DISTANCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

February 11, 2016 · Carrington 203

Present: Calvin Avery, Patti Blanton, Ching-Wen Chang, Crystal Gale, Lora Hobbs, Gary Iman, Lacey Geiger, Stanley Leasure (via conference call), Patti Salinas, Gary Rader, Stacy Rice, Krista Webb (via ITV)

MINUTES

Review of minutes from 10/08/2015

There was a brief discussion of the comment in the minutes about ITV being primarily used by programs that have not made the transition to online. The comment was clarified; synchronous courses are a better fit for some programs than online.

Online/Distance Updates *(Gary Rader)*

- **MOCRA:** There have been a record number of nominees, thanks to the new way of appealing to people to apply; many who go through FCTL are automatically candidates, and they can be nominated by a student or department head.
- **SARA:** Nothing to report. Currently, 36 states are members and others are in the process of applying for membership. There was a brief discussion of whether it was the responsibility of the instructor to make sure we have no distance students from Utah and Kentucky – and it was agreed that it was not. Ms. Geiger agreed to talk to Megan Schiller in Institutional Research about a possible checkpoint for this; although it was additionally agreed that the actual number of students we are talking about is actually quite small.
- **Certified Distance Educator Awards:** Dr. Rader reported that Criminology is currently in the lead with CDEs. It was reported that you can see the list of people who have the award currently on the blog. There was a discussion of adding a statistical table to the website to show percentages of which departments have the most CDEs; Ms. Geiger will look into this. There was also a request for a website badge that shows all of a department's instructors are "Certified Distance Educators".

Enhancing ITV Courses *(Jeff Morrissey)*

- Jeff Morrissey spoke on the initiative by President Smart and Hal Higdon, challenging him and the new CIO of OTC to increase enrollment in ITV courses; specifically, by piloting a technology called "Zoom." There is a plan to test it in a Criminology class in the Fall; Mr. Morrissey plans to give a more thorough briefing on this subject next month.
- A contact has just been signed with "Show Me Technologies" to increase the speed and capacity of West Plains' and Mountain Grove's internet, making it possible for them to do more online classes.

November Distance Education Panel Discussion/ Future Areas of DEC Focus

- **Online Standard**: Stan Leasure suggests that we think about preparing some "recommended standards" (potentially somewhat similar to what COB has produced) for consideration and adoption at the college level in other departments. It was agreed that this is a good idea (it could presented as a part of the new five year plan; departments could be involved in the conversation). The DEC would like to pursue this idea and discuss it further at the next meeting.
- **Stacy Rice** is requested to distribute the guidelines from the FCTL at the next DEC meeting (via Jamie Hall).
- **Lacey Geiger** will bring the COB's guidelines to the next DEC meeting.
- It was agreed that, due to the high demand, we should encourage more online course offerings.
- Jeff Morrissey noted that the wireless on the 4th floor of Glass Hall is now in better shape.
- The chairperson thanked Gary Iman for doing an excellent job as moderator for the Fall panel discussion on the state of Distance Education at MSU.