eCampus Faculty Senate Advisory Committee Meeting  
February 26, 2013

Present: Vavricka, McGahan, Freeman, Davis, Zuckweiler, Cruzeiro, Hanson, Kastello, Daake, Saalfeld

Absent: Heidenreich

Updates:

There was discussion regarding university class timelines – there have been instances of students reporting that their online course was going to be held during spring break, while there was another case where an online course was finishing up six weeks earlier than the normal semester end date. **Online courses are to follow the same school calendar as on-campus courses.**

McGahan reported on the eCampus Marketing Coordinator position search – we have a short list, references are being checked and phone interviews will be held next week. The hope is to have someone on board by the end of March.

Gloria handed out a “Students by State” map to the committee – we have online students in every state in the U.S. except Rhode Island.

Gloria confirmed that the Tuition Differential (TD) funds from the state cost centers can be carried forward at the end of this biennium. We will be using the same process as we did two years ago, Gloria will send out a form for program advisors to briefly explain how the carryover will be used, the form then comes back to Gloria and she sends it on to the Budget Office. Please note, however, whatever balance you have in your TD state cost center account on June 30, 2013, (ex: $50,000), the Budget Office is expecting that amount to be spent prior to June 30, 2015. If you still have TD funds from your old revolving cost center accounts, you may want to occasionally spend down on that, too.

**New Blended Course Delivery Format Option:**

Beginning with the Fall 2013 semester, Blended courses will be added to the schedule. The definition of a Blended course is 2/3’s of the course is taught online and 1/3 or less of the course requires synchronous “mandatory” meetings. These meetings can be face-to-face or by some videoconference technology, but the key ingredient is the mandatory meetings for the class as a group are **required, NOT optional.** If there is an option to view the class meeting at a later date (taped/recorded), then the course would be considered online.

When doing a search for Blended courses on MyBLUE, you can search by “mode of delivery”, click on the web-based option, and this will pull up all web-based courses. Under the “Room” field on the table, it will list whether this course is “ONLINE – Fully Online,” or “BLEND – Mostly Online.” If you drill down to the next screen for Class Detail, it has a field that lists Class Notes where a detailed description of the class will be listed. If a department offers a Blended course, the department is responsible to reserve a room on campus, if needed, for mandatory meetings. **Registrar’s Office will NOT reserve rooms for Blended courses.** Either the faculty member, department chair, or department secretary will be responsible to reserve the room for the mandatory meeting times/dates.
Blended courses can be added to the Class Schedule by either adding the course to the Registrar’s printout, or by filling out the eCampus Course Initiation form. The eCampus Course Initiation form is used only after the deadline date for the Registrar’s Printout has passed. The eCampus Schedule will have a designated section for Blended courses.

Distance education tuition will be charged for Blended courses. Faculty who want to apply for a Distance Education Stipend for the development of a Blended course, may do so starting with Fall 2013 semester. First-time faculty developing a Blended course will receive a $2,500 stipend (3 cr. hrs. course); however, if the faculty member then decides to transition that same course into an online course, they will not be paid again. Blended courses will also be eligible to use any tools that normally, in the past, have been restricted for online courses such as VoiceThread, Respondus, StudyMate, Collaborate, Atomic Learning, etc.

Coursera:

Online Worldwide has been approached by Coursera to be a part of a pilot project in offering MOOC’s and has asked for input from the campuses. The committee felt there was not enough information provided to make a recommendation and have asked for more information from Online Worldwide.

Respectfully submitted
Julie Saalfeld