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.
Benchmarks

Student Learning
Other

Timelines

Responsibilities

Resources

1. Faculty/Staff Training & Development Center

Year One
Equipment:
- Two workstations with Windows and Office XP 2,500
- 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

$10,000

Staff:
Linda Venturo 5 hours per week (and by appointment)
Dennis Keough (by appointment)
Work study student 15 hours per week (supervised by ______)
(Open M-F 12-1 and 3-5 until fully staffed)

Year Two
Equipment:
- Two workstations with Windows and Office XP 2,500
- Desktop publishing, test making, and other course design software 2,500
- Reference manuals 300

$5,300

Staff:
Course designer/technical consultant 15 hours per week*30 weeks*$25 $11,250
Work study student 20 hours per week
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

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

Total: $7,800

Year Ten
Equipment:
- 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

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

Total: $12,500

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.................................