The Distance Education and Learning Technology Committee  
*Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at 3:30 pm in Brewster B-104*

In Attendance: Lida Cope, Wendy Creasey, Xiangming Fang, Karl Wuensch, Tom Ross, George Wang, Nasseh Tabrizi, and Matt Reynolds

**AGENDA**

- Approval of 2-27-13 Meeting Minutes

**Proposed change to the 2-27-13 Minutes:**

“We are moving to Blackboard 9.x service pack between spring and fall semester. We will consider version 10 in 13-14 academic year. Faculty web space for retirees will be available for scholarly activities.”

Minutes were approved.

- Reports from OQC (3-20-13) (Karl Wuensch) and IRCC (3-27-13) (Lida Cope & Wendy Creasey)

No online quality council.

IRCC report – Browser checker tool was shared. It will let students know whether their browser is appropriate for Blackboard and a second portion will allow them to check for system compatibility.

Pilot tools – Tegrity Pilot continues, Bb Collaborate Pilot continues; a Turn It In pilot is being pursued. BB Outcomes – waiting to hear from colleges and departments

Course Tools Hosted in the Cloud and Self-Assessment: Discussed the evolution of publisher tools from test banks to LMSs (Learning Management System). Any data that is hosted in the cloud should be approved by the data owner and CIO. Any contracts that are signed or clicked on *(click throughs)* count as contracts. Materials Management is the contact to review contracts. Tools should meet ADA requirements and there should be appropriate terms for students, as well as data security. It has been tentatively suggested that a self-assessment be developed that helps faculty navigate whether their required tool is reviewed for ADA, FERPA, security, and contracts. The suggestion is to do it as part of the textbook requisition process. We [should we say who?] are going to work on some material and will bring it back to the group.

- DELTC final report (suggestions) and a vote via email during first week in April (Lida Cope & Karl Wuensch)

Karl Wuensch is working on the final report for the committee. Will be sent for feedback prior to the next meeting in April.

- On refining guidelines for the annual training requirement. **Action:** DELTC discussed asking committee members to collect unit procedures and/or DE Handbooks. DELTC can combine the material and submit/present material to the Faculty Senate. DELTC may want to
provide information to the unit administrator and Deans by holding an open faculty forum to address the DE policy. We propose that the committee complete the task by mid fall 2013. More discussion and a vote at the March 27 meeting. [DE Professional Development for review]

The Committee discussed carrying over the charge of preparing a report of what is considered acceptable professional development and complete task in the fall 2013. Input from each unit administrator will be needed. The Committee had a quorum; postponing of this item till the fall 2013 was unanimously approved.

• MOOCs – discussion (and Wendy Creasey, Elmer Poe – PowerPoint pres – MOOCs – also attached)

[Attached: Resolution on concerns with e-learning; The trouble with online college; & Green-AGB-Mission MOOCS]

Mark Sprague to DELTC: I want to make you aware of the fact that the academic deans are having an ongoing discussion of MOOCs. The ECU Board of Trustees is interested in the topic as well. As you may know, the UNC Strategic Plan calls for the system to develop one MOOC per year “that meet[s] the highest standards of instructional quality and student learning and meet lower-division general education requirements at all UNC campuses.” This is included in the e-learning section of the strategic plan found on pages 52-55 of the approved plan <https://www.northcarolina.edu/strategic_direction/Strat_Plan_Feb_8_APPROVED.pdf>. I have attached an article on MOOCs that Dean Alan White shared with the other deans. The News and Observer has an article about a new MOOC offered by UNC-Chapel Hill. <http://www.newsobserver.com/2013/02/21/2695288/unc-ch-joins-effort-to-open-some.html>. I know the DELT Committee has discussed MOOCs. Now may be the time to continue this discussion before ECU has decided what to do about them. It is important that we have faculty input on how we implement this aspect of the strategic plan.

Catherine Rigsby: You may find this message I received from Steve Leonard interesting. Steve is a UNC-CH Department of Political Science faculty member, teacher of both face-to-face and online courses, and the Faculty Assembly delegate to GA's e-Learning Committee. His message was prompted by a NYT editorial I forwarded to Maggie O'Hara (Director of e-Learning) and Steve. I do hope that the ECU faculty investigate this issue fully and do not hesitate to speak up strongly about it. It really is a matter of the tension between preserving academic quality and selling out to the highest bidder. And, of course, faculty must be the guardians of academic content, delivery, and quality.

P.S. For the benefit of any DELT Committee members who may not have seen it, I have also attached the FacultyAssembly’s e-Learning resolution. It was prepared in response to the Strategic Plan. The complete response document can be found
at http://www.northcarolina.edu/facultyassembly/19Jan2013_Faculty Assembly_Response_to_the_Jan16_Draft_of_th.pdf (also linked to the main page of the FA website: http://www.northcarolina.edu/facultyassembly/index.htm).

The Committee discussed the field of MOOCs. The group thought that MOOCs were early in the life cycle and it is yet to be determined on whether they will have a long standing value. The Committee will continue to watch the MOOC horizon. Reviewed this section of the GA strategic plan. Elizabeth Hodge will be asked to share what she is doing with her course at the next meeting.

• DE modules review: consider the input and any updates that may need to be made to the modules in the future. [Results attached for review]. Consider distributing the survey more widely; link: https://ecu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_a3OtJMeoUITfHZa.
DE Modules – Only incoming faculty will be taking the modules. The vast number of respondents was satisfied with the modules. Wendy Creasey will have someone review the feedback and make editorial changes as well as fix the videos so they are hosted locally vs. YouTube. The suggestion is that new faculty attending orientation in August be able to use their attendance at DE-related sessions to satisfy the DE Professional development requirement. The majority of the topics are included in the new faculty orientation. The NFO/DE module credit issue has been tabled for the next meeting. (Wendy Creasey will check with Dorothy Muller and report back to the group).

- Prioritizing future agenda items with a view to preparing the DELTC annual report for the faculty senate (April 16, 2013). Accomplishments and unfinished business

**Goal Two:** Develop a list of experts for specific content knowledge, pedagogy, and technology. Include both EPA and SPA staff.

**Goal Five:** Build collaboration with faculty in determining standards for online courses, focusing on how quality is defined and how technology used effectively in both online courses as well as F2F.

**Goal Six:** Work collaboratively with both the campus and State-wide Online Quality Council

**Goal Seven:** Work collaboratively with Academic Awards Committee, Teaching Grants Committee, and Innovation Center representatives to support teaching awards and/or grants focused on technology innovation.

**Goal Eight:** Develop a resolution to present to the faculty senate that requires all (ECU-wide) faculty to complete a technology requirement

Discussed goals to be pursued for the remainder of the year and in 2013-14:
- Ask Dorothy Muller to provide the DE Online Peer Review criteria.
- Discussed ‘quality of teaching’ and need to review this criterion: What is meant by quality?
  - Discussed whether to recommend that all faculty have a professional development in teaching requirement (Goal Eight). Suggested it be tackled next year
  - Discussed Goal Two. Suggested to eliminate “specific content knowledge” and focus on pedagogy and technology. Identified as worth pursuing next year as well.

- Information re more transparent coding of courses for students:

Course Display - Lida Cope contacted Angela Anderson on changing the display in Banner so that whether a course is DE or campus based is displayed without clicking. This should correct the problem that students do not know what type of course they are signing up for. Angela Anderson might have some information for us by mid-April. Karl Wuensch recommended they have instructions posted early in the process so students know to click to see the type of course prior to registration.