

Open Source Textbook Task Force

MEETING MINUTES

Friday, June 3, 2016

1 PM Room 1C

Legislative Attendees:

State Representative Gregory Haddad

Task Force Attendees:

James Brunt, Professor, Southern Connecticut State University

Saman Azimi, UCONN, Undergraduate Representative

Kevin Corcoran, Executive Director, Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium

Christopher Clark, Professor and History Department Head, Moderator for Faculty Senate, UCONN

Daniel Barret, Professor, Western Connecticut State University

Patricia Banach, Director of Library Services, Eastern Connecticut State University

Cynthia Gallatin, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Online Programs, Quinnipiac University

Clara Ada Ogbaa, Director of Library Services, Gateway Community College

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Kevin Corcoran at 1:09 pm, he proceeded to correct the minutes from May 27th's meeting.

Motion to Accept Minutes Approved

Representative Haddad informed the committee that Rahim Mama will be interning over the summer and serving as a Clerk for the committee.

Discussion of “how the survey should be approached and conducted.” Committee agrees that “The Babson survey should be kept as close as possible to the original.”

Question is asked “Does the legislature have the power to create a questionnaire without going through a review process?” Representative Haddad responds “The legislature has the power to do whatever it needs to, regarding the questionnaire.”

Representative Haddad expresses concern over how an adequate email list will be obtained. Somebody responds that it is a possibility to use The Connecticut Provost Library database and have them distribute it to professors.

Kevin states that having the questionnaire go through an Independent Review Board may dilute the final product.

Committee goes through questionnaire, citing specific changes to be made.

Discussion point posed; should there be an “other” section for gender? And, should gender even be stated?

Someone in favor argued that in order to be adequately sensitive to cultural issues today, there should be an “other” section.

Someone against argued that knowing the gender of the questionnaire subject ultimately offers no value.

Someone offers the possibility of creating a sub-committee to discuss and determine what information gets gathered.

Someone brings up the point that the question regarding OER could be phrased differently in order to facilitate better responses. Rather than having the choices as “agree” or “disagree”, the choices should be broader.

It was expressed by Representative Haddad, and then echoed, that non-users of OER need to be included in the questionnaire in some way so that they can offer their opinions of it.

The course that was created in Washington was brought up and the question is raised, “should our version be more self-paced, or more of a deliberate delivery, like Washington’s model?”

Someone states that they believe that the spreadsheet is meaningful, but they believe that if the data is to be meaningful, then the data needs to be collected in a much more systematic way.

It is stated that it may make more sense to have the input be online vs. in a spreadsheet.

Kevin closes meeting and announces that next meeting will take place on June 17, 2016 in Room 1C at 1PM.