

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Marina Koether, DLAC Chair, AY 2015-2016

DATE: April 13th, 2016

SUBJECT: DLAC Annual Report, AY 2015-2016

Summary: The Distance Learning Advisory Committee (DLAC) is a standing committee of the Faculty Senate. This document is being submitted alongside the required Standing Committee Annual Report Form to the President of Senate. This committee was created after consolidation from the Distance Education Task Force. This committee met four times in AY 2015-2016 with Chair election on October 28th, 2015.

1. The previous Chair provided action points for the committee to address. These were addressed in the meeting held on February 3rd, 2016
 - a. Two representatives from each college were obtained
 - b. Bylaws were updated
 - c. As per Ron Matson, correct information for the committee will appear in 2016-17 University Handbook.
 - d. Doug Moodie is to update the Faculty Senate Website with our website link: dlac.kennesaw.edu

2. A question was asked from the CFC of the CHSS: The following was the question and answer:

Dear faculty on the CFC of the CHSS. The DLAC has met to discuss your question and here is our response. The question posed was why are the semester-end bonus funds of students who drop an on-line course prior to the Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty not shared with the faculty who had worked with the student up until their withdrawal date.

When students withdraw before the Withdraw without Academic Penalty, they get different amounts of refund based on their individual circumstances. Because there is no way to track the amount refunded to each student, there is no way to determine how much or any of that money should be refunded to the faculty member.

The committee agreed that the purpose of the bonus funds is to encourage faculty effort to engage students and help them progress in an online environment. It was the consensus of the committee that faculty are paid to teach a class and that these funds are in addition to their regular pay. KSU is very fortunate to have such funds available to faculty as KSU is unique in that respect. Faculty do earn the bonus for students who do withdraw a day after the Last Day to Withdraw Without Academic Penalty. The DLAC recognizes that funds are available with respect to those students who withdraw and those funds are dispersed to each college to enhance on-line teaching.

3. The following is the DLC's proposal for DLAC's support of an initiative to form a task force to develop large enrollment general education courses as a pilot program:

The DLAC voted to support the Division of Technology Enhanced Learning and the Distance Learning Center's proposal that a working group be formed of one experienced online instructor from each General Education area to research, design, and deliver pilot sections of large enrollment online courses. This initiative is a part of an effort to remove the bottleneck for students that exists because we do not offer enough online general education courses.

4. A "Proposal to Establish a Course Evaluation Option to Complement the KSU Quality Matters system of Online Course Design and Approval" was discussed without the proposer - Keith Hopper - being present. While there was much discussion, it was decided to revisit this topic when Keith Hopper would be present in August 2016.