Students seeking distance learning options at Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities have a new Web resource to simplify their search. It's the Web site http://www.sdaedu.org, featuring searchable listings of distance-learning courses at 13 of the 15 North American Division colleges and universities.

The new site is being developed by the Adventist Distance Education Consortium (ADEC) in conjunction with the North American Division (NAD) Office of Education and the Association of Adventist Colleges and Universities.

The ultimate goal is to develop a seamless process for students to enroll and take courses online through any of the member institutions. Future plans include developing a system that will allow for easy transfer of grades and records to the student’s home campus.

ADEC was founded in October 2000 by the NAD Higher Education Cabinet, at the recommendation of the Association of Adventist College and University Presidents and the Association of Adventist Academic Administrators who recommended a consortium model for “collaboration for the purpose of enhancing and extending Adventist higher education through distance education technologies.”

ADEC is governed by a board of directors, chaired by the vice president for education of the North American Division, Gerald Kovalski. Among the college and university representatives on the board are one chief executive officer, one provost, five chief academic officers, four deans or department heads, and two chief financial officers. Each board member represents one of the 13 ADEC member institutions.

According to Kovalski, the consortium is committed to finding ways to expand educational opportunities for students seeking faith-based distance-learning opportunities, to sharing resources, to avoiding unnecessary duplication, to making full use of faculty talents, and to establishing partnership arrangements with other organizations to enhance its mission.

**By Joseph Gurubatham and David Bullock**

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