(1) Mission Statement for the Instructional Systems Development Center.

(a) It is the purpose of the Instructional Systems Development Center (ISDC) to bring to the Florida State University the tools, processes, and products of instructional science and technology in order to assist the departments and other units in the improvement of their instructional programs. ISDC serves as a University center of excellence for continuing developmental research in the area of instructional systems development. It continually seeks to discover means of organizing learning conditions so as to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of learning in both formal and non-formal settings. It attempts in collaboration with the appropriate FSU units to advance the state of the art in the utilization of instructional media and technology, evaluation and measurement of instruction, and in the ways which other instructional resources can be most effectively deployed.

(b) ISDC, as its first priority, maintains itself in readiness to serve as a resource to the teaching faculty and to the academic units in the design, development, evaluation, and implementation of improved instructional programs, as requested and as its allocated resources permit.

(c) This capability also is made available to other institutions of higher education in the State University System and the community colleges of the State of Florida. It also assists the College of Education in its work with the public schools and the Elementary, Secondary, and Vocational Divisions of the Department of Education of this state in its mission in instructional systems development. In these latter instances the College of Education has the primary responsibility to interfere with these agencies.

(d) Consonant with the foregoing, ISDC assists other foreign or domestic education and training agencies or institutions through research, training or technical assistance with the provision that these activities be supported by resources external to the regular University’s educational programs.

(2) The Center’s Responsibilities.

(a) Specifically, ISDC is the University’s instructional improvement services unit and one of its developmental research arms, and shares with the College of Education functions in the areas of instructional systems design and development, mediated instruction, educational technology, and in the evaluation of instruction. University activities and projects requiring support and resources in these areas turn first to ISDC for this support. If ISDC’s director indicates that such
support is beyond ISDC’s capabilities or capacities, then non-ISDC resources may be developed or engaged. ISDC seeks the cooperation of the deans in relating to the faculty. ISDC seeks the written approval of any faculty member, appropriate department heads, and deans prior to obligating the member’s time on contract and grant agreements. Likewise, ISDC’s resources are not contractually obligated by any project director or administrative unit without prior consultation and the written authorization of the Center’s director.

(3) University Committee on Educational Technology.

(a) The President appoints a University Committee on Educational Technology consisting of fifteen persons representing the academic community and the community at large. The committee advises the director of ISDC on instructional improvement, educational systems development, and other applications of educational technology. The members of the council serve for three years with the initial appointments staggered to provide for rotation of the members.

(4) Personnel of the Center.

(a) Experience has shown that faculty members of ISDC have derived personal academic benefits from holding 25 percent appointments in appropriate instructional units, and that the instructional units have also derived significant advantages. Policies governing such appointments are as follows: The dean of the appropriate academic unit has the authority to grant ISDC personnel holding state line faculty level positions a corresponding tenure eligible appointment in an appropriate department or program if such faculty contribute an average of 25 percent of full-time academic unit in the course of a calendar year. The specific tasks the faculty member undertakes in meeting this quarter time obligation—whether classroom teaching, student advisement, research, or service—is negotiated between the individual faculty member and his department head, subject to the concurrence of the director of ISDC and the dean of the appropriate academic unit. Any ISDC personnel on A & P or contract and grant appointment may, with the approval of the ISDC director, hold a temporary, non-tenure earning academic appointment (up to 25% full-time) in an appropriate instructional department, subject to the approval procedures of that department. Determination of the nature of the teaching assignment is the same as described in the preceding paragraph.

(b) ISDC also provides opportunities for faculty members not regularly assigned to the Center to engage in research on media, evaluation, and other aspects of instructional design. These faculty members may be assigned for varying portions of their time for such work by their department
heads and deans with the concurrence of the ISDC director. This faculty time commitment may be paid for by ISDC or it may be contributed by the academic unit, which is to be determined by available resources, and the value and relevance of the work to the academic unit.

(e) Providing individual faculty members with opportunities to pursue their own research interests, and those of the Center, through voluntary participation yields highly positive effects. It allows faculty members, without projects of their own, to work in areas of their professional interests while permitting the Center access to a wide range of professional talent. This talent can be brought to bear on the problems of instructional development within the University and elsewhere.

(d) For those faculty members who spend a significant portion of their time in the Center, and are funded by the Center, the director of the Center should have input with regard to promotions, and tenure. Current University policy, based on Florida law, requires that individuals be evaluated on the basis of the performance of duties in the Center. In the case of divided members, the director of ISDC and the head of the department jointly prepare an explicit statement of these responsibilities.

(e) The Center offers faculty members and students the opportunity of working on projects outside their normal campus responsibilities. In order to maintain awareness of the state-of-the-art and to ensure that the Center is constantly abreast of new developments, faculty members have been engaged in a wide variety of projects in the United States and throughout the world. When it is mutually desirable for faculty to represent the Center off-campus, the time is negotiated with the faculty member, his department chairman, and dean, and the director of the Center. Since such projects are not usually related in a direct way to the faculty member’s primary responsibility, the academic unit will be reimbursed by ISDC for faculty time spent on these projects.

(f) When faculty level vacancies occur in the Center, the director of the Center will confer with the dean of the school and the chairman and the faculty of the academic department in which the prospective faculty member will hold his academic appointment. Recruiting for such vacancies is a cooperative and coordinated effort to ensure that the best possible replacements are located and appointed. Academic appointments are subject to the normal faculty review and approval procedures.

(5) Audiovisual Media Development and Support.

(a) In order to insure technical compatibility and efficient utilization of University-owned
audiovisual equipment, the Center shall monitor and advise on expenditures for such equipment. Further, in order to assure full benefit and use of audiovisual equipment, the Center shall advise on the allocation, distribution and maintenance of all University-owned major media equipment.

(b) The Center shall act as advisor and consultant to the University administration and faculty in all planning and budgeting activities related to audiovisual production, distribution, repair systems, or facilities planning.