

University of Mary Washington
Distance and Blended Learning Committee Meeting
Academic Year Fall 2017 – Spring 2018

Meeting Date: September 13, 2017

Meeting Location: HCC 413

Members in Attendance: Andrew Marshall (CAS, Chair), Paul Boger (Ex-Officio), Hall Cheshire (Ex-Officio), Kim Gower (COB), Steve Greenlaw (CAS), Erin Higgenbotham (Ex-Officio), Jesse Stommel (Ex-Officio), Jo Tyler (COE).

Time of Meeting Start: 4:00pm.

The Distance & Blended Learning Committee had its second meeting of the year on September 13. We discussed, approved and provided comments on five online course proposals:

- CPSC 225 (Stephen Davies): Software Development Tools
 - o Approved
- FINC 301 (Rachel Graefe-Anderson): Principles of Finance
 - o Approved provided additional information is submitted
- MBUS 502 (Rachel Graefe-Anderson): Financial Decision Making for Managers
 - o Approved provided additional information is submitted
- EDUC 04RMC (Debra Hydorn): Statistics for Educators
 - o Approved
- EDUC 521 (Christy Irish): Educational Research Methods
 - o Approved

The minutes of the first meeting were approved. Andrew noted that we need to replace one more faculty member. He will contact UFOC for that purpose. We began discussion of ways of streamlining and/or improving the online course application process. We made some initial revisions—low hanging fruit—and will continue the discussion next month. We tabled until next month a discussion of how we might make available examples of best practices in online teaching to faculty considering teaching online. Andrew observed that a proposal for a new online program for BSN completion was in the works.

We had an initial discussion of the question of technology accessibility—making our online courses and material accessible to all students. The challenge is immense and important. We need an incremental plan that will start movement in the right direction. What is the minimum set of accessibility requirements we should recommend for all online courses? Are the course webpages screen-readable? How can one tell? How can make them so? Are pdfs OCR-compatible? Are course videos captioned? Can one access printed transcripts?

We will invite the new Disability Resources director to our October meeting to help us draft a plan.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:10pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 11, 2017