The Missouri Distance Learning Association  
Constitution  

ARTICLE I  
Name and Affiliation  

Section 1. Name.  
The name of this organization is the Missouri Distance Learning Association (MoDLA).  

Section 2. Affiliation.  
The Missouri Distance Learning Association is an affiliate of the United States Distance Learning Association.  

ARTICLE II  
Purpose and Mission  

Section 1. Organizational Purposes.  
The Missouri Distance Learning Association is a non-profit association formed to promote the development and application of distance learning to education and training.  

Section 2. Mission.  
To be the premiere statewide organization in Missouri for promotion of the effective application of distance learning strategies to maximize access, equity, and quality of educational resources for teachers and learners of all ages.  

Section 3. Goals.  
The goals of the MoDLA will be consistent with the goals of the USDLA, which include:  
1. Advocate: to advocate and promote the use of distance learning.  
2. Information: to provide current information on distance learning.  
3. Policy: to represent the distance learning community before government policy and regulatory bodies.  
4. Association of Associations: to serve and support the state, consortium and individual organizations that belong to USDLA.  
5. Recognition: to provide annual recognition and awards of outstanding achievements in distance learning.  
6. Partnerships: to serve as a catalyst for the formation of Partnerships among education, business, health care and government.  
7. Access and Equity: to promote equity and access to lifelong learning through distance learning.  
The goals of the MoDLA will also expand on the USDLA goals which will include:  
1. Diversity: To embrace the full range of constituents, institutions, organizations, technologies, and applications, and promote a comprehensive, "full-menu" approach based on the premise that there is no single, BEST solution.  
2. Focus: While maintaining our holistic mission, to facilitate the advancement of specific applications and solutions through the formation of focus groups, working sub-committees, and electronically mediated information repositories.
3. **Outcome Oriented:** To be an organization of proactive, participative members, dedicated to tangible, outcomes-oriented objectives, and fully involved in the efforts of MoDLA peers in order to receive benefits and contribute to our mutual success.

4. **Information Clearinghouse:** To be a primary, statewide source of valuable, timely, and accessible information to MoDLA members and their constituents through the open sharing of research, expertise, technical data, and available services, utilizing a full range of clearinghouse resources.

5. **Collaboration:** To facilitate the bridging of traditional boundaries between institutions, organizations, constituent groups, and public, non-profit and private sectors, through promotion and support of partnerships leveraging common technologies, cross-pollination of expertise, integrated applications, open architectures, interoperability standards, and non-proprietary solutions.

6. **Leadership:** To provide state and national leadership in our field, through conferences, seminars, workshops, and other special events, and nurturing informed and proactive members who positively represent the organization in a wide range of forums.

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**ARTICLE III**

**Membership**

Section 1. Qualification for Membership.
Memberships for organizations and individuals are available for this association by the payment of dues as set forth in the Bylaws.

**ARTICLE IV**

**Board of Directors**

Section 1. Function and Authority.
The affairs of this association shall be managed by a Board of Directors which shall also be the governing body of the association with power to formulate policies of the association consistent with its purposes and subject to any specific directions of the membership as adopted at any duly held membership meeting. The Board of Directors shall have authority to conduct all business pertaining to the association between official meetings of the membership. The Board of Directors shall be the custodian of the property of the Missouri Distance Learning Association and shall assume responsibility for the management of its finances.

The Board of Directors may appoint an Executive Secretary to serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors. The duties and compensation, if any, of such Executive Secretary shall be as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Initial Board of Directors. Until their successors are duly elected and qualified, the directors of this association shall be as follows:

- J. Scott Christianson
- Joan Krusor Davis
- Vicki Hobbs
- Glenna Norris
- Mike Jeffries
- Charlene Odle-Winsor
Section 3. Nomination, Election and Tenure.
The Board of Directors shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, the immediate past President, nine (9) representative members, and such nonvoting ex-officio members as may be set forth in the Bylaws. The Directors shall be nominated, elected, and shall serve for such terms in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws pertaining thereto.

Section 4. Representation
Due consideration shall be given in the selection and election of officers and board members to represent a broad range of sectors and overall membership.

ARTICLE V
Officers and Executive Committee

Section 1. Designation.
The Officers of this association shall consist of a President, Past President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Nominations, elections, duties and terms shall be as set forth in the Bylaws. Until their successors are elected and qualified, the Officers of this association shall be nominated by and elected from the Interim Board. At the first meeting, a full slate of officers (i.e., President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer) shall be nominated and elected in accordance with the procedures established by the Bylaws.

Section 2. Executive Committee.
The Executive Committee is responsible for the execution of the policy decisions of the board and overseeing the day to day operation of the association. The executive committee is made up of:

1. President
2. President-Elect
3. Past President
4. Secretary
5. Treasurer

ARTICLE VI
Standing Committees

Section 1. Designation.
There may be Standing and Special or Ad Hoc Committees of this association to be designated as needed by the Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Other Committees.
Other Standing and Special or Ad Hoc Committees may be created by the Board of Directors in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII
Meetings

Section 1. Board of Directors.
The Board of Directors shall meet by appropriate means at least four times annually in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws.
Section 2. Membership Meetings.  
There shall be at least one regular meeting of the membership during each year. Such regular meeting(s) and any special meetings shall be held in accordance with the provision of the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII  
Fiscal Year

Section 1. Designation.  
The fiscal year of the Missouri Distance Learning Association shall be from January 1 through December 31 inclusive.

ARTICLE IX  
Amendments

Section 1. Initiation.  
Proposed amendments may be initiated by the Board of Directors, Standing, Special, or Ad Hoc Committees appointed by the Board of Directors for the purposes of recommending or proposing amendments to the Constitution or by petition of five percent (5%) of the membership of the Association.

ARTICLE X  
Ratification

Section 1. Membership Vote.  
This Constitution shall become effective when ratified by a majority of the vote of the Missouri Distance Learning Association.

ARTICLE XI  
Dissolution

Section 1. Dissolution.  
Should said organization (Missouri Distance Learning Association) dissolve for whatever reason all assets shall be distributed to like organizations qualifying under 501 (c) (3).