Extended Campus Response and Proposal

Response:

The policy positions of the referenced universities are, for the most part, based on traditional face-to-face graduate program scenarios and reference primarily the remote participation of the faculty committee members, not the students. The assumption in these cases is that the student is physically present on campus, and do not take into consideration the unique and distant composition of the students in online programs. The only exception is the University of Washington, whose policy does allow remote participation of the student: note that the UW offers online graduate professional programs. If OSU adopts a more flexible policy regarding remote participation of distance student in examinations, we would be in good company.

Proposal:

- Remote participation of faculty committee members would follow existing OSU policy.
- Implementation of a second set of remote participation policy specifically addressing the unique needs of distant student participants in OSU’s online graduate degree programs.
  - The Graduate School and/or Graduate Council, reviews program proposals from the Colleges for blanket approval of the option for remote participation of distance students in examinations.
  - In recognition of their geographic diversity, maturity, and professionalism, students in distance (online) graduate programs are, with approval of the Committee Chair, allowed the option of participation in person, or remote participation in examinations.
  - With approval of the Committee Chair, remote participation of the student may be via two-way video or audio-only, and may require a proctor at the distant site if deemed advantageous.
  - The College/Committee Chair is responsible for ensuring that appropriate technical infrastructure and support and is available to both the student and the Committee to allow for un-interrupted remote participation using either two-way video or audio only. It is the student’s responsibility for costs incurred for remote participation.