



DISTANCE ED COMMITTEE

September 18, 2020

10:00am – 11:30am

Zoom Meeting

Minutes

1. Call meeting to order. Established membership. Attending: Claudia Castro (Counselor); Kenneth Cramm (STEM) Elena Kobzeva (LHSS), Charlie Richard (Fine/performing arts), Sean Ulbert (district office), Janet Lehr (CTE), John Adkins, Lupe Delgadillo Counselor. Mary Fehn (Nursing). DJ Hawkins (District office voting member). Discussion about voting. Each division, the District, the admin co-chair has one vote.
2. Agenda approval Charlie/John. Approved by unanimous vote.
3. Approval of May 15th meeting minutes John/Janet. Approved by the returning members of the committee. New members abstained.

4. Consortium membership. With COVID19 forcing nearly 100% online courses, membership is warranted. Are we as a college/District ready to do the work required for membership? We need to face the reality of the marketplace where other colleges' courses are cheaper/less units than RCCD. Let us look beyond COVID19. Maybe the college will expand offerings and membership will help us be ready. Hybrid courses could be improved from the quality and structure found in the CVC-OEI. We do need to convince Senate and other leadership stakeholders. Conversation stated that more than 50% of CCC are part of the Consortium with 25% in the process of joining. Should have a collaboration with the other colleges. Had a motion to recommend to the Senate for joining but motioned tabled. Look for other rubrics that may offer the same guidance Consortium may offer. Action item for all: look at the Consortium checklist for joining their group, have conversations with Senate President, union president. List pros and cons.

5. Review and jump start our DE Plan goals:

6.

7. A. Evaluate and increase course accessibility by using the ALLY Canvas accessibility tool. Evaluate and increase course accessibility. Tools like ALLY and others are not fully revealing the accessibility score of courses. Most likely it is impossible for a tool to determine if a course is 100% accessible. Now, deans receive the accessibility scores and contact faculty if the score is below 80%. Is it really our committee duty to “assess the status of accessibility” or is it to help

make available the tools that do this job? B. Evaluate and increase section retention and success. This is a data question to ask Wendy. However, the data should measure courses that are preCOVID19 with the same courses offered now. As a side note, the spring, summer of 2020 data could be aggregated in a way to provide a longitudinal view of DE courses. C. Recommend that RCC communicate to DE students the need to have access to a laptop or desktop computer. The fall 2020 schedule only states “computer and internet access” COVID19 again seems to put this issue on hold since students face equity concerns about this requirement. The college took steps to loan hundreds of computers during the spring to help the initial shift to online. If we can agree with the suggested language in the plan, maybe by next meeting we can have our Senate stamp their approval. Share language with MVC and NC DE committees to unify the voice across the district. D. Develop and recommend a rubric for online course to be included for faculty IOI. The membership in the Consortium could provide all we need for this item. V. Communicate to DE faculty the availability of an online proctoring tool. This information is communicated, but the question is about usage, ease of use, student impact of the same.

8. Where is our voice in the IOI process? Committee members were informed of a plan to provide an informational session about the IOI process to faculty under tenure track. The purpose is to educate about the process and scope of the IOI, thus help tenure tracked faculty know what the limitations of the IOI. Everything must be agreed upon by the IOI committee. The union negotiated with the District an MOU outlining some IOI concerns for this group and PT faculty. MOU not available during our meeting.

9. Crowd source support. This is something like YELP. Collecting this type of information could provide information for our 6B goal (see paragraph 6 of the minutes). Coordinate pulling together best practices, so faculty do not have to invent everything. Good time to hit this issue since so many online courses exist. Noted the MVC created a DE Den that may contain some of these best practices. Something to borrow/add to.

10. Add a non-faculty staff and/or a student to our committee. DE is more than our faculty and District members. We have students taking the courses and staff that are dealing with enrollment issues into DE courses. Motion made by John/Mary, to ask the Senate to appoint a student to our committee. Approved unanimously. Decided against increasing membership with staff because our District members are staff.

11. Accreditation results/recommendations. Look at the MVC accreditation report to get ideas on our RCC results. Set up an appointment with Dr. Farrar to address results and recommendations.

12. DE Training. Reported the District DE offers a weekly schedule of one-on-one training for faculty. Informed faculty got fall online courses without completing and/or receiving the Canvas Academy certification.

13. Other: wrap up of meeting. Review documents under discussion in our meeting, set up conversation with Senate President and Dr. Farrar.

Meeting ended at 11:40 am