Affordable Educational Resources Academic Senate Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes for March 4th, 2019 at 1:30 pm in RHS 269

Present: Rebecca Goodchild, Katie Carbary, Antonio López, Angela McElroy, Elise Vargas, Angela Block, Elizabeth Shutak, Linda Myers.

Agenda items:

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from 2/4 meeting were approved by consensus.

2. Academic senate - Approval of ZTC logo instructor change policy.

At the Feb. 12th meeting, academic senate approved the ZTC logo instructor change policy. This policy will be posted to the AERC website. It was emailed to the VPI, with a request to change ZTC policy email that is sent to instructors when completing the ZTC logo form. Once fall book orders are due, we will follow up to make sure the change to the confirmation email was made. Angela Block volunteered to verify the changes when fall book orders are submitted.

3. Report on AERC meeting with Chancellor King.

Gayle Pitman (academic senate president), Antonio López, Rebecca Goodchild, Katie Carbary, Kevin Flash, President Gutierrez, and Chancellor King met on Feb. 13th. Discussion topics included defining and explaining OER, ZTC, the LibreText grant, the AERC, and related legal and policy issues. This meeting was an opportunity to explain work of the committee, and to present the issues related to OER that require administrative support. These issues included the need for a campus OER coordinator now that the TACC position has ended, the need for better ZTC logo representation in E-services and searchable class schedule, and better support for faculty adoption. The Chancellor expressed an interest in the our committee and wants to support our work!


There is a district-wide taskforce addressing the issue of textbook costs, and specifically the low-cost textbook logo. Linda Myers and Rebecca Goodchild are
representing SCC on the taskforce, as instructional faculty and librarian faculty respectively. The first meeting is coming up later this month. There will be several meetings of the course of the semester. Linda asked how the committee feels about using the $40 cut-off, which is what Sac State will be using. This issue was discussed.

5. Discussion of “LRCCD accessibility document” and how this relates to OER.

The distance education committee, Brian Pogue, and Kandace Knudson are supporting the idea of an accessibility coordinator position, to train faculty to make their courses accessible. Working toward accessibility is the goal at this time, but there is an increasing expectation that faculty take responsibility for making content accessible. We discussed the need for dedicated staff to provide accessibility support and technical assistance for faculty, in addition to faculty education and training. Captions are done for us by CCC Media -- alt-text descriptions, tricky file formatting, and contrast requirements should be done faculty as well. Our committee supports this idea, for OER and non-OER materials. The workload associated with individual faculty making all course materials accessible is too high, and could be an impediment to OER adoption.

6. Report on Regional OER meeting.

Antonio López attended and participated on a panel at this meeting. There was also a student panel, where students discussed the ways that they access materials when not available for free. Antonio shared additional news from this event, including the new capability to have printed out LibreText books. See Antonio’s notes from the meeting in this Google Doc.

7. Announcements and other items related to the work of the committee (LibreTexts grant and more).

The business-CIS division is meeting with Rebecca and Antonio to learn more about the LibreText grant. One possibility is creating an OER institute just for their division. The OER institute will be repeated at CRC this semester. The faculty who turned in PEX forms from the previous institute will get paid soon.

Additionally, the PRIE office was already able to respond to our research request for equity and success data, based on our submission of known OER course sections from Summer 2017-Fall 2018. The data hasn’t been fully examined yet
but a preliminary graph of the success rates for students by race/ethnicity shows that as expected, OER use seemed to help students of color more than white students. Rebecca, Katie, and Antonio will meet to follow up on this.

Future agenda items:
- Requesting OER faculty coordinator position.
- OER adoption process recommendations - draft.
- Follow up on SCC OER equity/success data from 2017-2018 courses.
- Student video explaining ZTC logo in class schedule.

Remaining spring semester meeting dates:
- March 18th
- April 1st
- May 6th