

DISTANCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

4.14.11

Attendees: Jo Agnew-Tally, Betty , Deanne Camp, Neal Callahan, Art Spisak, Gary Rader, Jeff Morrissey, Bernie McCarthy, Steve Robinette

1) **Academic Partnership – Dallas trip update – Gary, Jeff and Jo**

All points below are expressed observations from MSU attendees for the fact-finding mission to Dallas with Academic Partnership (AP) and University of Texas-Arlington. Mission of trip was to research, learn, view technology.

AP's LMS system is called EPIC and is like an enhanced, more robust BB. More visually appealing like Web CT. Licensing and management for two LMS systems is a consideration and overall use would need to go through IT Council and Faculty Senate among others.

Many options for using AP, but benefits are Marketing, Recruitment and Technology support. No direct competition with degrees/programs in region. Facilitated visibility and scalability rapidly across nation. Dedicated teams for marketing and recruitment and technology team would create files for our systems. Potential for UG as well as GR programs.

Discussed carousel model for management/administration of course sections and quality of courses, intellectual property. Potential for being a Trojan horse was mentioned and that MSU could do this with dedicated staff. Concerns over amount of profit, was countered with ability to negotiate through strong contract, legal and faculty input. Potential for use of content in other regions.

Stated that could be successful but depends on compensation for faculty. Pilot was also discussed or partial degrees. A team would be provided with same need for 3-year administration/contract for one degree or many.

AP is a profit-driven company, so if the potential apparent, that is where they will focus their efforts. If decided to pursue this method, the entire process would have to be done through RFP/Bid process to include other companies with like services.

It was suggested that a statement or communication could go out to dispel unfounded rumors.

2) **Report on the status of the Faculty FAQ**

Draft Handout – not presented, but will be sent with minutes.

3) **Online student evaluation update – Gary or Jeff**

Currently, pilot must go through My Missouri State for authentication purposes, but future use can be integrated with BB. Options can vary outside of pilot. Process is in place for pilot and communications. Faculty, Departments and Colleges can provide input following pilot.

All communications are loaded with directions for access included where appropriate:

Students: pre-announcements, live date, closing and follow ups to non-responders

Faculty/Administration: pre-announcement, live date, closing

Follow up communications will be loaded with directions for reports. Faculty/Administration have progress tracking capability until reports are available after grades are in.

Discussion for future, how successful was pilot, focus on promotion and participation and methods to increase.

4) Report on FCTL – Chantal

Tabled until next meeting

5) Blackboard Document/Handout – Jeff

BB 9 Transition Handout

Many completions in the transition! Great progression and continuing to ramp up for completion. BB wikis are set up. Several people are attending the BB conference to gear up for transition.

BB 8 will still be on archive until December 31, 2011 to complete migration of courses to BB 9. No fear of losing material or courses. Easy to migrate classes over. Help desk will be able to assist.

Minutes submitted by:

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Administrative Assistant II

MSU Online