OLC EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

May 16, 2016
10:30 AM-11:30 AM
Provost’s Conference Room

Attendees:
M. Brian Blake, Ph.D. – Executive Vice President and Provost
N. John DiNardo, Ph.D. – Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Christopher Ferguson, Ed.D. – Vice President and Dean of Admissions, Enrollment Management and Student Success
Karyn Holt, Ph.D. – Director of Online Quality, Division of Nursing, CNHP
Ludo Scheffer, Ph.D. – Chair, Faculty Senate
Nancy Songer, Ph.D. – Dean, School of Education
Susan Aldridge, Ph.D. – Senior Vice President, Drexel University Online, OLC Chair

Update on OLC

• Review of three OLC committees that were launched in March: Professional Development, Student Support & Engagement, & Teaching Across Geographies Group (TAGG).

• No objections to starting the Accessibility and Emerging Technologies committees.

• For the Accessibility committee’s charge, decision to better define the role of the instructional designer, faculty, the university’s current resources, and what we need.
  o Is the committee the operational arm for university accessibility issues? What do the Provost’s accessibility committee and the OLC committee focus on?
  o The burden for maintaining course accessibility standards cannot fall solely on the faculty and must be multifaceted.
  o Drexel Center for Academic Excellence (DCAE) needs to be engaged in the discussion.

• For the Emerging Technologies committee, the focus is to ensure faculty have access to the tech tools that are being successfully used in teaching and learning.

• OLC marketing and communication efforts will be shared at the University Communication & Marketing Committee meeting to ensure efforts are being maximized. DUO’s AVP of Strategic Communications serves on this committee and can be the bridge to OLC’s marketing efforts.
The marketing and communications of the OLC will be provided by the DUO team.

Tech Lending Library is fully launched. Tech tools that augment teaching and learning are available for faculty to reserve and use in their courses.

**Discussion Over Course Quality**

- Online course quality continues to be an issue as well as consistency across the University.
- Some colleges/schools have set standards and training practices but other colleges do not.
- A comprehensive faculty onboarding system will address some accessibility and course quality concerns.
- Faculty Senate will vote on minimum quality course standards. Provost will announce the requirement to adopt these standards.
  - Discussion still needed on how to hold faculty accountable to these standards.
- Executive Steering Committee would like to see qualitative and quantitative data on student issues. Raw data is appropriate at this point.
  - We need to source our qualitative data better.
  - A summary of recent online student concerns was shared in a handout to the committee.
  - September discussions will include online student data from graduating student questionnaires and other sources.
- Should we mandate Blackboard use for all courses?
  - Single Sign-On is biggest reason for Blackboard enforcement as it would meet identity security requirements.
- School of Education, in partnership with the College of Nursing & Health Professions, is developing a new training course for faculty.
  - Course will be available in fall 2016 and is financially supported by DUO.

**Update on OLC Faculty Fellows & TAGG Committee—Dr. Karyn Holt**

- OLC Fellows working on development and implementation of school-wide course design template to meet national quality standards.
- Fellows offer one-on-one course reviews.
- TAGG committee has been meeting monthly since January.
- White Paper being written by committee will highlight recommendations to the OLC as to what faculty believe should be the guidelines, academic expectations, and accessibility factors examining equity and parity in the online space.
  - Paper will be available following the May 26 Townhall.