

Appendix A: Online Education Committee

Interviewed: Christina Dewitt, Chair, Online Education Committee

Interviewer: Linda Sather, Member, Committee on Committees

Date of Interview: April 18, 2014

Responses/Discussion of the assessment guide questions:

1. The standing rules clearly reflect the function and composition of this committee. The ex-officio members are particularly critical for bringing continuity and understanding of history and background.
2. The standing rules are really broad, and that can make it difficult to not overlap with the work being done in other Extended Campus committees. They are considering recommendations to present to Faculty Senate, to help them clarify when a charge or task is the job of this committee or when something is the curriculum committee's (or some other committee's) responsibility. Should the committee be a standing committee, or an ad-hoc committee? What will be this committee's task next year?

As long as the Faculty Senate continues to have a specific request of this committee, or a specific task, then there is a reason for the committee to continue. If the committee is left to come up with their own path, it is likely to overlap with other committee charges.

This committee is best to provide feedback on how Extended Campus is working, and how policies are working. Although they are linked to Extended Campus, they don't always know what is going on in Extended Campus. Therefore, the OSU Extended Campus representatives need to be at meetings. Perhaps leadership should come from Extended Campus.

The committee also relies heavily on ex-officio members to provide understanding and feedback. For example, they were asked to look at delivery options of a course and how does each option assess; but this is really dependent upon the assessment office to define assessment and outcomes, and how the institution assesses courses and requires outcomes. It is not a question of delivery method.

3. The committee minutes reflect meetings, discussions and recommendations, and past annual reports have helped provide a history of where the committee was on issues. Dr. Dewitt has not yet provided an annual report since becoming chair.
4. It had been awhile since the committee had any student members, but they got some this year. However, it took a while to get the student members to the meetings, and they do not currently have an undergraduate student member. Student members have been useful in driving discussions, and have provided a link with other graduate students. They have helped clarify experiences of graduate students with regards to tuition waivers.
5. There is a connection to the University's core value of accountability.
6. The committee adds value because it allows faculty and students to engage, and to have input into policies concerning Extended Campus. The committee evaluates impact to faculty and students, and provides them with a feedback system.
7. Does not apply; this committee adds value.
8. Extended Campus enhances the university's commitment to diversity, and this committee provides a good feedback mechanism for that link.