

Improving Distance and Technology-Enhanced Learning from a Learning College Perspective

Goals

Enhance student learning in web centered, hybrid, and technology-enhanced courses by establishing standards and systems for . . .

- More effective placement, advising, orientation, and academic assistance for students, particularly for web centered and hybrid classes
 - Learning College aspects: Student engagement, Learning outcomes, Organizational culture
 - Possible benchmarking/measurement/evaluation mechanisms include student surveys of individual classes and the DL experience overall, retention rates in individual classes and in DL classes overall, positive trends in grade distributions
- More effective course design and delivery of course content
 - Learning College aspects: Faculty recruitment and development, Learning outcomes, Technology
 - Possible benchmarking/measurement/evaluation mechanisms include peer review, checklist of key components of course design (pre/post), student opinion survey
- More effective communication among faculty, staff, and students related to DL and TEL
 - Learning College aspects: Organizational culture, Student engagement, Faculty-staff development, Technology
 - Possible benchmarking/measurement/evaluation mechanisms include student opinion surveys, checklist (ex: response time “rule”, online office hours posted, etc...)

Major Initiatives

1. Establish, equip, and staff a faculty and staff development center/media lab
 - “Inventory” existing equipment, software, and personnel resources that support DL and TEL
 - Explore collaboration and communication technologies
 - Revisit/set standards for development and evaluation of web-centered courses
 - Facilitate faculty training and development in distance and technology-enhanced teaching methods
 - Promote increased instructor-student interaction in online courses
 - Share strategies to increase student-student collaboration
 - Consider establishing a mentoring system for distance students (teacher-student or student-student)
 - Establish advisory committee (of faculty and staff) to help set direction of Center and to serve as facilitators for development programs (peer teaching/mentoring)
2. Integrate existing student services for distance students—One-Stop online services
 - Study gaps in DL student services and address with procedures, contact points, etc.
3. Establish new online student services, including tutoring.

Year Five

Equipment:

• Four workstations with current Windows and Office software	5,000
• Desktop publishing, test making, and other course design software	2,500
• Reference manuals	300
	\$7,800

Staff:

Course designer/technical consultant	20 hours per week*30 weeks*\$25	\$15,000
Work study student	20 hours per week	

Year Ten

• Four workstations with current Windows and Office software	5,000
• Desktop publishing, test making, and other course design software	2,500
• Video streaming software	1,000
• Scanner	300
• Laserjet printer	650
• Deskjet color printer	200
• Reference manuals	500
• Digital camera	350
• Video camera	2,000
	\$12,500

Staff:

Course designer/technical consultant	20 hours per week*30 weeks*\$25	\$15,000
Work study student	20 hours per week	

2. *One-stop Online Student Services*

Restructuring DL and Student Services web sites
(Sandra Bunn, Linda Venturo, and others)

Portal? ?

3. *Online Student Tutoring Service*

Smarthinking license ~ \$2,500 annually

Evaluation plan.....