

Frost School Council Minutes

December 14, 2010

HUB Senate Room

3:30-5:00

Present: Christian Roberson (Chair), Nancy Betchart, Gail Carr, John Donovan, Melissa Furbish (student), Shawn Hackshaw, Mary Ann McGarry, Ellen Murphy, David Zehr.

Unable to attend: Trent Boggess, Terri Dautcher, Anastasia Deflumeri (student), Mardie Burckes-Miller, Daniel Moore, Francis Williams, Eun-Ho Yeo, Mark Okrant

Scribe: Nancy Betchart

Acceptance of October 2010 minutes.

New Topic: New Regulations for Distance Education offered across States

Ellen Murphy informed the council of new federal regulations for online education offered across states that will require that any programming available in a state must comply with that state's regulations regarding distance or online education. There is confusion among educators as to how to demonstrate that an institution is in compliance with these new regulations. She is monitoring the discussion about these regulations that are occurring among institutions offering online education and trying to interpret their meaning. Additional discussion will be needed regarding procedures for obtaining the necessary documentation for compliance. David Zehr suggested that the Provost level will need to be involved in this.

ADA Compliance for Online Courses The question has arisen with regard to who is responsible to pay for services such as closed-captioning if a deaf student is taking an online course. The PASS office and the office of Technologies and Online Education had had some discussions and it wasn't clear. This needs to be clarified. Other questions were who pays for a signer in a face-to-face class and/or who is responsible for installing and paying for captions – faculty and/or the PASS office. David Zehr offered to discuss this with Julie Bernier. It was also suggested that David Berona and/or Sue Keefe be consulted.

Periodic Review of Online Courses for Best Practice

Nancy recommended that the Frost School Council consider making a recommendation that all online courses undergo a review for best practices once every 3 years, not exactly like the general education courses, but for the purpose of working closely with faculty to make sure they are aware of best practices and new technologies that could facilitate their courses. Ellen Murphy described the Quality Matters online course rubric that other institutions have used. Currently PSU is using a modified version of the QM rubric due to cost.

Pilot of Online End of Course Evaluations

Ellen shared the 12 questions, 10 Likert Scale and 2 open-ended questions on the pilot evaluation form and a little bit about who was participating in the pilot. We hoped to get some tentative information at the next Frost School Council meeting so we could add our voice about whether we recommend this approach.

Due to a shortage of time, we deferred discussion of creating a sustainable model for LTOE and for implementing at least one totally online undergraduate degree program until February.

Next meeting. February 8, 3:30, HUB 123

Meeting adjourned at 4:50.