

Minutes

College of Education

Distance Education & Technology Committee

October, 9, 2009 – 1:30 pm

Members Present: Randall McDaniel, Brian Phillip, Dawn Browning, Raj Chaudhury, Susan Bannon, Monica Deture, Leanne Skinner, Sue Barry, Suzy Westenkirchner, Leah Robinson, Sara Wolf

I. Old Business:

- a. After a birthday party, the committee had a wide-ranging discussion on technology available for teaching. A wrap up of the visit by President was discussed.
- b. The advantages of inviting the Provost to our next meeting were covered. The purpose would be to have a discussion on where Distance Education is headed at AU. This led to comments on what Dr. Mazey has been doing with DE and the AU Task Force recommendations.
- c. A review was shared on Dean Kochan's presentation to the Provost on distance education with the COE along with comments on the differences in other programs' revenue split from the COE. Information was shared on some of the plans for the stimulus monies to outfit more rooms for DE.

II. New Business

- a. *Reaction to the 2009 Fall Faculty/Staff Meeting Feedback on College Committees.*
Concern about the comment on the need for the DE&T's committee "structure being changed drastically". We think the comment means that people are not happy having to take existing courses and take them through several committees for approval; if that is the case, we all agree. Other feedback related to the committee spending too much time on grammatically criticizing proposals probably relates to the curriculum committee rather than this committee, as we have not done that. Throughout the feedback, there was consistent feeling from the faculty that existing courses shouldn't have to be approved for distance. The DE&T committee is in unanimous agreement. It was brought up that central administration needs some monitoring of new distance offerings to know what is developing on campus in this area. We thought that could be done in a way that doesn't involve permissions. Multiple comments were throughout the feedback concerning sharing what the committees are doing. The new software for the COE webpage will facilitate the sharing of committee information. Consideration might be given to having the minutes from each committee sent out by the Dean's office to all faculty/staff. We would recommend that Distance Learning in Outreach create a spot on their website for all colleges to input their work/accomplishments in this area so that the broader university community would know what is being done at AU in distance learning.

b. *Goals and Objectives, 2009 - 2010:*

- i. *Policy Development:* It is difficult to start new programs without policies on distance education, i.e. we think it might be important to continue our work in this area. Concern was expressed about policy development at the university level and our spending our time on this if new policies are being prepared for release in the near future. We might want to wait on our policy development/recommendation work for the Provost office to release their university policy that is expected by February 2010. More discussion to be held.
 1. *On-line student course evaluations* is an area that we need to cover and make a goal of this committee. It was suggested that we should look at the new version of Flashlight and Raj agreed to give us a demonstration at the next meeting. Susan will send something around to all of us before the meeting.
- ii. *The DE and Technology Fair* is an objective we would like to accomplish this year. We could pull together a section of iTech on distance ed including a panel, Susan volunteered to explore our greater involvement with iTech with IMG (after the meeting, Susan shared that she discussed our committee taking over sponsorship of the Distance Education portion of the iTech conference to be held March 12, 2010 with Kathy McClellan of IMG. Kathy agreed with our proposal and the committee will be a co-sponsor. This might involve having a session during each concurrent session)
- iii. *Student Technology Survey:* Jon Won was working on the technology survey and we'll talk with her when she returns from Korea.
- iv. *Field Trip:* The committee will look into taking a field trip to a university that is advanced in DE and Technology use in their teaching. In the interim, we would like to have meetings with other distance educators in other colleges at AU and get an orientation to what they are doing.

Meeting Concluded at 3:30 pm. Next meeting will be on Friday, November 13, 2009 in HC 1220 from 11:00 – 1:00. Bring your own lunch and silly string.