

Faculty Development Learning Excellence Team Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 28, 2007

12:30 pm

APC, 160

Co-leaders: Renee Tonioni, Dean for Distance Learning and Instructional Technology,
Maya Tolappa, CTLT Faculty Liaison & IS Instructor

Facilitator:

Attendees: Patricia de Boom, Amy Del Medico, Allison B DeStefano, , Sowjanya Dharmasankar, Diana Fortier, Janet Gaff, Lynne Krantz, Faith Marston, Jane Regnier

Presenters: Dave Schmutz, Robert Johnson

Minutes

Agenda item: Lunch, Introductions and Update **Presenter:** Renee & Maya

Discussion: Distribute updated membership list and minutes from last meeting

Renee and Maya distributed copies of the updated membership list and the minutes from the last meeting. Renee pointed out that feedback from previous meetings was taken into account when creating the Fall 2007 schedule.

Maya introduced herself as the new CTLT Faculty Liaison. She talked about her vision of incorporating technology into the classroom to enhance the teaching and learning experience.

Agenda item: Review WCC Syllabus Template **Presenter:** Renee Tonioni
Review Syllabus Checklist

Discussion: WCC Syllabus Template improvements

Adjuncts use the syllabus template extensively; concern was raised if the syllabus covered all the items that it needs to. Adjuncts also need to be aware of the course outline and the requirement that the syllabus match the course outline. It was suggested that the template be provided to adjuncts, along with the course outline before the adjunct orientation, since it is too close to the start of the semester, leaving little time to make use of it.

Since the student handbook covers many of the items that is important in a syllabus, such as integrity and ethics issues, Amy Del Medico mentioned that she hand out copies of the student handbook to students in the first class meeting.

Pat de Boom shared the syllabus from her online class.

Conclusions: Jane, Renee, and Maya will take all these suggestions into consideration when enhancing the Syllabus template.

Agenda item: Effective College Teaching Beta Project **Presenter:** Jane Regnier

Discussion: Jane talked about the Aurora University class that she is teaching this semester. She also talked about the class that will be offered in Spring 2008. The class will deal with integrating technology into college level classes. The class will eventually be offered to adjunct faculty as well.

She would like to see the classes that she developed taught by others.

Conclusions: As Jane gathers more information about the classes from Aurora University, she will share it with the LET Committee

Agenda item: Technology for classrooms **Presenter:** Bob Johnson,
o Blogs o Social Bookmarking Dave Schmutz
o Wikis o Virtual Worlds
o Podcasting

Discussion: Bob talked about how blogs can be used in instruction, and Jane mentioned that some schools are moving to blogs as a course management system. Bob showed us blogs that are used in Distance Learning to keep a problem solution log.

Wikis were also discussed as a tool to facilitate collaboration. Bob talked about sites that allow users to compare wikis. Maya demonstrated the use of wikis in her Game Development class.

Dave talked about social bookmarking using del.icio.us. It allows users to create and share bookmarks, thereby creating learning communities of users with similar interests.

Dave also introduced the idea of Podcasting as another means of instruction delivery. Examples of podcasting in Chris Hooker's class and vodcasting (video podcasting) in Mike Vester's class were demonstrated. Faculty who are interested in adding podcasting features into their class can get in touch with the CTLT. Ipods are available to create the podcast, and Dave will help upload it into a WebCt class.

Dave also demonstrated Second Life, a 3-D virtual reality world. (<http://secondlife.com>). He demonstrated the NIU campus in second life. He mentioned that various scientific organizations maintained islands in Second Life and could be used in classes.

Conclusions: Flyers to the Podcasting class that Dave and Bob will be teaching at the CTLT. More information about these technologies will be provided via sessions at the CTLT.

Other Information

Special notes: Next meeting of the FDLET is Friday, December 7th from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.in COL227.