State of Distance Learning

- In Fall 2009: 29.3% of all students in the US took at least one online class
- In Fall 2010: 30% of all students in the US are taking at least one online course


Why Offer Distance Learning?


CSU By the Numbers

- Number of Courses
  - Fully at a distance: 164
  - More than 50% at a distance: 2
  - 50% or less at a distance: 35

Why Offer Distance Learning?

- Course Preparation
  - Learning Management System
  - Student engagement activities
    - Interactive videos, simulations, podcasts
- Teaching
  - Facilitation
  - Discussion groups
  - Online group activities
  - One-on-one e-mail, phone, chat, in-office meetings
Teaching Online Takes Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Online In Hours</th>
<th>In-Class In Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preparation</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Incentives

- Intrinsic
  - Institutional support
  - Technology
  - Training in online pedagogy and course design
  - Evidence that teaching online is part of an institution’s mission
  - Factor in tenure and promotion
  - Peer-to-Peer review and collaboration

- Monetary
  - Faculty should be compensated at a level that they feel is fair based on the perceived (and often real) increased workload associated with developing and teaching an online distance education course (Green, Alapinto and Brown, 2009)

- Our peers
  - Georgia Southern
  - Auburn University
  - University of Alabama

Incentives at CSU

- Intrinsic
  - Technology support (UITS)
  - Online pedagogy and course design support (DLDD)
  - Peer-to-Peer review with Quality Matters Rubric

- Monetary
  - Online Course Development Grant
  - Stipend per student

Distance Learning Committee

- Concentrating on:
  - Administering Online Course Development Grants
    - In Fall 2010: Awarded $36,000 for 24 new courses
  - Developing a systematic approach/training to ensure quality online programs at CSU
  - Assisting with student focus groups: Spring 2011

Distance Learning Conference

- Join us as we explore...
- The NOW Frontier
- Columbus State University
- Inaugural Distance Learning Conference
- Sept. 23-24, 2010
- http://online.colstate.edu/dlconference
Distance Learning Conference

Save the date!
Sept 29-30, 2011

Systematic Approach to Quality Online Programs at CSU

Quality Online Programs

Systematic QA Process

- Training, course development and course revision/improvement
  - Improve student learning and retention
  - Benchmark with peers
  - Faculty professional development
  - Incorporate new technologies

Five Phase Approach

- Faculty-centered and best practices driven
- Peer review process
  - Faculty training
    - Focused on online pedagogy and e-learning technology
  - Collaborative course design and development
  - Preflight QA check with peers using best practices rubric
  - Course delivery with quarterly feedback check points
  - Post-course reflection and revision

References