

## DISTANCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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Minutes of the September 5, 2013 Meeting

**Attendees:** Patti Blanton, Deanne Camp, Crystal Gale, Lora Hobbs, Gary Iman, Stan Leasure, Julie Masterson, Arden Miller, Jeff Morrissey, Joye Norris, Gary Rader, Arbindra Rimal, Patti Salinas, Chulapol Thanomsing, Rose Utley

### 1) Review of minutes from August 1, 2013

Minutes were approved from the last meeting.

### 2) BB Discussion- Jeff Morrissey

Jeff discussed the issues related to Blackboard downtime that the campus experienced during the first two weeks of the semester. The heavy load placed on the system caused the new version to become inaccessible. Blackboard representatives sent several patches over to try and fix the problem and eventually a patch was installed that corrected the initial flaw. Committee members requested more timely updates regarding system issues. It was noted that Dr. Rader sent out two notices alerting faculty to continued problems with the new Bb services packs; Computer Services provided one update as well. DEC faculty unanimously endorsed frequent if not daily email communications from Computer Services providing status reports outlining problems, actions to be taken, and projected downtime. Discussion ensued about the Blackboard contract along with faculty needs and possibilities that exist outside of Blackboard. Jeff stated that the Information Technology Council will be discussing the contract as well as researching faculty requests by assembling an advisory committee to investigate options and campus needs. He also suggested that several members of DEC be included in the advisory committee. Jeff stated that he would communicate with the DEC members regarding what was discussed at the IT Council meeting.

### 3) Online Student Survey Revision Discussion (see handout)- Julie Masterson/Gary Rader

A revised version of the online student survey was discussed. Julie highlighted the importance of aligning the survey with questions that would tie into Title III requirements along with the MSU quality rubric for online courses. The order of the questions was changed to better align with the rubric. The bold questions are items that were added by Julie after reviewing the rubric and the italics are items that were moved from another place in the original survey. The committee agreed to review the survey and come back with suggestions at the next meeting.

### 4) Other

The next meeting will be held in Glass 108 (new ITV classroom); a new meeting request will be sent out indicating the change in location.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

**Jaime Ross**

*Executive Assistant III*

Missouri State Outreach