



DISTANCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, April 11, 2011, 3:30–5pm, Room 1096, TLC

Attendees: Francine Van Meter, Georg Romero, Nancy Brown, Ray Kaupp, Shawn Houghton, Nancy Stucker, Rory O'Brien, Kip Nead

New Faculty Orientation Information

Francine collaborated with Georg to develop a 2-page handout for new hires outlining important issues when putting course materials online. The document includes options for hosting instructional materials in various formats: web, video, audio, and print. Topics cover accessibility guidelines and distance education guidelines for regular/effective contact. It also includes the Faculty Evaluation for Distance Education Courses document which contains a check-list of evaluation standards for online and hybrid. These guidelines cover usability, accessibility, communication, instructional methods and assessment, and design and presentation of online instructional content. The document is located at:

<http://www.cabrillo.edu/services/disted/pdfs/new-faculty-welcomeDE.pdf>

EduStream video-on-demand services were demonstrated by Francine. The college is now able to upload video content to a hosted streaming server. The Edustream site is funded by the Chancellor's Office through the 3C Media Program and is no cost to participating community colleges. They currently host Dallas Telelearning videos and will soon offer Ambrose educational video content. EduStream's proprietary content is grouped according to categories including Subject (broadest), Discipline, Course Description, Topic, Clips (narrowest). Edustream gives the instructor a URL to post on their college webpage, in Blackboard, or on a Library web page. The three servers are "referrers" and the links only work when placed on a page hosted on one of those three servers. (In other words, you cannot email a link to students to watch the video. They must access it through a link on the web.) Francine, Georg, and Kristin Fabos (Marketing) have admin accounts, and can create accounts for new users who request one.

Blackboard Update

Francine gave a demonstration of the Blackboard Learn (9.1) new student orientation. The orientation was designed for use by instructors who wanted to provide students a way to familiarize themselves with the Blackboard environment. Students can explore and navigate between content areas with helpful tips provided.

Ray again brought up questions of why we aren't revisiting the Blackboard vs. Moodle topic. There was some discussion over ease of use and the general reasons the committee two years ago made the choice to continue with Blackboard. The major reasons were faculty choice, conversion of CE8 content to 9.1 possible, and the better interface.