

Distance Education

Committee

The monthly meeting of the NOCE Distance Education Committee was held on Thursday, December 5, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. in room 1025 at the Anaheim Campus and as a videoconferencing meeting for committee members whose location was listed on the agenda.

DE Chair Corinna Lopez called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Present Members: Maria Aceituno, Jennifer Carey, Karla Frizler, Michael Garcia, Corinna Lopez, Jennifer Oo, Michelle Patrick-Norng, Alli Stanojkovic, Matt Stivers,

Guests: None

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- I. Approval of agenda – Approved by unanimous consent with no corrections.
 - II. Approval of November 7, 2024 meeting minutes – Approved by unanimous consent with no corrections.
 - III. Announcements & Public Comment
 - Maria Aceituno shared that faculty will receive access to spring semester course Canvas shells and one additional Canvas sandbox on December 16, 2024.
 - IV. DE Chair's Report, Corinna Lopez
 - The OTC Equivalency Rubric was approved through the Senate at the December 3, 2024 meeting.
 - One LEAP faculty member will be granted equivalency by way of the OTC Equivalency Rubric. Irvine Valley College will be added to the list of approved certifications. Associate Deans/Directors will be notified when new institutions are added to the list.
 - Information was shared regarding upcoming ProD opportunities including the AI in Education – Academic Academy in February 2025, the OTAN Technology and Digital Learning Symposium in March 2025, and the Online Teaching Conference in June 2025.
 - V. Unfinished Business
 - a. NOCE OTC Recertification Workshop, Discussion – Corinna Lopez
 - Discussion took place regarding the planning and implementation of the OTC Recertification Workshops for faculty. Recommendations were made regarding workshop topics, dates/times/modality of the workshops, compensation for attendees, and overall logistics. Corinna will poll adjunct faculty on preferred time frames for virtual workshops. The committee will continue formalizing planning efforts at the start of spring semester.

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- b. NOCE Local POCR Process, Second Read/Action – Corinna Lopez
 - Discussion took place regarding the implementation of the NOCE POCR process. Implementation may not be a viable option until summer 2025. Members reviewed the document and provided recommended edits. Michelle Patrick-Norng motioned to bring the NOCE Local POCR Process document to the Academic Senate for a first read in February 2025. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously.
- c. NOCE DE Faculty Handbook, Second Read/Action – Corinna Lopez
 - Discussion took place regarding the NOCE DE Faculty Handbook. Recommendations were made regarding the section on Canvas Blueprints. Corinna will clean up the document with suggested edits and share with the committee via email for any additional feedback in January. Michelle Patrick-Norng motioned to bring the NOCE DE Faculty Handbook to the Academic Senate for a first read in February 2025. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously.

VI. New Business

- a. Ease Learning/Skillways Courses, Discussion – Michelle Patrick-Norng
 - Discussion took place regarding barriers that instructional faculty and students may encounter when teaching or participating in a DE course that utilizes Ease Learning/Skillways content. Discussion focused on potential infringement on academic freedom for instructors, inability to efficiently pull SLO data through Canvas, and ongoing costs for contract renewals. Michelle requested additional details from VPI Karen Bautista on cost and potential solutions or next steps; feedback is pending. Michelle will meet with the Associate Deans whose programs are offering courses through Ease Learning/Skillways. Discussion will continue at the February 4th Academic Senate meeting to consider voting on a formal recommendation for President’s Cabinet.
- b. Mid-Course DE Survey, First Read – Corinna Lopez
 - Tabled until February 2025 meeting.
- c. End-of-Course DE Survey, First Read – Corinna Lopez
 - Tabled until February 2025 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.