University Council on Teaching
Meeting on 5/7/2014
Waul House Presentation Room
10:30 -12:00pm

MINUTES

Present: Jackie Lerner (Chair), Kathy Bailey, Tom Groome, Michael Martin, Sue Barrett, Stephanie Leone, Katie McInnis-Dittrich

Guests: Cristina Joy, Director and Bryan Blakely, Associate Director, Instructional Design and eTeaching Services

The minutes from the April meeting were approved.

Cristina and Bryan provided an update on the innovation program that is co-sponsored by the UCT and the Academic Technology Advisory Board.
The program sponsors 12 projects, spanning two years (2013-14 and 14-15). So far, the projects have come in under budget by using existing resources on Canvas as well as instructional designers and graduate students on the IDeS staff. Of $132,360 budgeted for Fiscal Year 2014, only $94,720 has been used. $381,500 is budgeted for FY 2015.

Bryan presented an overview of the five projects that are complete or nearly so:

- The History Core project, developed by Zachary Matus and Andrey Ivanov, incorporates out-of-class activities such as visits to museums and historic sites, using MediaKron.

- Art Flip, developed by Stephanie Leone, encourages active learning during class time by recording some of the lectures for students to watch before class. Stephanie said she used the discussions through Canvas, had students do a MediaKron project on Michelangelo and quizzed them on the recorded lectures. She thinks students were more engaged than in past classes, but is still assessing their learning.

- Computers in Management, developed by Mary Cronin and George Wyner, uses a badging system to lead students through levels of competency with Excel.

- Corporate Law, developed by Brian Quinn, uses animation and student actors to illustrate complex concepts.

- Language Lab, developed by Cindy Bravo and nine faculty members, is piloting web based language programs Voice Thread and Yabla, as well as updating the physical lab.

There was a question as to whether Canvas will be able to provide plagiarism detection software. Cristina said Canvas does not provide built-in software as Blackboard did, but does function well with Turnitin. The UCT plans to investigate this possibility next academic year.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to planning topics for next year. In addition to looking into plagiarism software, the UCT plans to meet with the Executive Director of the new Center for Teaching Excellence and revisit grade inflation.

The top agenda item for the UCT will be a thorough response to the Report on Women. The topic had to be postponed for this semester because it was not possible to convene the people on campus who are most knowledgeable on the issue before the fall. Those people will include Katie Dalton, Director of the Women's Resource Center, Katie O'Dair, Carole Hughes and the group Students for Sexual Health, as well as others. It was suggested that the UCT could work with the Intersections Program to sponsor discussion on the issue and that there might be a UCT subcommittee to work on a response.

Submitted by Sue Barrett