JOINT COMMITTEE ON ONLINE AND DISTANCE LEARNING
Minutes
Monday April 10, 2017

Present: Laura Beauvais, Thomas Boving, Jill Doerner, Diane Goldsmith, Aria Mia Loberti, Deborah Mongeau, Mike Motta, Vince Petronio, Damon Rarick, Joannah Portman-Daley, Kathleen Torrens.

1. February Minutes were approved with adjustments to the attendance.

2. Sakai Enhancements Update - Ben was not able to attend, but sent this video which was previewed by the committee.  https://youtu.be/Gblw0mVi7hE
   a. The committee felt it was a good idea to send this to all faculty
   b. We also discussed that Nancy Neff and Joanne Lawrence should be alerted that Modules are going away - they have been used in General Education and Faculty Senate Project Sites. Diane has alerted them and noted that they can talk with Ben if they need help.
   c. There was a long discussion on how we might better use the Sakai Listserve to promote Sakai and provide tips and suggestions, “Day Changers,” for users. Diane will talk with Ben about promoting the listserve, informing users how to join, how to get it as a once a week digest, and how to post to it. ATL will add information about joining the listserve to the information given to new faculty.

3. Report on Issues with Sakai discussed at last meeting:
   a. When adding student content in Lessons - used to be able to navigate between student submissions with arrows but no more - Ben asked that Damon contact him directly to look at this.
   b. Modules and other obsolete tools - how long will they be viewable for instructors? They will go away in this upgrade.
   c. Can you remove yourself from a site? You can remove yourself from a site if there is another maintainer. If you want to delete the site you need to use this form: Site Deletion Request Form
   d. Is there a way to set preferences so that messages/announcements/etc. can be sent as text messages? No, not at this time. We have asked Longsite to add this to their list of possible upgrades.

4. RITL Conference on Blended Learning: We are still looking for faculty who are interested in blending their courses and would like to attend the all day workshop on June 7 at Roger Williams University. The conference is free for up to 10 faculty
nominated by their chair. Chairs can nominate here: Blended Workshop Nomination Forum

5. OER Workshop: An all day workshop on Open Educational Resources will be held at UMass Amherst on June 14. ATL will pay the registration fee for up to 12 faculty. Faculty can apply here: OER Application

6. Demographic data on our online students: Diane presented enrollment and demographic data on online students. The data can be found on Online website: http://web.uri.edu/online/research-and-data/ The committee suggested ways to improve the graphs for better accessibility.

7. Issues from Faculty and Students:
   a. We discussed the recent network outage on campus which affected Sakai only because users could not be authenticated (Sakai itself was up). In general the committee expressed its satisfaction with the decision to move Sakai to Longsight.
   b. Kathleen Torrens noted that the Communication Studies major will be totally online once one more class is approved as an online class.

7. Diane will Report to Faculty Senate on the Committee work at the May meeting. The committee suggested that she discuss the data she showed to the committee, sakai enhancements, and our evaluation of our experience with Longsight.

Respectfully submitted

Diane Goldsmith
April 13, 2017