

Minutes - eLearning Council Meeting

Thursday, April 18, 2019 | 1:30 PM-3:00 PM

Texas Tech Plaza, 501F or via Blackboard Collaborate

Attendees: Justin Louder, Heather Greenhalgh-Spencer, David Doerfert, Roger Landes, Karissa Greathouse, John R. Thomas, Otto Ratheal, Teresa Diaz, Degeng Wang, Sandra Huston, Pat McConnel, Larry Phillippe, Andrea McCourt, Lewis Snell, Jennifer Hughes, Suzanne Tapp, Kurt Caswell, Leslie DeBusk, Lisa Leach, Kathy Gillis, Vickie Sutton, Kari Dickson, Kelly Fox

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Dr. Justin Louder.
- II. **Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting:** Dr. David Doerfert made a motion to approve and Dr. Heather Greenhalgh-Spencer seconded. Minutes from the previous eLearning Council meeting, held on 3/21/19, were approved.
- III. **New Distance Program Approvals:**
 - a. **BAAS in RHIM:** Dr. Robert Jones spoke on the BAAS in RHIM. Ms. Suzanne Tapp made a motion to approve and Dr. Doerfert seconded. The proposal will be voted on in the next Academic Council Meeting.
- IV. **Hybrid Degrees in Lubbock (BUS, BGS, BAAS, BSHS):** Dr. Louder spoke about the Hybrid Degrees in Lubbock (BUS, BGS, BAAS, BSHS). These degree programs were approved as a face-to-face or online degree in Lubbock, but we now have students going back and forth between online and modality. These degrees were officially approved as online degrees at the Lubbock Campus. The courses for these degree programs need to be taken online or face-to-face. Students are taking more online courses than face-to-face courses as a result, they are being considered as Hybrid Degrees. The Council discussed their thoughts on how they should proceed going forward.
- V. **Blackboard Community:** Mr. John R. Thomas spoke on Blackboard Community. The IT Department would like to take the hierarchy as it is written and build it within Blackboard Community. This will allow Blackboard Community to work the interactions and get more clarity on what the last two columns should look like. The IT Department would like Blackboard Community to be unique to our university and would like to keep it within an academic stream. Colleges and minors will be added to the hierarchy chart on a case by case basis. Colleges and schools will need to be developed within the hierarchy first followed by creating a working group. The plan is to convene a working group in May to assess Blackboard Community and its interactions with the goal of piloting this service during the upcoming fall semester.
- VI. **Blackboard Updates: Content, Analytics, etc.:** Mr. Thomas discussed updates for Blackboard content, analytics, etc. An upgrade for the Blackboard Higher Education Production Environment has been scheduled for May 31st. Additional information will be sent out regarding features, expectations, etc. ILP is set with final integrating and the service will be available to a larger group this summer. If all goes well, this service will be available to the

university worldwide by the fall semester. This service provides integration between Banner and Blackboard and gives both way connectivity. If you are interested in participating in this pilot, please contact Mr. Thomas.

VII. *May & Summer Meetings:* The Council discussed the upcoming May & Summer Meetings. The Council decided to cancel the May eLC Meeting and schedule any summer eLC Meetings as needed.

VIII. *Open Discussion:* Dr. Louder discussed a memo from the Coordinating Board that read, “The Southern Regional Educational Board has notified the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board that it will no longer support an affiliation agreement that allows the state to maintain membership in a State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (NC-SARA).” Texas has to fully join SREB, join another compact or institutions will have to get permission from each individual state. The university cannot leave SREB legislatively or join another compact at this time, unless a bill is filed and passed. A temporary solution is being discussed with the Coordinating Board and the Legislative Board. The university’s membership will end in October. Dr. Louder will keep the Council updated on any further changes.

IX. *Adjourn:* Meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.