

DLAC Minutes - 9/17/14

Proxies were recognized for the following absent committee members: Mr. Justin "Bishop" Alexander and Dr. Carolyn Lovett

Agenda was approved for the present meeting

#### Old Business

A. Work group report was approved via e-mail and forwarded to the VPAA for disposition

Dr. Larry Bates forwarded this document to the Shared Governance Executive Committee Chair and Faculty Senate President for consideration and movement through the respective systems.

B. Discussion turned to the topic of a possible award designed to recognize excellent on-line teaching. The discussion progressed emphasizing the following points:

1. Such an award or recognition must be clearly associated with an identifiable goal that is distinct from existing teaching awards.
2. Whether such an award should focus on successful teaching with technology or the instructor's incorporation of technology into their course.

The committee voted (7-0) in favor of developing a subcommittee to explore the merits of a faculty award for on-line teaching/incorporation of technology into teaching. Dr. Ryan Zayac, Dr. Natasha Lindsey and Dr. Jill Simpson either volunteered or were "pressed" into service on this committee.

NOTE: SGEC has been made aware of the formation of this subcommittee.

C. The DLAC was asked by parties (EC, Shared Governance, COAD) to look at the issue of validating the identity of student test-takers.

Discussion related to this topic made note of the following:

1. An ID and password are sufficient for SACS.
2. ETS conducted an initial investigation related to this issue. They are continuing that investigation.

D. On-line Course Conduct

The Student Code of Conduct was recently revised per Dr. Kim Greenway's request. Efforts to locate this change in the code during the meeting were not successful and led to some discussion about whether the change had been revised and approved.

NOTE: After the meeting, the "Jurisdiction" section of The Code, as of 10/14/14, was found that applies to this. The relevant portion is included here

<http://www.una.edu/student-conduct/student%20rights%20and%20responsibilities/jurisdiction.html>

“The *Code of Student Conduct* applies to behaviors that take place on the campus, at UNA-sponsored events and may also apply off-campus when the Director of Student Conduct or designee determines that the off-campus conduct affects a substantial UNA interest. [1] A substantial UNA interest is defined to include:

- Any situation where it appears that the student’s conduct may present a danger or threat to the health or safety of him/herself or others; and/or
- Any situation that significantly impinges upon the rights, property or achievements of self or others or significantly breaches the peace and/or causes social disorder; and/or
- Any situation that is detrimental to the educational mission and/or interests of the University;

The *Code of Student Conduct* may be applied to behavior conducted online, via email or other electronic medium. Students should also be aware that online postings such as blogs, web postings, chats and social networking sites are in the public sphere and are not private. These postings can subject a student to allegations of conduct violations if evidence of policy violations is posted online. The University does not regularly search for this information but may take action if and when such information is brought to the attention of UNA officials. **[However, most online speech by students not involving University networks or technology will be protected as free expression and not subject to this Code, with two notable exceptions:**

- **A true threat, defined as “a threat a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of intent to inflict bodily harm upon specific individuals”**
- **Speech posted online about the University or its community members that causes a significant on-campus disruption].”**

#### New Business

A. Mr. John McGee discussed development of a listing of essential standards so on-line students would know in advance what technological requirements they must meet prior to registration.

The question was raised whether a work-group or task force was needed to address this issue.

Mr. John McGee and Mr. Ethan Humphries were prompted to meet together to define a group's/force's constituency as well as ideas to prompt forward progress on the part of this group/force.

B. Dr. Craig Robertson brought up the issue of the "Transfer Student Discipline Record Release Form" and its effect on 100% on-line students. It was recommended that Dr. Robertson draft a memo stating what specifically the DLAC could address.

C. Mr. Ethan Humphries brought up, as a conversational item, the issue/need that 100% of UNA courses needed to have an on-line component so that in the event of school cancelation or other issue (e.g., weather, terrorism, a commonly used building becoming unusable), the University could maintain its instructional functions.

D. Dr. Natasha Lindsey suggested that the DLAC begin formulating a plan for the annual DL conference

Closure

The DLAC will meet again Oct. 21st. at 2:00pm (a possible time).