

Academic Outreach Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 26th

Members present: Tom Shostak, Peggy Falkenstein, Alan Escovitz, Arman Habegger, Mark Karmol, Pete Ross, Connie Di Marco, Linda PaHud, Mike Sperko, Tom Erney, Ed Busher, Ellen Klute, Susan Crawford, Jim Pollicita

OLN staff present: George Steele, Sheryl Hansen, Kate Carey, Barb Henry, Gail Peters, Linda Wahn, Deb Volzer

Regrets: Anthony Ferris, Tony Hartman

Meeting convened at 10:00 am

General Administration:

- 1) Tom Shostak: **(Announcements)** Introductions and welcome to new Kent State representatives, Connie Di Marco and Mike Sperko- substitutes for Judy Hirshman.
- 2) Tom Shostak **(Discussions and nominations for the new co-chair):** Tim Mott was nominated and elected to replace Judy Hirshman as co-chair for the AO committee.
- 3) Kate Carey: **(OLN update and strategic plan)** main discussion was of Goal 3 that define student services, course content development, and OLN's responsibilities as it relates to other organizations. (formal board approval to come in May) Kate discussed the three main documents that will be presented to the Governing Board in mid-May. Those documents are: a full marketing plan, an organizational development plan, and the strategic plans efforts or focus areas. Committee task was to discuss student services strategic goal. Discussion commenced as follows:
 - a. ***Student Services*** concerns and discussion: where are the ones that relate specifically to students not just the listing of the courses? (George) discussed a more seamless transition this effort will hopefully encourage institutions to participate as a CAS school. (Committee) suggested the following changes to Goal 3: change the wording to "*individual services to or for students*" as well as to move the Ohio Student Data Exchange to this strategy.
 - b. ***Creating and facilitating the development of content at a distance*** concerns and discussion: The question of how does the Market Gap analysis fit under the category of collaborative/cooperative degrees? (Kate) Clarified that OLN needs to fund and facilitate the creation of need-identified content. The committee recommended the following: securing outside funding, developing a system or process to realign and reassess resources that should be considered, and creating an internal assessment. The committee was concerned that the three goals are too broad for a strategic plan. Kate explained that OLN feels that there is more of a need for a focused but flexible list of strategies.
 - c. The committee discussed the need for some kind of ***support and assistance*** from OLN once the degree is in place as well as

encouragement for creation and funding for implementation. Campus responsibility should be to report back to OLN regarding the progress and success of the programs.

- 4) **DLS and RAC update:** Gail (NE), Linda (NC), George on behalf of Susan (SW), Barb (NW) and Deb (Central) briefly discussed their outreach efforts.
 - 5) Sheryl Hansen (**Professional Development update**): TEACHU piloted 7 last November. Total training to date: 28 webct and blackboard training sessions and 1 instructional design. RUGS-listserves are now up and functioning. An Ohio expert moderates each list serve. Listserv membership is as follows: 123 Southwest, 52 North Central, 66 Northeast. The naming of the statewide calendar will occur on April 27th. The biggest challenge is to identify organizations and groups that are providing this kind of training efforts that should be included in the statewide calendar. Workforce development will be addressed at some point in the future.
 - 6) George Steele (**Regents Scholars Program update**): M Ed degree for Math and Science. 8-member institutions are starting to re-energize the process. They have created three committees: Program administration committee-(how will it work), Courses and Content Committee, and the Technology committee-(OLN will participate on this committee)
 - 7) George Steele (**Collaborative Engineering Degrees update**)- (Four degrees) they are meeting on a regular basis discussing: marketing, courseware used, content, administering all parts of the degree. 4 institutions are participating in the Associates and Bachelor degrees and are up and enrolling students. 8 institutions are participating in the Masters Degree programs.
 - 8) Tom Shostak and Kate Carey (**Recognition to Susan Crawford**)-Founding member who is retiring. A special gift was given in thanks of her support and dedication to OLN and its mission.
 - 9) Tom Shostak (**Update on the Collaborative Associates Degree: CSCC, SCC, KSU, OU**) Stumbling blocks-Financial Aid, Admissions and Application Registration and degree completion requirements concerns. Tom Erney discussed that CSCC has had 3 months of meetings with barriers at every turn. There are 18 internal written practices need to be adapted for this cooperative degree to work. Paul Albert (330) 672-2021 from KSU was to compare the 4 institutions application. Tom Shostak stated that there were so many differences that it seems improbable that an agreement could be met for a uniform or common application. Discussions of whether or not Ohio could adopt Florida's universal transcript? Arman Habegger discussed the possibility of developing something similar to and/or using the National Student Loan Data Base for access to student financial aid history.
- TASKS:** George Steele will contact Terry Kuhn (330) 672-9292 who has been working with dual institutional degree programs. Susan Crawford will send the URL to the 4 member school representatives for Tennessee schools that are currently working with multiple institutional agreements.
- 10) Peggy Falkenstein coordinated a meeting date of May 11th Science for the four institutions faculty to discuss a way to deliver required science courses via distance. Possible contacts for additional information might be: Chris Woolberton, (Kent State) Biological Sciences who has developed a home lab kit. Mickie Sarquis, (Middletown campus) Chemical education and Rod Spekert(Middletown campus) Engineering Technology have been involved in remote labs.

TASKS: Peggy Falkenstein will contact the aforementioned persons. Tom will deal with application issues; Tom Shostak will deal with Financial Aid and bringing the four institutions together for discussion. Connie Di Marco will take Judy's place on this committee. Kate will work on the provost of the four institutions. Hoping for fall implementation.

- 11) George Steele (**update on the catalog**): OLN task force report has been added to the site and OLN is requesting comments. Also, the student survey request for information form was mailed last Friday to 280 students. Data will be analyzed for the Governing Board meeting, May 15th. (NOTC and SOTC good student service regional representatives) NOTC is having its meeting June 7th, Tri-county counselors association. May 11th meeting-Jeanie Allan Jenkins-contact person Cuyahoga Community College (Linda's area). The incorporation of a degree transition page will be discussed at the Catalog Policy Board during the May 16th meeting. (a demonstration of a model from Oregon was viewed) Viewed the transition page for the Cooperative Degree program. Viewed the Introduction to Exploring Distance Learning and all that is available through this site.
- 12) Kate Carey (**How to course update**): Content of the course resides at Lakeland community college-contact Bill Ryan(wjryan@lackland.cc.us) if you are interested in viewing or using this course. Guest accounts have been made along with a password. <http://wwtafe.lib.rmit.edu.au/olg/learners.html> is the URL for the (How to course.)
- 13) George Steele (**State level barriers to Distance Learning articles**): articles were shared with the group for discussion. The pricing article was most interesting to the committee. The Committee suggested that OLN should consider establishing a task force to discuss DL policies. This committee also recommends to the Board that they consider writing a white paper regarding subsidies policies or state-share of instruction or a white paper on institutional fees for Distance Learning.

Meeting adjourned at 2pm

***Date for next meeting:** Thursday, July 12th (Note: a reminder will be sent a couple of weeks before the meeting in July by Tom requesting agenda items.)*