

# **Distance Education Committee (DEC)**

## **Annual Report 2008-2009**

### **1. Dates of Meetings:**

Meetings were held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 1:30 to 3:00pm in the CTL Conference. Meetings were held on 9-10-09, 10-8-09, 11-12-08, 2-11-09, 3-11-09 and 4-8-09.

### **2. Active Faculty:**

Beth Alsen, Linda Collins, Richard Felnagle, Aimee Guerin, Chris Held, Peggy Johnson, Sheila Merritt, Kate Mohler, Shelley Rodrigo, Shawn Wood, LoAn-Tobar Gaul, John Seims, Bonnie Black (Co-Chair), Shawn Wood (Co-Chair), Steve Budge, Danielle Carlock

### **3. Goals for Year:**

- Increase communication/collaboration with Chairs.
- Market and integrate the Best Practices for Online Learning into faculty training and online course development.
- Identify ways to improve communication with online students, specifically the ease of finding and getting into their online course.

### **4. Accomplishments:**

- Two chairs were designated as DEC liaisons, Steve Budge and Linda Collins.
- Best Practices for Online Learning was redistributed to faculty, and has been used as a tool for department initiatives to promote quality and consistency in online learning. It was also used as a mentoring tool in the DLMG project and is being used as a model for a Best Practices for Hybrid Instruction document that is currently in the development process. Along with Quality Matters, it has become a useful guide in training planning and initiatives.
- A common online course entry was evaluated, a process was identified and recommended. It was approved by Faculty Senate and work on implementation will begin.
- The MCC Online web site was redesigned with a greater student focus. This initiative remains ongoing.
- Collaboration with Hybrid Committee regarding standards and guidelines. A recommendation was made to Faculty Senate that a committee on

blended learning be approved to increase sustainability and address needs that may be different than online learning.

- A recommendation was made to Faculty Senate to support an advanced mentoring program so online instructors could apply multiple times.

**5. Objectives for Next Year and Beyond:**

To be determined. Changes to the MCC Online web site will continue based on assessments which will include faculty and student feedback.

**6. Ways Senate Can Better Support the Committee's Efforts:**

Faculty Senate has been supportive and receptive of DEC's initiatives. This is appreciated.