

Distance Learning & Instructional Technologies Advisory Committee (DLAC) Meeting

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

University of North Texas – Dallas, Dallas, Texas

Minutes

Call to Order: DLIT Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Cynthia Johnson at 10:05 a. m.

Attendees: Arturo Cole, Cynthia Johnson, Brian Miller, Mark Stanley, Cynthia Suarez, Tanisha Bell, Katrina Cornish, Marco Shappeck, Patrick Holler

Absentees: Pam Harris, Arthur Lumzy, Alounda Joseph, Syeda Jesmin, Brenda Robertson, Glenda Balas, Constance Lacy, Larry Terry

Minute Approval: Last meeting's minutes were not available.

DLIT Report:

C Johnson - Spring 2015 Distance Learning data

- (92) distance learning faculty
- (221) sections
- (162) distance learning courses
 - 102) online
 - (60) hybrid
- 4,298 distance learning seats filled
- 54% total UNTD enrollment

A Cole - 2015 Excellence in Online Teaching Awards: Drs. Marco Shappeck, Katie Welch (co-teachers) and Amy McCortney were selected as winners of the first annual Excellence in Online Teaching Awards (Innovative Teaching with Technology and Outstanding Online Course) by members of the DLAC Committee. An official UNT Dallas press release will be released and a reception for the winners and nominees will be planned for Monday, April 4th in Rm 138. Additional information forthcoming.

Committee Members' Reports:

M. Stanley – Canvas learning management system (LMS) demo was informative; however, migration from Blackboard to Canvas may not be as easy as stated. It may be easier to rebuild than copy. After rolling over one an online courses, M. Stanley noticed the online tests and discussion board forums were not there. UNT in Denton is currently piloting Canvas and the decision to transition to Canvas is based on financing and intuitiveness use of the LMS.

T. Bell – Students report positive and negative use of Blackboard. It allows for scheduling flexibility, but students have complained about the “hiccups” while taking exams. Students also state instructors are not reporting online grades in a timely manner.

A. Cole – A meeting with Assoc. Provost, K. Coakley was attended. The use of Blackboard's Retention Center and Performance Dashboard to help Academic Advising reach out to students was discussed and also presented during the Faculty Senate meeting.

P. Holler – Patrick is the newest member in ITSS and is available for technical support issues. Questions regarding the Respondus tool were asked and Patrick will follow up on training opportunities for faculty and the protocol for requesting Respondus Lockdown tool.

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K. Cornish – Registration for Summer 2016 semester begins on April 4th. Summer 1 semester officially begins on May 16th. The office of Registrar is currently working on finalizing dates for face-to-face courses.

B. Miller – A need assessment on use of instructional technology in classrooms and as online resources is currently underway. Additional information regarding School of Education's smartboard use in DAL1, Rm 304(?) will be reported. Brian also reported that DLIT will create a video of the online faculty award winners.

C. Suarez – Kurtzweil software for students with learning disabilities is now on UNTD's server. Fifteen hundred licenses have been purchased, but users must contact C. Suarez to set up their account. An easy to remember user name and password should be provided. It is further suggested that a sales representative provides training for interested faculty and staff. NOTE: Only (500) accounts can be logged into online at one time.

M. Shappeck – The current Blackboard avatar is too small to see. Concern regarding the stigma attached to Department of Teacher's Education view of distance learning as a negative was addressed. Dallas area principals have expressed concerned regarding the hiring of teachers who have received their education online. School of Education also welcomes their new dean, Dr. John Gasko, who will focus on grant funding for more face-to-face education initiatives.

Possible Agenda Items for DLAC:

- Title 9 for distance learning students
- Plagiarism and screen capturing with voiceover
- Incompletes in distance learning
- Portfolios

Incompletes in distance learning will be discussed.

Motion to adjourn was made at 11:43 a.m. and was passed.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. in DAL2, Rm 127.