Distance Education
Minutes January 16, 2020

Attendees
John Gosney, David Becker, Sara Hook, Michael Mace, Dina Peterson, Rachel Hendricks, Rebecca Stouts, Jen Embree, Deb Stiffler, Rosa, Nolan Taylor, Gina Londino

ATAC Update
Michael Mace:

- Will send talking points from his presentation
- ATAC works with faculty when notified at IUPUI from the AES; works with students on assistive technologies (Dragon Naturally Speaking, screen readers, others)
- Currently accommodating and remediating 107 courses across IU
- Majority of work is with vision and hearing-impaired students; other work with print-impaired students (e.g., dyslexia). Likely a large unidentified student population with some type of disability (1 in 5 students have some form of learning impairment); currently 12 vision-impaired students
- Very large increase in hearing-impaired students (loss of funding to Gallaudet contributing factor)
- Also seeing increase of students based on greater socialization of K-12 students, IDEA Act, lessening stigma, increased technology.
- Six of the 12 blind students at IUPUI; 2 in online programs
- FOR ONLINE, most pressing accessibility issues include:
  - Captioning of videos (often these have been mechanically captioned, and accuracy is often not the greatest); professional captioning has a 48-hour turnaround, but this can sometimes extend because of rush of requests.
  - Missing alternative text
  - Use of digital learning tools (e.g., Pearson MyLab, McGraw-Hill Connect); these are frequently not accessible to screen readers; many courses that use these incorporate them as the major content provider for the course. Issue can sometime be exacerbated when “print” version of the DLT references videos
  - Content organization
  - NOTE: Many online courses are very well-done.

Quality Matters Update

David Becker: Office of Collaborative Academic Programs

- QM focuses on structure and preparation of course, not delivery of the course
- Focus of internal IU reviews is to better insure it is ready for official review
- Regarding accessibility: much of the work to meet QM guidelines becomes second nature after some initial effort
- CTL can assist (Jenni Young and Doug Jerolimov are IUPUI QM campus coordinators)
- Forty total QM certified courses at IU; IUSE leads with 28; IUPUI has 1 (although a few additional courses have finished going through the internal review).
- Accessibility standards (and interaction standards) are frequently discovered in the internal review
- At IUPUI, we have ~ 15. IU wide, we have ~ 90. We also have 2 master reviewers at IUPUI
- QM peer reviewer norming sessions: designed to address standards like accessibility and interaction
- Standards for interaction is published (teaching centers have it); these were developed from UITS eDS and the teaching centers. In the updated QM rubric, general standard 5 addresses interaction in more
detail. The language of the standard still largely focuses on grading feedback/responses to students, but not necessarily describing proactive, faculty-initiated communications to students.

- For courses that utilize DLT’s, need to use caution that the often-significant automated functionality of the tool doesn’t take precedence over instructor presence.

- New resources:
  - QM Syllabus Template
    - Helps faculty meet 10 out of 43 QM standards
    - Accessible for all students
    - Available in Canvas Commons and as a Word doc (linked and publicly available in Box)
  - IU Online Course Quality Checklist (new: will be broadly communicated in coming weeks)
    - Simplified course design checklist
    - Intended as both
      - Self-review for faculty
      - Tool to help EVCAA’s Deans and Program Coordinators
    - Helpful resources provided through links
    - Can serve as a conversation starter with faculty on variety of instructional design and teaching issues/questions

- Promote “Teaching for Student Success” module that incorporates many of the issues discussed today (provide link here) [https://expand.iu.edu/courses/teaching-for-student-success-an-evidence-based-approach](https://expand.iu.edu/courses/teaching-for-student-success-an-evidence-based-approach)

- Next IUPUI “Applying the QM Rubric” workshop – check CTL Web site.