

DISTANCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

May 10, 2017 · Carrington 203

Attendance: Jan Atwell, Jessica Bennett, Patti Blanton, Ching-Wen Chang, Lacey Geiger, Nancy Gordon, Stephanie Hein, Michelle Hulett, Jeff Morrissey, Joye Norris, Gary Rader, Stacy Rice

MINUTES

New Directions for Faculty Development, Changes in DPA and Development Stipend

- Guest Nancy Gordon discussed changes that are happening in the DPA, which include the fact that the peer review will be replaced with a review from an instructional designer; and the fact that previously they attempted to start everyone at the same time, but now they will work to customize the experience to the individual faculty member. As there are three proposed training levels instead of one, changes in the way stipends are paid will need to be considered.
- Handout: “Online Course and Instructor Certification” (**attached**).
- There was a brief discussion of how you would encourage people who are already teaching to go through additional training – with the goal of 100% of online instructors having been through some form of training (this is a necessity due to potential HLC requirements). It was pointed out that supervisors of faculty can assign “Faculty Development” in the new My Learning Connection; and the question of using the stipend as prod to encourage them was briefly considered; but it was further clarified that whatever encouragement is used, there would have to be university-wide buy-in.
- Dr. Rader reported that there are fewer faculty completing the DPA for the stipend. Of the 38 who applied and went through the DPA in 2016-17, 19 actually submitted the peer review. There was the consensus of DEC members that the FCTL faculty development proposal is warranted as it provides three levels of training and maintains basic course development for new online instructors and advanced training opportunities for experienced faculty. It is hoped that all online faculty will become engaged in these faculty development opportunities over time.
- If this new program goes over well – it was asked whether FCTL has the manpower to review 100% of online instructors. It was posited that, were this to become the standard, the deadline would be well in the future to avoid a backlog.
- Clarification: The Springfield campus does not pay a stipend to West Plains instructors. Jeff Morrissey recommends coordinating the online faculty training with West Plains campus.

- Our next HLC visit will be in 2025.

Committee Membership

- D.E.C. membership was briefly reviewed, and it was agreed that a replacement for Patti Blanton would be requested from CNAS.
- Patti Blanton was commended on her years of positive service to the Distance Education Committee.

Faculty Members List

Faculty Representative	College	Status 2017	Term Ends
Jan Atwell	CHHS	1 st Term	2018
Patti Blanton	CNAS	2 nd Term	2017
Ching-Wen Chang	COE	1 st Term	2018
Jessica Bennett	Library	1 st Term	2019
Stephanie Hein	CNAS	1 st Term	2019
Gary Iman	COAL	2 nd Term	2019
Michelle Hulett	COB	1 st Term	2019
Caryn Saxon	CHPA	1 st Term	2018
Christine Sudbrock	AGR	2nd Term	2020

Standing Members

Standing Member	Area
Lacey Geiger	Outreach
Jeff Morrissey	Information Services
Joye Norris	Provost (Standing Co-Chair)
Gary Rader	Online
Stacey Rice	FCTL
Krista (Webb) Lair	MSU West Plains

Further Meetings

- Regular D.E.C. meetings are suspended until Fall 2017.
- The possibility of a sub-committee meeting during the summer months was briefly discussed. No dates were set, but Dr. Norris offered the possibility of meeting with Nancy Gordon and Stacy Rice again with in June to discuss a recommendation to the Provost regarding their ongoing plans.