

By Senator Grant

13-1168-98

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to postsecondary education;  
creating s. 240.707, F.S.; establishing the  
Florida State University/British Open  
University Resource and Production Center;  
providing legislative intent; providing duties;  
providing funding; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 240.707, Florida Statutes, is  
created to read:

240.707 Florida State University/British Open  
University Resource and Production Center.--

(1) INTENT.--The Legislature recognizes the potential  
which is present in the provisions of the General Accord of  
1996 between Florida State University and the British Open  
University for greater access to postsecondary education, for  
the achievement of greater flexibility in and personalization  
of programs of study, and for the enhancement of desirable  
interinstitutional, interstate, and international academic  
relationships. The Legislature further recognizes that the  
special relationship which exists between Florida State  
University and the British Open University has grown to  
include a significant number of Florida's community colleges  
and that this relationship should be encouraged, nurtured,  
strengthened, and facilitated. The Legislature further  
recognizes that the potential benefits and implications to the  
public and the State of Florida which flow from the special  
relationship are so profound and far-reaching that the initial  
progress made between Florida State University and the British

1 Open University should be engendered by the adoption by the  
2 Legislature of a state policy that provides their partnership  
3 a formal basis for further incubation and growth.

4 (2) ESTABLISHMENT.--

5 (a) There is hereby established the Florida State  
6 University/British Open University Resource and Production  
7 Center within Florida State University.

8 (b) The center is charged with assuming the leading  
9 role within the State University System in developing  
10 pedagogical and administrative paradigms based on those proved  
11 successful by the British Open University for the effective  
12 delivery of high quality distance learning postsecondary  
13 educational services to all appropriate target audiences. Such  
14 pedagogical and administrative paradigms and educational  
15 services shall include, but not be limited to:

16 1. Inventory, selection, and adaptation of existing  
17 British Open University courses and course materials.

18 2. In conjunction with the British Open University,  
19 creation of a production capacity to develop quality distance  
20 learning materials for conventional and web-based delivery,  
21 including needs assessments and planning and analysis of  
22 target audiences; establishment of instructional goals and  
23 objectives; content review of existing materials from the  
24 British Open University and other sources; development of  
25 verifiable pedagogical goals and objectives; and development  
26 of evaluation and refinement strategies for course materials  
27 and delivery methodologies which utilize field-based feedback.

28 3. Identification, selection, training, monitoring,  
29 evaluation, and compensation of a network of locally based  
30 resident faculty. Such resident faculty shall include, but not  
31 be limited to, current regular and adjunct faculty at public

1 community colleges; current regular and adjunct faculty at  
2 State University System institutions; regular and adjunct  
3 faculty from other institutions which become participants,  
4 including the Florida High School; and working or retired  
5 professionals, educators, and military personnel who possess  
6 specific expertise or academic credentials.

7 (3) FUNDING.--For the purposes of this section all  
8 FTE's shall accrue to Florida State University. Through formal  
9 agreements executed between Florida State University and  
10 participating community colleges, sister units of the State  
11 University System, and such other institutions as may be  
12 chosen as Florida State University/British Open University  
13 educational access centers, Florida State University shall  
14 provide for compensation for the use of their facilities and  
15 necessary services, including the salaries of locally based  
16 resident faculty who shall otherwise be appointed and paid by  
17 the Florida State University/British Open University  
18 educational access center institutions.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1 of the  
20 year in which enacted.

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23 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

24 Establishes the Florida State University/British Open  
25 University Resource and Production Center to develop  
26 paradigms for the delivery of distance learning  
27 postsecondary educational services.  
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