

Distance Education Learning Technology Committee

Wednesday, August 27, 2014 at 3:30 pm in Brewster B-104

Attendance:

Regular Members: Rose Bailey, Lida Cope, Xiangming Fang, Timm Hackett, Elizabeth Hodge, Mark Moore, Karl Wuensch

Ex-Officio Members: Wendy Creasey, Bob Green, Clayton Sessoms, Biwu Yang

Guests: Lori Lee (Faculty Senate), Andrew Morehead (Faculty Senate), Jamie Leibowitz (Global Initiatives); Jayne Geissler (Retention Programs and Undergraduate Studies)

1. Minutes of April 23, 2014 were unanimously approved.
2. Andrew Morehead, Chair of Faculty, conducted the Committee elections.
Elected: Elizabeth Hodge, Chair; Timm Hackett, Vice-Chair; Lida Cope, Secretary; Mark Moore, DELTC Representative for the Copyright Committee
3. The group reviewed the DELTC responsibilities (*DELTC Charge*, item 4). The following corrections need to be made:
 - a. 4.B. "The committee interfaces with the appropriate committees and individuals on campus"
 - b. 4.I. "The chair or appointed representative serves as ex-officio member on _____" (Replace "The University Online Quality Council")

Action Item: Elizabeth Hodge will consult Dr. Zhou regarding the specific committees DELTC should interface with.

4. Chair of Faculty emphasized the importance of efficiency and timelines for all Faculty Senate Committees. Meeting agendas and minutes need to be available well in advance. Committees are encouraged to form subgroups pursuing specific tasks as necessary; committee members are encouraged to be proactive if needing to contact the higher administration.
5. Clayton Sessoms informed the group about the UNC system-wide portal listing allowing students to take a course they need from any institution if they are unable to register for it at their home institution. This initiative will naturally impact online courses.

The following information pertaining to this item was sent out by Matthew Rascoff, VP, Learning Technology & Innovation; UNC General Administration)

Date: August 12, 2014 at 4:58:25 PM EDT

To: "learningtech@lists.northcarolina.edu" <learningtech@lists.northcarolina.edu>

Subject: [LearningTech] Online webinars: New UNC Online Equivalency Finder

"The UNC Online team, working in concert with campus IT teams, is pleased to announce the beta launch of a new course Equivalency Finder. We would like to share this new tool with you before making

it publicly available later this month: <http://online.northcarolina.edu/courses/equivs.php>

The Equivalency Finder will make it easier for students and advisors to find courses offered in the UNC system that would count for credit in place of a course on the student's home campus. If a student cannot get into a course they need on their home campus, they will have the chance to find an equivalent course offered elsewhere. Equivalence is determined based on historical data and is updated from feeds we receive directly from campus systems.

Please share the above URL with colleagues on campus to test and share feedback. We expect to add public links to the tool on August 18.

We have scheduled online webinars, open to various stakeholders in the UNC system community, to demo the new site and address any questions. They are scheduled for the following times:

Thurs Aug 14: 3 PM: Advisors and faculty: <http://bit.ly/uncequiv1>

Fri Aug 22: 11 AM: Advisors and faculty: <http://bit.ly/uncequiv2>

We believe this tool will be of great value for students, advisors, and faculty across the UNC system. Building this was a tremendous team effort and we are pleased to share the results of this project with you.”

The Committee discussed:

- Chair of Faculty pointed out that data show students in their first 60 hours have very low retention rates in online classes. He expects some recommendations to be made on this system-wide.
 - DELTC may need to work closely with the enrollments and retention committee once a policy is formalized.
6. Elizabeth Hodge reminded the group of the goals set for the committee this past year (fulfilled in part) and asked particularly the representatives of Global Initiatives and Distance Education to suggest additional goals where our Committee could assist.
 7. Our first guest of this academic year, Jayne Geissler, Executive Director of Retention Services and Undergraduate Studies, was invited to address advisor training for online student registration and making the ECU course registration system more straightforward to allow students to see right away whether the course they are considering is being offered on campus or online: What can be done in terms of training the advisors and in terms of better preparation for students?
 - a. Jayne Geissler presented the group with a chart on “ways to view DE (online) courses in Banner” (attached). She then asked if the Committee wanted to have online course advertised to freshmen, and if so, how vigorously.
 - b. The group wanted to focus the discussion on the ways to clear up Banner identification of courses to help students tell the mode in which a course is offered immediately. They don't automatically know to click on CRN to find out.

- c. Karl Wuensch mentioned the type of assessment he and his colleagues do to determine whether they are both cognitively and emotionally ready to take an online class. The group agreed that some type of initial assessment would be a valuable tool for online instruction campus-wide.
- d. Jayne Geissler discussed the system-wide plans with “W” and 4 grade replacements, which appear to become additional roadblocks, enforced by GA, to students’ successful progress with their education; and assessing the progress toward graduation and penalties if they don’t progress as expected. Among the questions: W with exception and W without exception (if a W is due to medical reasons). Apparently there will be a flowchart helping faculty and administrators determine this, effective in 2015.
- e. Jayne Geissler discussed some interesting results from research on DE courses and student success (see attached).
- f. Back to the question of what can be done with Banner to make the F2F vs. online designation clearer to students:

Action Item: Wendy Creasey will check with Angela Anderson in the registrations office to see what could be added and where.

- 8. The Committee discussed the meeting time. Our new meeting time will be 3:15 PM – 4:45PM

The Committee adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Submitted,

Lida Cope
DELTC Secretary