

Arts and Sciences Council Explores Online Innovations in Teaching Progress Report December 5, 2013

Arts and Sciences Resolution Encouraging Online Innovation (April 25, 2013)

“Whereas Duke faculty [members] encourage and embrace online innovation, therefore be it resolved that Duke faculty remain committed to continue their current practice of exploring and adopting a variety of online platforms with which to deliver the highest quality liberal arts education.”

ECASC Plan (September 2013)

- Four Point Plan Development (August and September Meetings and Retreat)
- Refinements and co-ordination meetings with Deans Laurie Patton, Lee Baker, Inge Walther, and Suzanne Shanahan (Chair, Curriculum Committee) (September)
- Consultations with Vice Provost Lynne O’Brien regarding C.I.T. sponsored activities
- Information sharing with Scott Huettel (Chair, Academic Council Committee on Online Education) and Josh Socolar (Chair, Academic Council)

Policy development

- Curriculum & Course Committees: policy recommendations, including, no. of online courses towards degree; no. of non-Duke courses towards degree; criteria for credit for online courses; criteria for credit for online courses; & approval procedures for online courses.

Actions:

- Co-ordination of committee tasks: ECASC with Deans Patton, Walther, Baker and Curriculum Committee Chair, Suzanne Shanahan
- Draft policy recommendation re: number of Duke-originated courses towards degree: currently with Global Education Committee & Trinity Academic Deans, then ECASC & Council (January or February?)
- Criteria & best practices for online courses: faculty advisory group for Dean Inge Walther, Curriculum and Course Committees
- Approval procedures for online courses: interim procedure under discussion (Dean Inge Walther)

Information gathering and faculty discussions

ECASC to gather information in collaboration with C.I.T. about Duke online teaching and platforms; organize faculty forums on faculty-generated questions about online teaching.

Actions:

- Co-ordination of activities with Lynne O’Brien, Vice Provost for Digital and Online Education Initiatives, & Center for Instructional Technology
- Council Faculty Forum: “Faculty Experiences teaching Online Courses” (Prof. Ronen Plesser, Prof. Denis Comer, Prof. Orin Starn) (Sept. 27th)
- Lynne O’Brien “Online Education Activities and Opportunities” (Oct. 10th)
- Council Faculty Forum: “Online Courses for Credit” (Profs. Tom Metzloff, Mohamed Noor, Kristen Stephens, and Emma Rasiel) (Nov. 15th)
- Council Faculty Forum: “Student Perspectives” (Dec. 3rd)
- Council Faculty Form: “Work Issues, the Professoriate and the Landscape of Higher Education” (Jan., in planning)

Advocate for Trinity College Mini-Grants

Action:

- Dean Patton to announce mini-grants for course development proposals

Identify Department and Faculty Teaching Goals

A&S Council representatives: department consultations & reports

Actions:

- A&S Council representatives to consult with departments
- Faculty Consultants for Departments -14 faculty members & teams from A&S, Nursing and Nicholas School available for department advising
- Department and program meetings (November)
- “State of the Discussion” Discussion (Arts and Sciences Council, December 5, 2013)

Reporting and consultations

Actions:

- Announcements and updates via Council Chair email letters & monthly Council updates
- Updates & video recordings of Council Forums via Arts and Sciences Council Website: <http://trinity.duke.edu/arts-sciences-council>.
- Council representative department reports: due winter 2013
- Consultations with Arts and Sciences Council representatives
- Distribution of reports to ECASC, Curriculum & Course Committees, and A&S Deans (January 2014)

Recommendations

Spring 2014