




Navigating Toward a Comprehensive Distance Education Faculty Development Program

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80% Rule

- 80% of the journey, you are off course

What?... Why?

- Survey on use of Blackboard tools
- Observation and discussion with DE faculty
 - Little use of sophisticated tools
 - Lack of connection between tools and instructional intent
 - Organizational and structural issues during course reviews

Agenda

- QualityMatters
- Online Course Development Program
 - Versions I, II
 - Version III
 - P3 Shell
- Mini-courses
- TWU ID
- General Faculty Development

QualityMatters at TWU

- Course review process with emphasis on design
 - Low threshold approach to quality
 - 35 faculty completed Peer Reviewer Training
 - 7 staff completed Peer Reviewer Training
 - Fund for QM review process

Online Course Development Program

- Create a course for faculty members new to distance education
 - Make course heavy on online pedagogy
 - Give faculty members experience navigating distance education work
 - Provide support for learning to put content and activities online
 - Provide support for development of first TWU distance education course

Courses – The Goal

- Promising Practices in Online Teaching & Learning
- Promising Practices in Online Teaching – Course Development

Courses – The Reality: Phase I

- Promising Practices in Online Teaching & Learning
 - Exceeded goal of offering the courses (2X)
- Promising Practices in Online Teaching – Course Development
 - Few faculty members actually worked in the course development shell; Did not meet goal
 - Created individual shells for participants in both courses
- Alumni Course
 - Created in response
- Promising Practices Self-paced
 - Created in response



Phase II

- 2Promising Practices in Online Teaching and Learning2

Phase III: Promising Practices

- Designed for faculty new to TWU or new to distance education
 - Course redesigned to feature development activities
 - Shortened time frame for initial section of course
 - Added P3 Shell

P³ Shell

Managing & Maintaining the DB: Mini-Course



TWU ID

- <http://twuid.pbwiki.com/>

General Faculty Development

- eLearning Lecture
- Distance Education Workshops
 - Pedagogical emphasis
 - <http://www.twu.edu/dl/faculty/development.htm>
 - GA training on navigating and maintaining Blackboard courses
 - Adjunct training on developing and maintaining Blackboard courses

General Faculty Development (cont.)

- Blogs
 - The Online Instructor
 - <http://theonlineinstructor.blogspot.com/>
 - TWU Connection
 - <http://twuconnection.blogspot.com/>

So, Where Are We Now?

- Revised Promising Practices course is part of Online Course Development Program (OCDP)
 - 20 Faculty have been through the course
- QM Project
 - 2nd year
 - 35 faculty completed Peer Review course
 - 2 courses passed national review
 - 15 reviewers
- TWU ID
 - 198 pages

So, Where Are We Now? (cont.)

- Expanded DE presentations
 - 3 per semester to 6 per semester
 - Experimenting with Wimba for delivery
- Adjunct Workshops on Bb
- GA workshops on using and managing Bb courses
- Online Educator Symposium
 - 100+ attendees

Where Are We Going?

- Mini-courses
 - Application of various learning theories to distance education tools and techniques
 - Use of specific strategies in Bb
 - Establishing teaching, social, and content presence
 - Encouraging reflection and reflection in action
 - Active learning strategies using distance tools
- Innovation Institute