

QCC DISTANCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

An Academic Senate Standing Committee

Minutes

Meeting of October 17, 2007 in M127 at 2:00PM

Attending: Jean Darcy, Lorena Ellis, Lisa Mertz, Bruce Naples, and Patrick Wallach, McKay,
Devin

Absentees: None

1. The minutes of the May 8, 2007 meeting, were approved.

2. Chairperson's Report

Prof. Wallach informed the DE Committee members, that the proposal of the Distant Education Committee regarding QCC DE Class Sizes presented at the October 9, Senate was put on hold. In an e-mail to P. Wallach P.Pecorino stated: *"The VP of Academic Affairs has stated that he will monitor the online classes and reach a determination that might lead to either the implementation of the recommendations made by the committee by the administration or referral of those recommendations back to the Academic Senate with a statement from the OAA indicating it favors or does not favor the setting of the policy previously proposed."*

3. Discussion at the meeting:

Bruce Naples presented and discussed the Administrative Liaison's Report. In it he mentioned important Campus Projects such as 1) Academies project 9Strategy for Improving Student Success; 1) CUNY First (ERP) Project; 3) College Self-Study (Middle States) Project; 4) Digital Signage Project with four initial zones; and 5) ADA (American Disable Act) Podium Project. All these projects involve the use of technology and distance education learning. Naples also mentioned in this report that compared to other CUNY colleges QCC is underrepresented regarding online offerings. He quoted a passage from the college's Strategic Plan in which it is stated that the recommendations of the DE Committee on Assessment of online instructions should be implemented. In addition to that, CETL, ACC - under the leadership of the Vice President of Academic Affairs – support training of faculty and instructional staff in this area. An increased of 5% above the 2006-07 figure is aimed at.

Bruce Naples and the members of the DE Committee believe that now is a good time to recommend a course of action to motivate faculty to develop and teach more online course. Bruce Naples also suggested to use the rubric presented at the Quality Matters seminar, which could also be followed as a guide for creating online courses. Additionally, the DE Education should consider alternative means of

instructional delivery such as Podcasting, Video, On--Demand, multi-Media all connected to Blackboard.

4. New business:

The QCC Senate rejection of the Distant Education Committee recommendation regarding QCC DE class sizes brought about the following discussion. The DE Committee needs to prepare a new recommendation with various arguments to support it. Some of the items to be included are national studies in favor of online courses; the CUNY mandate as stated in the 5-Year plan, incentives to faculty, review of assessment standards (NACOL), experience of faculty members involved with DE , etc.

Next meeting: November 28 or to be announced

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15PM

Respectfully submitted,
Lorena B. Ellis
Secretary of the Distance Education Committee