

Distance Education Advisory Committee Minutes of the Meeting of May 7, 2015

Members Present: Leonor Cabrera, Don Lariviere, Ana Miladinova, Candice Nance, Lisa Palmer, Jane Rice, Janet Stringer, Julian Taylor

Members Absent: Gregory Anderson, Peter Bruni, Gloria Darafshi, Chialin Hsieh

Guests: None

Janet Stringer called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

District-Wide Professional Development Planning with Focus on DE

Janet Stringer updated the group on the progress of the district-wide meetings on the development of a common professional development program for faculty teaching online. The group hopes to have a plan ready for vetting in the fall.

Update on OEI Discussions within the District

Julian Taylor reported on the online demo by Links Systems International (LSI) of NetTutor and their platform (World Wide Whiteboard) that took place on May 4. He asked whether the adoption of NetTutor should be a district-wide decision. If it is a district adoption, how will it be coordinated? The negotiated price for California community colleges is \$25 per hour. Tutoring hours can be purchased in small amounts (such as 100 hours). Jane Rice asked where the funding for this will come from? Does the Learning Center have the budget for it? These questions will need to be resolved before proceeding.

Leonor Cabrera expressed interest in using the World Wide Whiteboard, which is available free of charge, for her online office hours. Jane said she would work on arranging that with LSI and IT to install it in WebAccess.

Lisa Palmer asked whether a pilot of Canvas was going to start in the fall. Janet explained that we were still waiting for OEI to finish negotiating with company Instructure regarding the Canvas licensing price for colleges that are not participating in the OEI course exchange pilot. The negotiations were supposed to have been completed by the end of April, but there has been a delay. Faculty present at the meeting expressed strong interest in participating in the pilot.

Review of Student Survey Questions

Janet and Jane asked members to review the student DE survey that is conducted on a regular basis. Due to two other student surveys planned for this semester, the DE survey was skipped this semester, but it is normally conducted each term.

Committee members considered what information we would like to obtain from our online students and suggested modifications in some of the questions to target this information. The survey will be updated for the summer.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Submitted by Jane Rice