AGENDA

STEERING COMMITTEE
for Implementation of the 2025 Strategic Plan for Online Education
and for Advising the Board of Governors Innovation and Online Committee
regarding Planning for a Post   -

MINUTES
STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ONLINE EDUCATION
Virtual Meeting
February 19, 2021

Challenges:
- Adapting staff to remote work environment (equipment, connectivity, policies, etc.);
- Adapting and maintaining effective communication models for employees, leadership, students/faculty;
- Emotional strain and stress on employees; impacts on morale; lost community; open-ended uncertainties.

x Best Practices:
- Emphasize digital content and tech-rich services (Mr. Chavez said that decades of emphasizing electronic resources paid off);
- Remote work and service provision has distinct advantages. Isolation must be managed;
- Develop/support flexible policies and procedures (e.g., copyright, loans, work schedules, etc.). Clearly articulate expectations for service, remote work, etc., and develop guidelines to support expectations.

x Lessons Learned:
- Remote work works with clear expectations, consistent policies/guidelines;
- Accurate, supportive, transparent communication is "King;"
- Strong tech infrastructure for services and collection access is essential.

x Mission-Critical Collaborations:
- IT;
- Instructional faculty and student success entities;
- Vendors and publishers. Mr. Chavez said that vendors and publishers came through.

x New Activities Promoting Student Success
- Tech provision (e.g., laptops, hotspots, scanners, webcams, etc.);
- Significant expansion of online services, instruction, exhibitions/events, etc.;
- Touchless delivery of physical collections and equipment.

x New Activities Promoting Faculty Success;
- Significant expansion of online support services, instruction, exhibitions/events, etc.

x Recommendations:
- Strengthen commitment to and support for digital collections, platforms, and research tools;
- Strengthen commitment to and support for tech-rich service provision and workflow management;
- Align policies and procedures with post-COVID opportunities, esp. HR policies regarding remote work.

Advisory Council of Faculty Senates:
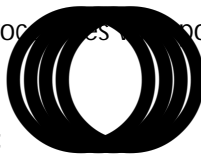
academic freedom vs. management rights at all levels. He suggested getting all voices together to develop, communicate, and enforce a policy.

Provost Glover said that an important discussion point is management's right of modality, but a much more underlying question is "What is the nature of residential universities going forward?" He said that deans are asking if they can hire faculty who never step foot on campus, but he asks what it means to be a part of an enterprise. Governor Self said he agrees on the question of what is a university. Faculty who never come on campus are not part of a community. He said there is a strength to having online access, but there needs to be a consideration of what a university will look like in ten years.

Chair Wilcox stated that a few years ago, there were conversations about the value of having a single learning management system. He asked how many institutions were using Zoom, Teams, or Cisco WebEx for video conferencing. There was a mix of tools used.

<u>Vice Presidents of Research:</u>
Dr. Dan Flynn, Chair of the Vice Presidents of Research, said that faculty were adaptable to public health recommendations on the number of people in labs and other protocols. He noted that:
   x   The work-from-home model is working well for certain types of positions, such as back office support functions where the work product can be accurately measured. He noted that utilizing w

She indicated that while leaders of distance education/online divisions do not want the online design and development work to be defined by the last 11 months, they recognize the experience has provided new opportunities for faculty partnerships and changed mindsets on adapting to and utilizing digital

consistency in data collection. He urged the Implementation Committee to bring recommendations to the Steering Committee regarding a proposed taxonomy. He indicated the recommendations could be included in the report to the Innovation and Online Committee.

Academic Coordination Group:
Dr. Tom Dvorske, who chairs the CAVP Academic Coordination Group as Provost Parker's designee, said that the Group felt there will continue to be a strong demand for a strong, campus-based experience, although a sizable proportion of students have benefitted from the flexibility of expanded modalities and will likely continue to demand they be offered.

Dr. Dvorske said that a swift break to remote delivery accelerated efforts already underway to implement new instructional technologies and, as a result, more faculty may be inclined to expand their methods into multi-modal deliver or use technology in new ways to augment celi-

opportunity for efficiencies in regulations, practices, and time-schedules to help institutions improve their responsiveness and effectiveness at addressing critical economic needs.

While best practices and faculty development offerings can conceivably be disseminated statewide through the TOPkit and Innovation Summit initiatives, they r

6.   Concluding Remarks and Adjournment

Chair Wilcox adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m.

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA
STEERING COMMITTEE
SUS 2025 Strategic Plan for Online Education