

Senate Report
Academic Computing, Distance Learning, and Instructional Technology Committee
Meeting of Friday 17 February 2006

ACDLIT March 2006 meeting will be on Friday 17 March

The February 17 2006 meeting of the ACDLIT committee was convened at 2:10 PM.

Members present:

Bruno Kappes
Carol Coose
Bogdan Hoanca
Kate Gordon
Kathi Baldwin
David Meyers
Anne Bridges

Guests:

Rick Weems – Chief Enrollment Officer UAA, Statewide coordinating team,
MyUA Portal
Sally Mead (via teleconference) – Director of Allied Health Sciences, CTC

Reports

Kate Gordon gave a report from the Academic Steering Committee for Distance Education.

Kathi Baldwin reported on activities of the eLearning workgroup of the UTC. Specific items of interest include the development of a website for discussion and presentation of new educational technologies, and a survey tool to be used to assess the current state of adoption/use of eLuminate.

David Meyers reported that the UTC meeting had been cancelled.

Discussions

Rick Weems on the status of the MyUA Portal

Rick Weems is a member of the Statewide UA Portal coordinating team. He discussed the current deployment status of the MyUA Portal. His presentation touched on many important topics that affect when deployment will happen. These topics include

- Autonomy issues that have grown for some time and need to be addressed.
- Electronic mail server issues: POP3 creates problems
- Timeout intervals: some of the facilities available through MyUA have time out intervals to protect privacy and security. If MyUA has a less restrictive time out policy, it could adversely affect privacy/security.

- Semester start dates: there are 7 different dates. This creates issues for online enrollment and tuition refund protocols.

The discussion also included other issues of interest, but not necessarily related to the MyUA Portal. The topics included

- Use of digital imaging systems to reduce need for paper and to streamline procedures.
- Need for digital signature facilities if paper (and pen-and-ink signatures) is to be eliminated.
- Bubble sheets for grade reports will be phased out (the hardware is no longer supported).
- The need for communication between banner and blackboard to be two-way (it is currently one way only (from banner to blackboard)).

Sally Mead on the deployment of an Instructional Designer Job Family

Sally Mead led a discussion of the proposed Instructional Designer Job Family. The job family includes 4 levels of instructional design work ranging from technical support to design team management. The proposal evolved from work done by Teresa Derrickson. It is currently being considered by the Office of Human Resources, and is in draft form. The discussion focused on a number of issues including

- How can faculty be included (job families require staff status, and preclude faculty)
- Would it be possible for faculty interested in instructional design to secure releases that would allow them the time to pursue the interest?
- Intellectual property issues related to development of instructional design materials.

ACDLIT will continue this discussion using our blackboard shell, and possibly develop a motion to the Faculty Senate related to the issue.

Business Items

There was a brief discussion of the time that elapses between student evaluations of faculty and the receipt by faculty of the results of those evaluations. The consensus was that it takes an unacceptably long time to get the results of these evaluations.

The status of our A to Z guide to technology page was discussed. We plan to clean it up and make some improvements. Kathi Baldwin mentioned that she has received requests for the continued support of this service.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 PM

Submitted by David Meyers