

Distance Learning Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes – March 15, 1999

The Distance Learning Advisory Committee (DLAC) was convened by Chair Lee Todd March 15, 1999.

Larry Fowler called the roll. Those members, or their representatives, present were Kern Alexander, Wilmer Cody represented by David Couch, Gary Cox, Gordon Davies, Ronald Eaglin, Virginia Fox, Merl Hackbart, Jeff Hockaday, Robert Kustra, Crit Luallen represented by Ed Ford, Viola Miller, James Nelson, Gary Ransdell, George Reid, Allen Rose represented by Gary Brunner, John Shumaker represented by John Welsh, Lee Todd, Jr., Aldona Valicenti represented by David Ballard, James Votruba represented by Paul Gaston, Charles Wethington represented by Ed Carr.

Staff: Ruth Greenberg, Larry Fowler, Sue Hodges Moore, Dennis Taulbee, and Ken Walker

The minutes of the October 22 meeting were approved.

Gordon Davies gave the KCVU status report. Highlights were hiring a CEO for the KCVU, Mary Beth Susman. Miko Pattie being employed as Chief Librarian of the KCVL. Advertisements for more positions for the KCVU and the KCVL positions are under way. Capital Projects and Bond Oversight approved funds for the Kentucky Commonwealth Virtual University. Pilot project teams have met regularly with CPE staff member, Ruth Greenberg.

Mary Beth Susman's presentation consisted of a "mocked-up" internet sight that students will be engaging when entering the KCVU web site. Ms.

Susman stated that our institutions will revolve around the student.

Satisfying the student is our main objective. Emphasis was placed on having a cost effective system. A Service center will direct students to the KCVL or the bookstore via phone or computer or both. The system should revolve around quality, convenience, and robustness.

Mr. Todd asked Sue Moore to introduce the policies for participation in the KCVU action item.

Ms. Moore stated the objective criteria are necessary to ensure uniform standards and quality both for the approval of institutions to participate in

KCVU and for the programs and courses they offer. Criteria were provided as attachments. The criteria were developed by George Connick and recommended by the Academic Council.

Mr. Davies recommended that the policies and criteria be approved and seconded by James Votruba.

Motion passed.

Mr. Todd asked Larry Fowler to present the Student Service Policies and Process Action item.

Larry Fowler presented the Student Services Policies Action item. Larry Fowler recommended that a student service policies and detailed processes for their implementation are necessary to ensure that a Provider institution and the KCVU are clear about the student service role and responsibilities of each.

A motion was made to approved the student services policies and process for KCVU by Viola Miller and seconded by James Nelson.

Motion passed.

Mr. Todd then asked Ms. Moore to present the action item dealing with the CVU Operational Cycle for Academic Offerings.

Ms. Moore stated that the Academic Council endorsed the attached CVU Operational Cycle for Academic Offerings. It is essential that KCVU and the providers to have an academic operational cycle, which specifies the deadline dates for the various functions to be performed by each of the participating parties.

Gary Cox recommended that the CVU Operational Cycle for Academic Offerings be approved and Virginia Fox seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Mr. Todd asked Ruth Greenberg to present the action item relating to the Faculty Development Work Group.

Ruth Greenberg stated that the Faculty Development is critical. The work group was actually developed by the Academic Council. The work group

has been working on faculty development issues for quite some time and we recommend that we formally constitute this work group.

Mr. Todd then asked Ms. Moore to present the action item relating to the KCVU Principles of Good Practice.

Ms. Moore recommended that the group adopt the *Kentucky's Commonwealth Virtual University Principles of Good Practice* document.

All institutions will be engaging with the principles. The Academic Council as well as George Connick helped develop the document. The document is very important because it will help ensure the quality of postsecondary education offerings via distance learning technologies.

George Reid recommended that the group accept the Kentucky's Commonwealth Virtual University Principles of Good Practice. Gary Cox seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

Discussion followed regarding evaluation and assessment. Ms. Susman elaborated on Competency-Based Credentialing. It is important for a student

to demonstrate that they can perform what the course initially should provide. We have to measure what is being learned.

Mr. Votruba said we need to focus on the output not input of the course.

Ms. Fox stated that we need to ensure that the appropriate media platforms are being used. It is important to find out how the student can learn best (i.e. video, CD-rom). The learning style that the student prefers will be essential.

Merl Hackbart iterated that meeting SACS quality standards is great but we need to go above and beyond those quality standards. Mr. Todd expressed gratitude that everything that was discussed revolved around the quality issue.

No specific date was set for the next DLAC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Staff Preparation by Larry Fowler