

To: The Academic Senate
From: Patrick Wallach, Chairperson, Distance Education Committee
Subject: Annual Report
Date: September 30, 2008

This was the third year of existence for the Distance Education Committee.

The following voting members served during the 2007-2008 year:

Jean Darcy, English
Lorena Ellis, Foreign Languages, Secretary
Devin McKay, Library
Lisa Mertz, Health, Physical Education and Dance
Patrick Wallach, Mathematics and Computer Science, Chairperson

Bruce Naples, ACC, served as the Administrative Liaison.

The DE Committee met regularly during the year. The main focus of the Committee for the year was the set of recommendations for the college's Self-Study report in preparation for the visitation by Middle States in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. Chairperson Patrick Wallach served as Co-Chair for the Self-Study Working Group in charge of Education Offerings. Dr. Wallach specifically focused on the distance education portion of the report. Based on suggestions of individual members of the DE Committee who served in the Middle States Self-study Working Group 6 (Educational Offerings), additional recommendations were created:

- Since online courses increase faculty workload, we recommend the College consider rewarding those involved in developing and teaching these courses. This may include stipends, training, mentoring, release time, reduced class sizes, grants and, most importantly, consideration toward reappointment, promotion and tenure.
- We recommend that STX-100 should be enhanced to include a module on navigating the QCC College website, registering online and using Tigermail (student e-mail).
- We recommend academic support for online/hybrid classes using e-tutoring (as students who are non-traditional, off-site for coursework cannot access academic support services during traditional times).
- Student evaluation of faculty teaching fully online courses should be completed using an online form.
- The college may also seek a stronger push to recruit truly online students outside of the metropolitan area.

The committee will follow up with these recommendations in the next year.

The following voting members will serve during the 2008-2009 year:
Francis Cotty, Biological Sciences and Geology,

Helene Dunkelblau, Basic Educational Skills
Lorena Ellis, Foreign Languages, Secretary
Charles Neuman, Physics
Edward Volchok, Business, Chairperson

Anita Ferdenzi, Social Sciences, will serve as Steering Committee Liaison. Bruce Naples, ACC, will continue to serve as the Administrative Liaison. Janet Urciuoli, Counseling Center, will serve as the COC Liaison.

As Chair, I would like to thank each member of the Committee for their efforts and considerable interest in Distance Education. In addition, the contributions of Bruce Naples, our Administrative Liaison, were gratefully appreciated by the entire committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Wallach