Instruction Committee Meeting
October 6, 2021

Present: Andres Colapinto, Miguel Fiolhais, Monica Foust, Brian Kelley, Michael McGee, Owen Roberts, Lisa Rose, Scott Tulloch

Chairperson Monica Foust brought the meeting to order. The minutes of the August 25 meeting were approved.

The primary task of this meeting was discussion of the new student evaluation surveys and feedback from the student and faculty focus groups on the survey questions and responses.

The committee agreed to make edits to the survey questions and responses. This included removing questions that were deemed to be less useful as formative feedback for faculty, considering the wording of responses to avoid numerical ranking while providing some level of gradation in responses, removing and simplifying questions relating to students' participation level, and agreeing to remove examples of specific platforms and technologies in favor of more general descriptors. Chairperson Foust will make the edits to the survey draft and distribute to the committee for review.

Concerns over the technical limitations of the survey tools provided by the institution were addressed and we agreed to do some research on other possibilities for technical solutions to administering the surveys.

In New Business, Professor Rose raised concerns voiced in the E-Learning advisory committee relating to how faculty are assigned or allowed to teach in online, hybrid and asynchronous teaching modalities and the disparity between departments on how these decisions are made. The "hyflex" modality is not labeled as a modality in CUNYFirst but rather as a course attribute and is considered face-to-face instructions, however the expectations for student attendance is unclear and they are not counted as in person classes towards the 70% in person teaching required by full time faculty. It was also reported that students find the distinctions on CUNYFirst course listing regarding the modality of courses, such as synchronous and asynchronous, confusing, and the committee agreed to evaluate the course information and appearance in CUNYFirst and push the college and CUNY to list course modalities and attributes in a way that is more clear. Faculty have raised concerns that CUNYFirst course listing are confusing in the way they display information relating to course modality, such as synchronous and asynchronous attributes, and the committee agreed to evaluate the course information and appearance in CUNYFirst and push the college and CUNY to list course modalities and attributes in a way that is more clear. The committee agreed to raise these concerns at the Academic Senate and work towards bringing a resolution on these matters to the floor.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45pm.

Respectfully submitted
Owen Roberts