

Distance Learning Committee

Recollections

November 1, 2019

I. Opening

A. Call to Order

- B. Establish Quorum:** Cyndie Birdsong, Michelle Boucher, Autumn Cahoon, Aimee Colvin, Suzanne Davenport, Anne Diamond, Jay Hester, Sonia Klenner, Michelle Macfarlane, Jennifer Molina-Stidger, Sabrina Pape, Tina Sixt, Rosemary Turner, Lynnette Vrooman, Tom Benton

II. Approval of the Recollections: Minutes from October 2019 approved

III. Visitor Presentation: None

IV. Action Items: None

V. Discussion Items:

A. Online Tutoring Update: None

B. Online Library Update:

- Tina reported that the library will be subscribing to both Proquest's Alexander Street and EBSCO's Faculty Select.

C. Workshops and Instructional Design: None

D. Sick Leave and Absence in Online Instruction

- A recent inquiry from a faculty member has brought up the question of what should be done when ill and teaching online. Suzanne asked the committee for their input.
- The committee felt there was no immediate need to make any official change in the current procedures. The issues of adjunct faculty did raise some questions and the committee decided to discuss that at a later time.

E. New Analytics

- A new tool has been added to Canvas to help with easily accessing rates of interaction within a course.

F. SOS

- The Sierra Online Summit will take place this year May 26th through May 28th. Suzanne asked all who were interested in participating and/or being a part of the subcommittee to contact her.

G. Accreditation

- Distance Learning was given the feedback of “needs improvement” by the Accreditation committee during their recent visit. They were specifically looking for regular and effective interaction in the classes they examined.
- There is no current process for assessing Title V compliance in a course after the online review process.
- Anne asked if the instructors that were assessed would be contacted and given feedback about their courses.
- Suzanne said that all faculty globally will be given this message and that no one would be singled out.
- The accreditors were primarily focused on instructor-to-student contact, not student-to-student, since the new requirements regarding student-to-student interaction had only recently been added to Title V.
- The Distance Learning website also needs to be updated.
- When the final report is issued in January, there should be greater clarity on where the online program stands. Other schools that have received similar feedback have had “needs improvement” changed to a compliance issue.

H. Regular and Effective Instructor-to-Student Contact Brainstorming Session

- The committee discussed ways to increase regular and effective interaction in the online courses. Plans were tentatively made to meet several times before the December 6th DLIT meeting, to further flesh out the ideas discussed and propose and new ideas that might arise.

Meeting dismissed