



Announcement

Center for Excellence in Distance Learning Announces Member Enrollment Windows for 2014-2015 Academic Year

Membership deadline approaching for fall 2014 back-to-school season

MARSHALL, Texas (April 30, 2014) – The [Center for Excellence in Distance Learning at Wiley College](#), a membership organization that helps Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) develop online education courses and programs using [open educational resources \(OER\)](#), today announced member enrollment windows for the 2014-2015 academic year. These windows ensure new members have sufficient time for training, OER-based course design and faculty professional development to offer successful distance learning courses during the upcoming academic term.

The Center’s member enrollment windows for the 2014-2015 academic year are as follows:

To offer new OER-based online courses in:	The CEDL Member Enrollment Window is:
Fall semester 2014	Now through May 16, 2014
Winter semester 2015	August 1 – September 30, 2014
Spring/summer term 2015	December 1, 2014 – January 31, 2015

“It’s no secret that designing distance learning courses takes time. It also takes time for faculty to understand and adapt to teaching with open educational resources and the benefits they provide,” said Dr. Kim Cliett Long, Director of The Center for Excellence in Distance Learning at Wiley College. “The Center’s enrollment windows ensure each new member has focused time and resources available to ensure their faculty and courses are successful.”

When new higher education institutions become members, they participate in a collaborative process facilitated by Center support partner [Lumen Learning](#) to identify and design high-demand online courses that they want to offer using freely available open courseware rather than expensive commercial textbooks.

Members of the Center have access to a growing number of pre-built OER-based courses in high enrollment subjects. Faculty members act as subject experts to evaluate, curate and adapt these courses to fit defined learning objectives and instructional style. Because all course content is openly-licensed, faculty members may also tailor the courses to include custom assessments, culturally-relevant examples, and other elements to improve student learning and engagement. Lumen Learning’s team of leading open education experts provides high quality courseware and support services to help each faculty member and institution use OER effectively to achieve their distance learning goals.

“We love working with faculty members from the Center,” said Kim Thanos, CEO and co-founder of Lumen Learning. “It is rewarding to see new open courses come together, and especially to see the phenomenal impact they have on students: zero textbook costs, access to all educational materials on the first day of class, and course design that improves their information literacy.”

The Center for Excellence in Distance Learning at Wiley College is welcoming new members during the current enrollment window through May 16, 2014. After that, the focus will shift to making all members successful with the 40+ open courses supported through the Center during fall 2014. The enrollment window for winter semester 2014 will re-open in August.

For more information about the Center, its members and work, visit www.cexdl.org.

About Wiley College

Wiley College is a four-year, privately-supported, historically black college located on the west side of Marshall, Texas. Wiley College holds distinction as one of the oldest historically black colleges west of the Mississippi River. Affiliated with the United Methodist Church and committed to the principle of educational access, the College serves traditional and non-traditional students from diverse backgrounds who have expressed a desire and potential for learning in a Christian environment. The College was established with the purpose of providing a liberal arts education with a global focus. To this end, it endeavors to maintain an intellectually stimulating environment, promoting student competencies in communication, as well as critical and analytical thinking. The College also supports spiritual, ethical, moral and leadership development. Visit us at www.wileyc.edu.

About Lumen Learning

Lumen Learning provides high quality open courseware and support for K-12 and higher education institutions to help them eliminate textbook costs, broaden access to educational materials, and improve student success through the effective use of open educational resources. Lumen helps institutions transition high enrollment courses to open content and provide training and support for faculty members to teach open courses and sustain the quality of these courses over time. Learn more at www.lumenlearning.com.

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