

# INSTRUCTION COUNCIL

January 28, 2011

204 WH

MINUTES

Present: Raj Basu, Bruce Crauder, Steve Edwards, Bavette Miller, Ed Miller, Shiretta Ownbey, Jeremy Penn, Chris Ross, David Thompson, Jean Van Delinder, Mark Weiser, Mark Payton, Tina Meier, and Pamela Fry.

1. **D2L Downtime – Tina Meier**

**IT has a problem with discussion boards working properly. We need two hours of downtime between 7 am and 5 pm on a weekday.**

Tina noted the Information Technology (IT) is updating to a new version of D2L and will need downtime to install the upgrade. Members noted that there should be adequate time given to faculty to prepare for the downtime. Members suggested Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> of Spring break beginning at 7:00 a.m.

2. **Faculty Instant Access – Tina Meier**

**CourseSmart e-textbook review. Infrastructure is close to being completed. How do we test and communicate?**

Tina noted that faculty now has instant access to e-textbook. CourseSmart wants to talk to members about a communication plan to faculty regarding the electronic textbook options. Members still have issues with the pricing. There doesn't appear to be any significant savings to students and you can't sell the textbook back, the textbooks are basically rented. Members suggested asking the representative to make a presentation to Faculty Council Curriculum Committee (Mindy McCann). Textbook deadlines are in three weeks for Fall 2011.

3. **Curricular Request**

**College of Education**

**EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY, PHD (070)**

**Program Modification: Option Deletions**

Option Deletions: (1) Student Personnel Administration; and (2) Special Education

The College of Education at Oklahoma State University requests the option deletions as the options are not used and haven't been used for several years.

Members approved.

4. **Versant Cut-Off Scores – Jean Van Delinder**

This discussion is a follow-up from last Fall. The Versant is in place of the IBT and there is concern that the cut-off scores are too high and it was asked how low should the cut-off scores be? Pam asked if there were different cut-off scores for lab assistants vs. teaching assistants and it was noted that there are not but there has been past discussions in this regard. Member made a motion to adopt the Versant cut-off score of 51. It was asked if changing the cut-off score would slow down the process and Jeremy noted he didn't believe so as English is adding more scorers.

5. **Economic Minors Titles – Pamela Fry**

Members approved.

6. **Other**

**Discussion of Issues for Instruction Council to Address – Pamela Fry**

Pam noted that she would like to receive ideas on what type of issues would members like to address. The following items were generated by the group:

OSU-Tulsa advising.

Budget. Colleges have been running on the same funding for years. Years ago the university had a "Faculty Restore & Reward" program.

Strategic Planning. Any discussions regarding strategic planning should be routing through the normal areas but have Instruction Council oversight.

Discussion on General Education.

Retention will become more critical, but we shouldn't focus so much on numbers but the successes of students.

Course Fees.

Individual processes for first year students.

Supplemental courses.

TA assignments.

Early alert.

Raj Basu volunteers his assistance with discussions regarding articulation agreements.

Pam commented that there are four final candidates for the Graduate College Dean search and asked for member participation in the interview process.

**Adjourn:** 10:50 a.m.