

Distance Education Committee Minutes

Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Attendance: Lauren Arenson, Sharon Bober, Andrzej Bojarczah, Eduardo Cairo, Rhea Presiado, Asher Shamam, Claudia Van Corva, Mark Whitworth, Valerie De Carvalho

Meeting began: 12:05 pm Room C217

DE Committee chair, Lauren Arenson, began the meeting with a summary of events since spring 2015 through summer 2015, which included:

- An update of the progress of suggested Canvas improvements (Excel spreadsheet list originated by Kathy Kottaras) to the Distance Education Department: Very little action has occurred, to date.
- Proposal by DE Committee to design an Advanced Canvas Workshop, geared towards assisting current online teachers – a type of Canvas bootcamp: Proposal was rejected.
- Quality Matters Update – Claudia and Lauren summarized their experiences with completing the first Quality Matters course. Claudia and Lauren both expressed the rigidity of the program stating their attempts at creativity when completing assignments were unwelcomed. Rhea expressed an interest in enrolling in Quality Matters courses.
- DE committee would like to create a Peer-to-Peer Evaluation process for evaluating courses, possibly modeled after Quality Matters, but maybe more inline with PCC's specific needs. Several committee members suggested that Katie Datko teach such a course, maybe without the requirement (Quality Matters) of having taught an online course within the last 18 months.

Eduardo Cairo proposed a few ideas related to helping improve online teaching:

- Coordinate a student panel of students who have enrolled in online courses, inquiring students about their online experience (successes and failures) (similar to a student panel he attended at the Online Teaching Conference, June 2015.)
- "Online Teaching" Flex Day Workshop facilitated by a current online instructor(s), with the purpose of informing faculty interested in online teaching about the requirements to teach online, in addition to, the Pro's and Con's of online teaching. The idea for such a workshop is too late for the Oct. 1 2015 FLEX day, but possibly an idea for the future.

Near the end of the meeting, there was a vote for a new chair for the DE Committee. Instead of a new chair, there was a vote to have co-chairs share the committee responsibilities. Rhea Presidio, Sharon Bober, and Asher Shamam were voted in as co-chairs of the DE Committee, effective immediately. The 3 co-chairs plan to meet to discuss additional meeting times and goals for this semester. Additional meeting times will be announced via email, and meeting minutes, agendas and schedule will be posted to the DE Committee Website in compliance with the Brown Act.

<http://www.pasadena.edu/academicsenate/committees/standing/de/>.

Meeting adjourned: 1pm.
