

Distance Education Committee

Report to Senate

November 2, 2015

The Distance Education Committee has been working in the following areas:

Budget for the Distance Education Program

The committee has completed its work on a draft budget for the DE Program, using the funds saved from the annual Canvas LMS fee (\$150,000 per year; now paid by OEI). The draft budget has been sent to the VP of Academic Affairs and the VP of Finance. The Draft Budget Proposal accompanies this report.

The proposed budget strongly emphasizes faculty support, professional development and new technologies designed to increase student success and persistence in our online classes.

Course Shell Reviews

The DE Committee has been reviewing course proposals for the Spring 2016 semester. So far, we completed reviews of 8 new courses. Six more course proposals will be reviewed at our November 9 meeting.

Mandatory Student Orientation for Online Courses

We are discussing a plan for a mandatory student orientation for online classes. Students would be required to complete an orientation before registering for online classes. We will be using materials from OEI as well as our own locally-produced materials for this orientation.

Canvas Shells for all Courses

We are exploring the logistics of automatically creating a Canvas shell for all courses offered at SCC. Details forthcoming.