward across the system. I will leave it to them to initiate the next level of communication about system level opportunities and activities.

MML/sdh

cc: Douglas Knowlton, System Office
Scott Olson, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Kent Hanson, Northland Community and Technical College
Linda Jacoby, Minnesota State University, Mankato
Elizabeth McMahon, Northland Community and Technical College
Shelly Heller, System Office