Joint Committee on Online and Distance Learning

MEETING
April 5, 2016
12:30-2:00
Library Conference Room B

MINUTES

Committee: Anne Seitsinger, Laura Beauvais, Deb Mongeau, Jill Doerner, Damon Rarick, Diane Goldsmith, Joannah Portman-Daley

1. Minutes from Last Meeting
   Approved

2. Updates
   • Sakai transition
     o After the first few weeks we have had very few complaints about Sakai. It has only been down during planned maintenance.
   • State Authorization
     o Rhode Island was accepted as a member of state reciprocity agreement, which allows for reciprocity in 39 states. Interestingly the Northeast is behind in belonging to SARA so we have to get individual agreements with many of our neighbors.
   • Complaint procedures – meeting with Ombuds
     o 1. Faculty Senate made changes to the manual to explicitly state that academic integrity rules/regulations include online courses.
     o 2. Diane met with the Ombuds who are willing to serve as contacts for online students.
   • Online Programs
     o RN to BS program is growing, but not as quickly as anticipated.
     o Still looking for Gen Ed courses, specifically Grand Challenge.
     o FLM 100 course created specifically for RN to BS program.
     o One humanities course (SPA), others needed.
     o Currently offer COM, STA, FLM, GWS, HIS, NFS NUR courses that qualify under the new gen ed.
     o Social science and writing not needed as much as many students transfer that in.
     o Dietetics program is doing well
   • Online summer course project
     o Kathleen working with Dean to increase online summer courses

3. Discussion of Upgrading to Sakai. The committee agreed that the fewer changes we need to put faculty through the better so if we can move to 11, that would be better than moving first
to 10 and then to 11 next year. We noted that we can only make a move at the end of August as that is the only time when no classes are taking place.

4. **Online Course Issues:** How to ensure that faculty design their online classes using resources which are available to students who are not on campus?
   - Faculty member designed a course where students had to watch films and there was no way to access them unless you could go to the URI campus.
   - Faculty need to know that students are primarily not residential and must assign resources that are available and accessible.
   - Things to keep in mind: copyright compliance, accessibility to video that is a DVD (i.e. use of synchronous screenings).
   - Send out message to faculty regarding accessibility of resources. Include copyright compliance in message.

5. **ITS Changes** – new interim CIO, strategic planning
   - BerryDunn have been holding strategic planning meetings.
   - Discussed single sign-on, much more integrated Help Desk (offered 24 hours a day), faculty/student Google integration and others

Attachments: Online RN to BS General Education Classes
              RN to BS General Education Faculty Information Sheet.