Santa Monica College

Distance Education Committee
Minutes of November 27, 2012

Members: Sal Veas (chair), Julie Yarrish (vice chair), Jamie Cavanaugh, Dana DelGeorge, Peggy Kline, Peggy Kravitz, Mona Martin, Steve Myrow, Jenny Resnick, Odemaris Valdivia

Interested parties: Eve Adler, Kay Azuma, Teri Bernstein, Fariba Bolandhemat, Ellen Cutler*, Stephen Druker, Janet Harclerode, Dan Hurley, Laura Manson, Eve Mazzara, Christine Miller*, Waleed Nasr, Eric Oifer, Wendy Parise,* Judith Remmes*, Marilyn Simons*
*Present

Guests: Greg Brookins, Esau Tovar

The Santa Monica College Distance Education Committee was called to order by Sal Veas at 12:50 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of November 13, 2012 was made by Odemaris Valdivia, seconded by Peggy Kravitz, and unanimously approved.

Chair's Report:
- Sal Veas reported that there has been no substantial progress in the discussions by the Technology Planning Committee of the future requirements and/or issues.

Honor Council/Academic Integrity Summit: Greg Brookins and Esau Tovar presented on what the Academic Integrity committee has been addressing regarding options to substantially minimize cheating and plagiarism by students. The consensus is that there must be concerted effort by faculty, staff and students to combat these issues. What is needed are standard, consistent practices that are published. In terms of academic dishonesty there was discussion about sending the message that these behaviors will not be tolerated at SMC. The D.E. Committee will determine what are the most frequent and important issues to be addressed first and how these topics might be added to the Academic Integrity summit to be held spring 2013. Among the issues raised during discussion:
  ➢ What sanctions are legal?
  ➢ The need for institutional integrity and tools and best practices available for faculty.
  ➢ Heavy consequences vs. deterrent.
  ➢ The subject of student authentication should be addressed.

Ongoing Projects:
- D. E. Faculty Certification – During the discussion regarding online faculty certification the following points were made:
  ➢ A culture of quality needs to be fostered;
  ➢ Best practices resources should be provided;
  ➢ The concepts of mandatory vs. optional certification need to be explored;
  ➢ Multiple pathways may need to be established for training and certification;
  ➢ Department chairs should be brought into this mix to support teacher readiness.
  ➢ A subcommittee will be formed and information brought to the committee.
- Sal and Julie will work on the changing the SMC Corsair Connect outage notification statement. Support from Lee Johnston in MIS will be critical as this messaging needs to be posted to Corsair Connect when it is not functioning (i.e. not to be confused with eCollege operation).

New Business:
- The committee agreed that it would be productive to schedule one or two committee meetings during the winter session – possibly by CCCConfer. Members and interested parties will be notified.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Distance Education Committee to be determined.