

October 2005

Minutes of Committee Meeting

Committee: _____ Distance Education and Outreach Technology _____

Date and Location: _____ October 28 -3013 Haley Center, AU- _____

Agenda items

1. Walkthrough of the Continuous Improvement Notebook
2. Preliminary discussion of Goal/Proposal 1 (continued refinement of the College's conceptual framework)

Summary of key ideas

Goal/Proposal 1

The committee requests clarification/definition of what “outreach” is in the scope of our charges. It was felt that DE and Outreach are two completely separate areas of concern; although the connector is “technology”, a better understanding of what is meant by “outreach technology” is needed before recommendations can be made

The committee is in favour of using web-based communication to facilitate conversations about COE's conceptual framework. The committee would assist in the design and implementation of web-based or other technology-enhanced communications. Ideas discussed were:

Digital “Town Hall” Meetings

- invite students, cooperating teachers/supervisors in the schools, principals, AU faculty, community stakeholders to regularly scheduled online meetings
- live streaming audio/video with audience participation via chat/videoconference; “call-in” show format?
- “Town Hall” Podcast
- rotating faculty/admin as “guest hosts”
- rotating invited schools; possible tech supplementation for schools as an enhancement to participation?
- utilization of existing supporting online tools for communication: WebCT, Wimba, HorizonLive, weblog(s).

COE Online Community

- enroll current COE majors in WebCT course where they could participate in chats, moderated discussion boards, and surveys relevant to informing COE's conceptual framework.
- Structured for fact-gathering (future data-base?)
- Faculty/outside stakeholders could also participate using Open WebCT
- Flexible; could work in concert with Town Hall Meetings or as standalone. Features could be added or subtracted easily. Time limited (6-week), topic-driven discussion?
- Find out WebCT server capacity for enrollment. With 2500 COE students, may be necessary to divide into groups.

On-Campus Fun Day

- Explore funding possibilities for hosting a day on campus for cooperating teachers and representatives from school systems.
- Summer-program activities and discussion would help them understand COE's conceptual framework and encourage their participation in its development.

Timelines/Goal 1 Plans

The committee felt that utilizing the technology as above for communication and information gathering could help inform the timeline for COE's developing conceptual framework.

The committee unanimously felt that the current timelines for implementation were much too ambitious. Fall 2006 was the earliest beginning point we felt was reasonable. For some classes that are taught only annually, Summer 2007 may be the earliest implementation.

Discussion continued around Plan 3(b) regarding the doubtful suitability for *all* courses as appropriate for conceptual framework projects. Question: could *some* courses be designated as key courses in the effort to introduce students to and educate them on the college's conceptual framework?

Finally, there was discussion about academic freedom and faculty independence in the mandatory implementation of conceptual framework unit(s) in their courses.

Future Plans and Actions (if appropriate, suggest person responsible and due date)

1. Share feedback and questions with the Dean's Office – chair
2. Prepare for upcoming discussions of goals/proposals in the Draft Proposals section – committee members and chair

- a. Goal/Proposal 2 (candidate performance measures) – study the proposal; read targeted sections in the notebook (see p. 4)
- b. Goal/Proposal 3 (Live Text) – study the proposal; review standards as needed; attend an orientation to LiveText provided by the college (see p. 9)
- c. Pre-proposal Questions – review standards as needed; note initial thoughts to the questions (see p. 10)

Members Present

Browning, DiRamio, Hastie, McDaniel (chair), Skinner, Walls

Next DE/Outreach Tech Committee meeting: December 2, 9:00 – 10:30; place TBA

minutes: Browning 11/07/05
audio file available (152kb .wav)