

**Advisory Committee for Online and Distance Learning (ACDOL)
Annual Report: 2006 - 2007**

Chair: Nancy Luke

Vice-Chair: John Kearnes

Members: Pete Mastopoulos, Shannon Mastopoulos, Suzanne Edenfield, Richard Horah, Carol Jamison, Kam Fui Lau, Robin Jones, Wendy Marshall, Joseph Hodges, Linda Wright

Number of Meetings: 3

NOTE: Although we met face-to-face, much of our committee work was done via email (e.g. review of course approval proposals, etc.)

Recommendations/Completion of Tasks from Previous Year:

- Review ACDL policies and update as deemed necessary by committee members
ONGOING
- Continue current course review and recommendation for approval process
- Explore strategies for supporting and promoting online learning at AASU

Activities and Actions:

1. Committee discussed whether we should review/recommend approval of complete programs or individual courses. Consensus was that programs that were approved in the past under the old system could be “grandfathered in” but that courses within online programs should still go through individual course approval.
2. Update of policies via wiki (<http://acdol.pbwiki.com/>). This was an interesting experiment but the majority of members didn’t participate in this process. We will look at perhaps forming a subcommittee to revise policies in the coming year (07-08).
3. Committee discussed alternative technology systems for online course development and delivery (e.g. Moodle). Determined that we should, if asked for our recommendation, stay with the USG’s system – Vista.
4. Reactions to the Ecore vote. Perhaps reintroduce information about this in 07-08 since chancellor is encouraging more online programs and Ecore could support new as well as existing online programs (e.g. Radiologic Sciences BRIDGE program)
5. Discussion of Online Teaching Community – should it continue and how may we wish to structure it differently?
6. Committee explored the process for submitting an Instructional Delivery Plan (IDP) to the BOR for online degree programs.

7. Discussion of adding a recommended enrollment cap of 25 to online courses to ACDOL policies – committee was in agreement to endorse this recommendation.
8. Discussion of our concerns as a committee and of others in our colleges related to the readiness of faculty to design, develop, and teach courses online. Suggestion made to share with Dr. Whitford, in our final report these concerns and perhaps draft a proposal related to these issues and how we may, as a committee, creatively provide solutions to the campus. Strong recommendation to collaborate with Faculty Development as a natural partner in this process. The following items were brought up by committee members: many programs (e.g. Nursing) are addressing shortages by putting programs online, the Chancellor is encouraging online initiatives; we have to be aware of our competitors and if we are losing students to the University of Phoenix; how can we compete in the marketplace; SACS will be looking at how we support and deliver online programs.

Online Courses Recommended for Approval:

- EDUC 6000: Professional Orientation to Teaching
- POLS 1200: Ethical Theories and Moral Issues in Government
- EEXE 6034: Cognitive and Behavioral Problems that Disrupt Learning
- EEXE 6130: Assessment of Students with Disabilities
- EEXE 6406: Special and Behavioral Issues of Individuals with Disabilities
- ECUG 3100: Contemporary Social Issues of Family
- MEDT 2010: Clinical Microbiology
- MEDT 3110: Urinalysis and Body Fluids
- MEDT 3200/3200L: Clinical Bacteriology
- MEDT 3210: Clinical Microbiology
- MEDT 3310: Clinical Hematology and Hemostasis
- MEDT 3400/3400L/3410: Clinical Immunohematology
- MEDT 3410: Clinical Immunohematology
- MEDT 3500/3500L: Clinical Chemistry
- MEDT 3510: Clinical Chemistry
- MEDT 3600/3610: Clinical Lab Methodologies
- MEDT 3700/3700L: Clinical Immunology and Molecular Diagnostics
- MEDT 3710: Clinical Immunoseriology
- MEDT 3800/3800L: Clinical Microbiology
- MEDT 4600: Clinical Pathways and Critical Decision Making
- POLS 1150: World Politics
- POLS 5260: Politics and the Visual Arts
- CRJU 2010: Universal Justice

- CRJU 2020: Ethical Theories and Moral Issues in Criminal Justice

Recommendations for the Future:

- Based on SACS accreditation guidelines, address concerns of the committee and other faculty for having a gatekeeping entity in place (e.g. Instructional Designer) for insuring that faculty who are developing and teaching online and hybrid courses have the necessary pedagogical/andragogical skills to do so. Strong suggestion was made by the committee for this to be an academic professional (full time) within the Faculty Development/Teaching and Learning Center. In other words, we recommend one full time academic professional with expertise in instructional design (MA minimum) to work with faculty to provide the necessary pedagogical/andragogical skills to teach online and web-enhanced classes that demonstrate high quality and rigor. This person's assignment would be within the Faculty Development/Teaching and Learning Center. We are currently in violation of our existing policies, which require such faculty development. This policy was initially developed to meet SACS guidelines.
- Continue to review ACDL policies and update based on current campus context and climate as well as available resources
- Continue current course review and recommendation for approval process.
- Explore strategies for supporting and promoting online learning at AASU